

James Madison University Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) or Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Sociology

TRANSFER GUIDE

Catalog Year: 2025-2028

Associate Transfer Degree Plan in Sociology

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Complete at VCCS				Complete at JMU		
BACHELOR'S DEGREE REQUIREMENT	SATISFIED BY			BACHELOR'S DEGREE REQUIREMENT		
Course	Credits	CC Course	Notes	Course	Credits	Notes
UNST 000	1-2	SDV 100 College Success Skills or 101 Orientation		SOCI 110	3	Social Issues in a Global Context
WRTC 103	3	ENG 111 College Comp I	ENG 111 + ENG 112 both needed for transfer credit for WRTC 103	SOCI 140	3	Microsociology: The Individual in Society
	3	ENG 112 College Comp II		SOCI 200	3	Development of Sociological Thought and Method
JMU General Education Requirements*, Degree Requirements, or Prerequisite Coursework	3	Any UCGS Art or Humanities	Sociology is offered as a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) or a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree. Choose PHI 100 if you might pursue a B.A.	SOCI 231	3	Introduction to Social Statistics (MATH 220 credit can be substituted)
	3	Any UCGS Art, Humanities, or Literature	This course must be from a different discipline than the one above	SOCI 300	3	Sociological Inquiry
	3	SOC 200 Intro to Sociology	= SOCI 101	SOCI 480	3	Senior Seminar in Sociology
	3	Any UCGS History		Sociology Electives	15-21	Sociology students complete 21 credits of sociology electives. Transfer students may have satisfied some of the electives through courses taken prior to transfer. Students can select from the following concentrations to guide their choices for sociology electives. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communities, Inequalities and Public Policy Concentration• Environments, Technologies, and Innovations Concentration• Health, Medicine and Society Concentration• Markets and Cultures Concentration• Political and Global Analysis Concentration
	4	Any UCGS Natural Sciences				
	3-5	Any UCGS Math	MTH 155 or 245 = MATH 220 at JMU, which can substitute for SOCI 231			
	6-8	Any 2 UCGS transfer courses	If you might pursue a B.A., work toward completing or showing proficiency in a world language at the intermediate (202) level. If you might pursue a B.S., choose another UCGS math course + another UCGS science or social science course. CST 100 or 110 (=SCOM 122 or 121) may also be a good UCGS option.			

Sociology Electives	6	Choose two: SOC 215 Sociology of the Family, SOC 225 Sociology of Gender, SOC 226 Human Sexuality, SOC 266 Race and Ethnicity, or SOC 268 Social Problems	Choose any that interests you. The following two options are equivalent to courses at JMU and can satisfy elective requirements in the major: SOC 215 = SOCI 374 SOC 266 = SOCI 336	University Electives	21-27	All students must complete additional coursework to earn a total of at least 120 credits, with a minimum of 60 credits earned at a 4-year university. Sociology students often pursue a minor or second major.
	Up to 24	Additional world language courses and/or transfer electives as needed to meet 60 credits	Students who might pursue a B.A. in Sociology should finish coursework (or be ready to show proficiency) in a world language at the intermediate (202) level. Otherwise, use these credits to take courses that interest you.			
CREDITS PRE-TRANSFER: 60-62				CREDITS POST-TRANSFER: 60		
<p>* Students who complete an approved transferable associate degree will qualify for a full waiver of general education requirements at JMU. Students who will not be earning an approved transferable associate degree should complete core community college requirements with courses that also satisfy area requirements in JMU's general education program. For example, the WRTC 103 requirement can only be filled with ENG 111+112 at VCCS. Learn more about JMU general education equivalents offered at VCCS at www.jmu.edu/transfer/vccs-transfer/genedequiv.shtml. Email transferadvising@jmu.edu with questions.</p>						

TRANSFER GUIDANCE

Admission into the sociology program at JMU

Students who meet the requirements for guaranteed admission to JMU are guaranteed admission to the sociology major.

- Students must complete an approved transferable associate degree from their Virginia community college with a minimum GPA of 3.0 for guaranteed admission to JMU. Students who do not qualify for guaranteed admission are encouraged to apply to JMU through the regular admission process. For additional details about requirements for guaranteed admission, please see the JMU letter of intent for your community college: www.jmu.edu/admissions/apply/transfer-gaa.shtml.
- Students do not have to complete a sociology associate degree to pursue a sociology major at JMU. This proposed guide is just one potential path toward the successful completion of an undergraduate sociology major. Other paths are possible. Regardless of your pre-transfer coursework, if you are interested in pursuing a major in sociology, we encourage you to consider doing so. You can find more information about sociology and transfer equivalents here: <https://www.jmu.edu/transfer/snapshots/sssoci.shtml>.

IMPORTANT LINKS & DATES:

- **University Transfer Center:** www.jmu.edu/transfer
- **Register Intent to Transfer:** Transfer applicants from a VCCS institution intending to apply through the Guaranteed Admission Agreement (GAA) must review requirements and submit a Letter of Intent prior to applying: www.jmu.edu/admissions/apply/transfer-GAA.shtml
- **Admission Application:** By March 1 for Fall or October 15 for Spring at www.jmu.edu/admissions/apply/apply-online.shtml
- **Financial Aid:** www.jmu.edu/financialaid
- **FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid:** Deadline is March 1. Learn more at studentaid.gov.

WHAT SHOULD I CONSIDER WHEN SELECTING COURSES?

- Create a schedule for all required courses, pay attention to prerequisites and when courses are offered, complete your first math and English courses in your first year. For help, see Transfer Steps and Resource Center at www.TransferVirginia.org.
- Connect with an advisor at your community college and schedule an appointment with a [JMU Next transfer advisor](#) in your first semester or first year.



IS THIS DEGREE RIGHT FOR ME?

Sociologists study the causes and consequences of social inequality. They also explore the social aspects of the environment, technology, politics, health, globalization, social movements, social justice, markets, mass media/popular culture and more. Through coursework and projects, sociology majors gain hands-on experience doing sociology, which includes: immersion in the daily life of groups, interview methodology, examining recorded interaction, interpreting historical documents, analyzing large national surveys and producing sophisticated social critique. The sociology program develops the student's ability to analyze the social world by using diverse sociological theories and research methods. It stresses the importance of social, cultural, and historical contexts for understanding relationships between and among individuals and the social structures that make up societies. Students will gain the ability to think broadly and critically about the diversity of social organization and practice locally and globally. Students will also develop the ability to take a disciplined and scholarly approach to understanding the world in which we live. Sociology courses are offered both in-person and online.

WHAT IS THE IMPACT ON MY DEGREE OF WORK I HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED?

- **Associate Transfer Degree Completion:** An approved transferable associate degree from a Virginia Community College will waive general education requirements at JMU. The list of approved transferable associate degrees can be found at www.jmu.edu/transfer/vccs-transfer/asdegrees.shtml.
- **Dual Enrollment – Completion of Associate Degree in HS:** Students who complete a transferable associate degree from a Virginia Community College through Dual Enrollment (DE) will not be eligible for guaranteed admission but will receive the general education waiver at JMU. DE associate degree earners who want to make progress toward their intended major should follow the curriculum in this guide.
- **Credit for Prior Learning:** Credit for prior learning may be awarded differently at JMU than at your previous institution. JMU accepts and reviews AP, IB CIE, and CLEP examinations for all students with eligible scores. JMU will complete an independent review of the test score to apply credit to your JMU student record. Other credit for prior learning is awarded on a per case basis for the ADP and RN-BSN programs in consultation with the department of expertise. Credit for learning acquired in military service is awarded by the registrar's office using the ACE guide credit recommendation for study/experience listed on the military transcript and in consultation with the department of expertise.
- **Catalog Year:** Catalog year determined by first semester of attendance at JMU.

IS THIS COLLEGE RIGHT FOR ME?

JMU is a mid to large size institution that behaves more like a smaller institution. Faculty and staff hold students as the top priority. JMU has a 96% satisfaction rate. 88% of classes have fewer than 50 students. JMU is the #1 most recommended public university in the US by the Wall Street Journal and Times Higher Education; JMU is the #1 Best College for Employment in Virginia according to U.S. Department of Education statistics compiled by Zippia. JMU has the highest post-graduation job levels of all Virginia colleges. Learn more about our college at www.jmu.edu and www.TransferVirginia.org.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- There is no limit to the number of credits you can transfer to JMU, but at least 50% of the credits required for graduation in your major must be taken at a 4-year college or university, and at least 25% must be taken at JMU. (Most JMU majors require 120 credits, so 60 must come from a 4-year and 30 must be taken at JMU.)
- Completing your Associate transfer degree post-high school satisfies all lower division general education requirements and increases the chance of completing your bachelor's degree.
- Exceeding 3 years or 90 credits at your community college means you may have exhausted your financial aid at that college and have limited your future financial aid at JMU.
- Students who may be eligible for Virginia's Two-Year College Transfer Grant should transfer in the fall or spring following the completion of their associate degree. Learn more about the [state transfer grant](#).

WHAT CAN I DO WITH THIS DEGREE?

Explore potential careers, salary ranges, and job outlooks at www.TransferVirginia.org

PROGRAM SUCCESSES & HIGHLIGHTS

Students majoring in Sociology develop skills in all the critical career competencies: formulating and answering critical questions; excellent writing and presentation skills; leadership and group work experience; digital literacy; cross-cultural competency. They learn how to conduct independent research and ways to analyze and present their findings, and they have plenty of access to academic and professional mentoring throughout their time in the department.

WHAT ARE MY CHANCES FOR GETTING ACCEPTED?

- Generally, two-thirds of transfer applicants are admitted to JMU. Competitive applicants will have mostly As & Bs and have completed at least one class in each of our four core areas (English, mathematics, lab science, and social science).
- JMU defines a transfer student as a student that has graduated from high school (or holds a GED equivalency) AND has taken courses in college after high school graduation.
- Learn more about applying at <https://www.jmu.edu/transfer/> or www.TransferVirginia.org.

DO MORE WITH YOUR DEGREE!

Students in the Sociology major have a wide range of opportunities to develop the rigorous research skills necessary for a strong entry into their professional lives or graduate school. In the classroom, students learn research skills in courses such as SOCI 300 Sociological Inquiry and SOCI 480 Senior Seminar in Sociology. These are all small, upper-level seminar-style classes that offer direct hands-on learning. Outside of the classroom, students in Sociology are highly engaged in issues that impact people's daily lives. So it is not surprising that our majors also practice their research skills outside of the classroom. These opportunities include: Field Schools and Study Abroad Programs, the Archaeology Lab, Internships, Service Learning Experiences, and Research and Teaching Assistantships with Professors. In terms of student research opportunities, many Sociology majors decide to "dig deeper" with their research and study one-on-one with their professors in researching and writing up Independent Studies and Honors Theses. Our majors frequently present the results of their research at the department symposium, as well as at regional and national scholarly conferences.