



**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS**

**Program Termination or
Placement on Inactive Status**

UNIVERSITY:	SDSU
DEGREE(S) AND PROGRAM:	Sociology (M.S.) [SMS.SOC, SMS.SOC.AP]
CIP CODE:	45.1101
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	Sociology & Rural Studies
BANNER DEPARTMENT CODE:	SGSS
UNIVERSITY DIVISION:	Graduate School
BANNER DIVISION CODE:	3G

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

President of the University

5/6/2020

Date

1. Program Degree Level:

Associate Bachelor's Master's Doctoral

2. Category:

Certificate Specialization Minor Major

3. The program action proposed is:

Inactive Status Termination

4. INACTIVE STATUS

A. Provide a justification for inactivating the program:

Enrollment in the M.S. in Sociology has fallen to six students in fall 2019. An additional eight students are enrolled in the Community Development specialization offered through the GPIDEA consortium. These two programs have no common coursework, and the M.S. in Sociology shares only one required course with the Ph.D. in Sociology. As a result, the department currently must maintain three separate curricula of graduate-level coursework in addition to its undergraduate curriculum. This arrangement has become financially unsustainable and has eroded the academic quality of all of the department's undergraduate and graduate programming.

The department intends to redesign the M.S. in Sociology. In the meantime, this program will be placed on inactive status. SDSU will allow the M.S. in Sociology to terminate if the

department is unable to redesign the program to allow for efficient, sustainable, and high-quality delivery.

The Sociology (M.S.) - Community Development Specialization will remain active and continue to be offered through the GPIDEA consortium.

B. If there are current students in the program, what are the implications of placing the program on inactive status?

Admission to this program will be immediately suspended, so there will be no first year class effective fall 2020. Returning students will be advised to complete any remaining coursework during the 2020-2021 academic year. As the M.S. in Sociology is a two-year program, this plan should allow for the timely graduation of currently enrolled students. The department may need to provide advising services for students whose thesis or research paper extends past the normal completion time.

C. What is the last date (day/month/year) by which a student can graduate in the program?

Spring 2022

D. What is the proposed date (day/month/year) inactive status takes effect (the proposed date for inactive status is also the last date a student may enroll in or declare the program)?

Spring 2020