

**Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology**  
**Graduate Minor Program Plan Form**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Rural Sociology Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Home department of graduate major: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduate advisor in home department: \_\_\_\_\_

**Graduate Minor specialization** (select one track):

*Agriculture and Environment* \_\_\_\_\_

*Rural Community Development* \_\_\_\_\_

*Development and Social Change* \_\_\_\_\_

**Plan of study**

*RS 742 Concepts & Theories* 5 cr. (**required**)

Quarter taken: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

**Select one 5-credit course from the following selection of core courses:**

For specialization in Agriculture and Environment:

*RS 733 Agriculture and Food Systems* **or** *RS 766 Environmental Sociology*

For specialization in Rural Community Development:

*RS 888 Social Action in Community Development*

For specialization in Development and Social Change:

*RS 892 Rural Sociology of Development and Social Change*

Course Taken: \_\_\_\_\_

Quarter taken: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

**Select two 5-credit courses from the following options:**

RS 622 Amish Society

RS 662N Diffusion of Innovations

RS 666 Rural Poverty

RS 678 Women in Rural Society

RS 733 Sociology of Agriculture and Food Systems

RS 766 Environmental Sociology

RS 788 Sociological Theory Applied to Domestic Development

RS 888 Social Action in Community Development

RS 892 Rural Sociology of Development and Social Change

1<sup>st</sup> Course Selected: \_\_\_\_\_  
Quarter taken: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Course Selected: \_\_\_\_\_  
Quarter taken: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

*STUDENTS WILL GET CREDIT ONLY FOR COURSES WITH A MINIMUM GRADE OF B*

**Approval of Program Plan:**

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Rural Sociology advisor \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

---

**Upon Completion:**

Date coursework was completed for Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Verified by Rural Sociology Graduate Advisor

---

*Note:*

*All paper work should be submitted to the Graduate School with a copy to the Grad Studies Committee of the student's Home Department.*

**Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology**  
**Instructions for Filing the Program Plan**

Students will be able to list the minor on their transcripts after successfully completing four Rural Sociology classes (for a total of 20 credit hours) with a minimum grade of B.

All students will take the following core course:

**RS 742 Concepts and Theories in Rural Sociology** (graduate, 5 credits)  
Examines the sociological significance of "rurality" and the conceptual perspectives applied to major substantive areas in rural sociology, such as community, environment, and agriculture.

Students will select three additional courses of 5 credits each. Students are encouraged to consult with both the major advisor in the home department, college or school and with the Graduate Minor advisor in Rural Sociology. Both advisors will consult with the student about which courses will best suit the student's intellectual and applied interests.

The Rural Sociology advisor will help students in selecting courses that will focus the minor program on one of the three **tracks** in our graduate program:

- ~ ***Agriculture and Environment*** (primarily domestic)
- ~ ***Rural Community Development*** (primarily domestic)
- ~ ***Development and Social Change*** (international and domestic)

In addition to the core course in Rural Sociology, students must complete one course designated as a core requirement for the chosen track:

~ **RS 733 Agriculture and Food Systems** or **RS 766 Environmental Sociology** for the *Agriculture and Environment* track

~ **RS 888 Social Action in Community Development** for the *Rural Community Development* track

~ **RS 892 Rural Sociology of Development and Social Change** for the *Development and Social Change* track

Students will choose two additional courses from the following or approved future courses to complete the minor. The Rural Sociology program releases a list of available courses during every registration period.

**RS 622 Amish Society** U G 5 cr.

Analysis of the historical, social, religious, economic, and cultural dimensions of Amish life.

**RS 662N Diffusion of Innovations** U G 5 cr.

Examines the sociological processes involved in the dissemination of new ideas and technologies in developing nations and the U.S. Assesses the consequences of new technologies for farmers, peasants, communities and public well-being.

**RS 666 Rural Poverty** U G 5 cr.

Evaluation of the factors which create and maintain poverty and inequality, with a focus on the rural U.S., developing nations, and the comparative analysis of spatial inequalities.

**RS 678 Women in Rural Society** U G 5 cr.

Women's role in rural society from a comparative perspective, focusing on agriculture, the environment, informal economy, and household production, both in developing and developed countries.

**RS 733 Sociology of Agriculture and Food Systems** G 5 cr.

Overview of sociological theory and research related to agricultural change and food system development, focusing on individual, family, community, economic, and environmental impacts.

**RS 766 Environmental Sociology** G 5 cr.

Sociological approaches to the study of environmental policy with an emphasis on political economy. Analysis of major issues relating to the use and abuse of natural resources, inequalities, and environmental conflicts. Special attention to soil and water issues in rural Ohio.

**RS 788 Sociological Theory Applied to Domestic Development** G 5 cr.

Application of general sociological theories and development research findings to the analysis of domestic rural development; emphasis on consensus and conflict models.

**RS 888 Social Action in Community Development** G 5 cr.

Analysis of the social action process and its application to rural community development. Includes attention to theories of community development, policy analysis, and social problems such as immigration, leadership, and political economy.

**RS 892 Rural Sociology of Development and Social Change** G 5 cr.

Overview of sociological principles, theories, and practice applied to international development, globalization, and social change with particular attention to rural settings. Includes attention to the influence of sociology on international and national development policies.

Each of the above courses is taught every other year, some in even years and some in odd-numbered years.