Final review...
After the site visit, the accreditation review committee submits a report to the Commission which determines the program’s accreditation status.

Reaccreditation...
After five years, the program updates the self study report and hosts a new site visit for reaccreditation, for up to seven years.

The accreditation of your program enhances:

Recognition...
Your program will be listed in the Commission’s Directory of Accredited Programs and published on the CAPACS website, enhancing its image in the academic and practice community. More students will be attracted to sociology as a practice profession, thereby increasing its utility and value in the public and private sectors.

Opportunities for networking and collaboration...
Program faculty and students will enjoy new opportunities to network and collaborate with alumni, sociological practitioners, other professionals, and leaders in academe, government, community-based organizations, businesses, non-governmental organizations, and industry.

Where do you get more information?
Visit the CAPACS website for more information and resources on program accreditation. Explore the benefits of joining other programs leading sociology into the future as a scientifically-based practice profession.

CAPACS Website:
HTTPS://CAPACS.NET

CAPACS Accreditation Documents:
HTTPS://CAPACS.NET/DOCUMENTS.SHTML

Contact CAPACS:
HTTPS://CAPACS.NET/CONTACT.SHTML

You also may contact:
Michael S. Fleisher, PhD, CSP
CAPACS Chair
E-mail: mfleischer@capacs.net
What is CAPACS or the Commission on the Accreditation of Programs in Applied and Clinical Sociology?

An Accréditor for the profession...
CAPACS is an independent, tax exempt 501(c)(6) “Business League” incorporated in 1995 to develop, promote, and support quality sociological education and training in professional sociological practice programs for the discipline of sociology. CAPACS disseminates program models and resources to departments interested in developing these programs. CAPACS adheres to CHEA and USDE guidelines in establishing the standards for such programs, accredits programs that demonstrate they meet the standards, and monitors the programs for continued compliance.

The Commission’s priorities are to:

Accredit...
CAPACS accredits higher education programs in sociological practice. Programs may be in applied sociology, clinical sociology, engaged public sociology, translational sociology, and forensic sociology, including all approaches of sociological practice identity that may emerge consistent with the program curricula, education, training, and professional work recognized by the Commission. Programs may be housed in sociology, interdisciplinary, and multidisciplinary departments.

Advocate...
CAPACS advocates for sociology and sociological practice in the areas of occupational licensing and certification and the continuing education of sociological practitioners.

Register...
CAPACS archives a registry of graduates of accredited programs to document their qualifications to work in interdisciplinary practice fields regulated by the State.

Why should your department consider CAPACS program accreditation?

Quality...
CAPACS program accreditation improves the quality of sociological education and training for the increasing number of graduates who choose non-academic careers in the social and behavioral sciences as practitioners of applied sociology, clinical sociology, engaged public sociology, translational sociology, and forensic sociology.

Accountability...
CAPACS program accreditations complement departmental reviews by the discipline and institutional reviews by regional and national accreditors worldwide.

Assurance...
CAPACS accredited programs assure the public they have the necessary administrative structures and resources to support state-of-the-art teaching, research, and experiential learning for students. Accreditation offers departments a proven means to secure funding to support faculty and staff in sociology programs.

Outcomes...
CAPACS accreditation standards are based on student learning outcomes that integrate sociological theories, methods, knowledge, skills, and professional orientation and ethics in a curriculum designed by the program. Students complete a meaningful practice experience, such as an internship, practicum, or supervised field work, which improves job placements and career opportunities. Programs may display the USPTO registered logo:

How do you complete the process?

The CAPACS accreditation process combines a program self study with a review that includes a site visit.

The Commission will work with your program to ensure that it fulfills the following steps:

Application...
The program submits an application with the title and description of the program in sociological practice (e.g., applied sociology, clinical sociology, engaged public sociology, translational sociology, or forensic sociology) along with a processing fee.

Self study report...
The program prepares a self study report to document its compliance with the Commission’s accreditation standards at the appropriate degree level.

Site visit...
A site visit is scheduled for the program. The site visit team meets with the department chair, program director, faculty, students, and administrators at the institution; tours facilities and internship sites; and reviews supporting documentation for compliance.