

Briefly describe the proposed change and rationale for the change:

We are requesting a name change for our Ph.D. program from Sociological Inquiry to Sociology. There are several reasons for this request: (1) the proposed change better aligns with standards in the discipline as well as with Sociology Ph.D. programs in our peer and aspirational institutions (for a listing of Sociology Ph.D. programs see <https://www.gradschools.com/doctorate/sociology>); (2) we aim to offer a comprehensive sociological program rather than a specific sub-specialization as implied by the current name (Sociological Inquiry); (3) the current goals and the description of the program does not differ from what one would find in Ph.D. Sociology programs (see https://thesanfordschool.asu.edu/sites/default/files/phdsocinquiryhandbookfinal_dec2014.pdf); (4) it will be easier for prospective students to find our program in web searches; (5) renaming the program will help us attract faculty and graduate students who may be reluctant to join a non-standard Sociology program as implied by the current name. Potential students and faculty may shy away from our program for fear that their degree will not be accepted as a standard Sociology degree (as many Sociology programs are reluctant to hire non-Sociologists). A Ph.D in Sociology will open more options in the job market as our graduates will be eligible for employment in Sociology as well as interdisciplinary or sub-specialty programs. As we initiate efforts to rebuild the Sociology program at the Sanford School, aligning the name of the program with disciplinary standards will help these efforts without compromising the substance of the program.

Discuss the impact of this change on current students and/or enrollment:

Currently, there are no graduate students in the program and we have delayed recruitment of students, thus there will be no impact on current or prospective students. We will submit an admissions changes form when we are ready to accept applications.

DEAN APPROVAL(S)

This proposal has been approved by all necessary unit and College/School levels of review. I recommend implementation of the proposed name change.

College/School/Division Dean name: Kenro Kusumi

Signature:  Date: 4/20/2018

College/School/Division Dean name:
(if more than one college involved)


Signature:  Date: 4/18/2018

Note: An electronic signature, an email from the dean or dean's designee, or a PDF of the signed signature page is acceptable.

University Approval(s)

Graduate College (if applicable)

Name: _____

Signature:  Date: 9/18/2018

Office of the University Provost

Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: / /20