

## 2025 Department of Sociology Paper of Excellence Award

Submissions Due: April 30, 2025

### **Purpose**

- The award was created to recognize the excellence of a sociology paper written by a full-time student completing their major or minor in Sociology (and/or enrolled in the Sociology Honours Program) at MacEwan University.
- The award encourages sociological thought while motivating and encouraging interest within the discipline (specifically students' research skills).
- The award acknowledges the academic significance of student contributions.

### **Description of the Award**

- This award has a monetary prize of \$250.
- The award winner (or co-winner's) name(s) will be engraved on a plaque which will be displayed within the Department of Sociology.

### **Eligibility**

- The student submitting the paper must:
- The student must be registered as a full-time student at MacEwan University.
- The student must be majoring or minoring in Department of Sociology and/or enrolled in the Sociology Honours Program.
- The student must be the sole author of the submitted paper.
- The submission can be written specifically for the competition, or it can be a revised version of a class assignment from the last two academic years.
- Previous student paper submissions are ineligible.
- Papers co-authored with other students or faculty members are ineligible.
- The student is expected to agree, complete, and submit the Adjudication Agreement Form when submitting their paper for the competition.

### **Judging Criteria**

- Papers must be between 12-20 pages in length (not including references and cover pages).
- Papers are required to have an abstract (less than 200 words).
- Papers are required to be double-spaced, 12-font with respect to standard margins/indents (of 5 spaces) with an acceptable format of referencing (e.g. APA, ASA).

- Papers may be written on any topic with sociological relevance and must incorporate theoretical insights.
- Submissions should also emphasize the quality of the analysis, ability to incorporate theoretical insights, writing style and expression, as well as structure and organization.

### **Submission Information and Deadline**

- Submissions should emphasize the quality of the analysis, ability to incorporate theoretical insights, writing style and expression, as well as structure and organization.
- For purposes of blind review, three files need to be submitted.
- One file (in Microsoft word format) will contain the title page which includes the title, student's name, mailing address, email address, and phone number.
- A second file (in Microsoft word format) will contain the text of the paper (with a running head that contains the title of the paper on each page.). No identifiable information should be included in this second file.
- A third file (in a viewable format) is the dated and signed Adjudication Agreement Form.
- All three files, with the subject heading "Paper of Excellence" must be emailed to Dr. Stephen Speake ([speakes@macewan.ca](mailto:speakes@macewan.ca)) by April 30, 2025

### **Adjudication Process**

- The award winner(s) is/are selected through a blind review process.
- The Paper of Excellence Committee is composed of three to five full-time Sociology faculty members.
- The award winner(s) will be declared by a majority decision of the Committee.
- The Committee is not bound to declare a winner if no paper merits the award.
- The Committee's decision is final and cannot be appealed.
- All papers will be evaluated as per MacEwan University's Academic Integrity Policy.

For more information, please contact any of the Paper of Excellence Committee members:

Parvinder Hira-Friesen ([hirafriesenp@macewan.ca](mailto:hirafriesenp@macewan.ca))

Sandra Rollings-Magnusson ([magnussons@macewan.ca](mailto:magnussons@macewan.ca))

Michael Seredycz ([seredyczm@macewan.ca](mailto:seredyczm@macewan.ca))

Stephen Speake ([speakes@macewan.ca](mailto:speakes@macewan.ca))

Zara Zaidi ([zaidih5@macewan.ca](mailto:zaidih5@macewan.ca))

Department of Sociology 2025 Paper of Excellence Award Adjudication  
Agreement Form

By submitting my paper, “ \_\_\_\_\_ (insert title) \_\_\_\_\_”, I am  
agreeing to the following Adjudication Process:

- The award winner(s) is/are selected through a blind review process.
- The Paper of Excellence Committee is composed of three to five full-time Sociology faculty members.
- The award winner(s) will be declared by a majority decision of the Committee.
- The Committee is not bound to declare a winner if no paper merits the award.
- The Committee’s decision is final and cannot be appealed.
- All papers will be evaluated as per MacEwan University's Academic Integrity Policy.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student signature