

## **What are They Doing with a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology?**

Sociology, put simply, is the study of social relations. But it is so much more than that. Majoring in sociology allows students the freedom to explore many different realms of thought such as diversity, inequality, modern society, social conflict, and social change because of the wide range of subjects this major covers.

The sociology program endeavors to teach its students the fundamental skills necessary to gain the information they seek, such as critical thinking, interpreting data, and social perceptiveness. Due to sociology's focus on strong analytical and communication skills, it is a highly versatile degree, offering many graduates a range of career possibilities.

According to various sources, these are some examples of suitable careers for those who have graduated with a sociology bachelor's degree:

### **Business**

Sociologists' understanding of human behavior and social interactions helps them determine where to best put coworkers and employees in order to mediate conflict within the work place. They also understand what certain demographics prefer and/or require in order to provide them with the best service.

- Consumer research
- Entrepreneurship
- Human resources
- Insurance
- Management consulting
- Marketing and sales
- Media
- Public relations
- Real estate
- Survey researcher/pollster
- Training

### **Community services**

Sociology majors are taught many skills including managing and supporting a community, surveys, data analysis, and human relations. They can gauge issues faced by certain populations within the community, and they can work to alleviate the consequences with that knowledge. This skill helps them with collecting community information, interpreting the information, and determining the best course of action for the community using that information.

- Advocacy
- Charity fundraiser
- Childcare
- Child development specialist
- Community development
- Environmental groups
- Housing manager/officer
- Non-profit agencies
- Urban planning

## Health services

Since sociologists are well-versed in the mechanics of human interactions and relationships, they can perform excellently within the health services arena. For example, they can be instrumental in educating their charges about social issues such as peer pressure and steering them to less destructive and life-altering paths.

- Family planning
- Health educator
- Hospital admissions
- Insurance providers
- Mental health counseling
- Rehabilitation counseling
- Substance abuse education

## Higher Education

Sociologists learn and develop many skills that could be useful in higher education careers such as using statistics, interviews, and advisement skills to help ensure a school's success. They can help determine who would best fit the overall mission of the school and make sure the school continues to run smoothly.

- Administrative support
- Admissions
- Advising
- Alumni relations

## Law

Those with a sociology degree could be well suited for a career within the law field, due to their fine-tuned critical thinking and analytical skills honed in college. Just as sociology majors must compose position papers and presentations for their sociology classes, legal workers must gather information and facts for their theories and present their carefully-researched theories in a convincing way.

- Attorney
- Correctional treatment
- Criminal justice
- Investigations
- Judicial affairs
- Law enforcement
- Legislative aide
- Paralegal
- Probation and parole administration
- Special Agent

## Publishing

Publishing firms would gladly hire a sociologist, mainly for their understanding of the consumer market and how a product should be marketed and handled. Sociologists can help figure out how certain demographics feel about certain subjects and how to address them in their publications.

- Editing
- Journalism
- Professional writing
- Research

## **Social services**

Due to their extensive study of society, sociology majors can be excellent in any career dealing with social services. Their honed understanding of social interactions can be beneficial for helping clients reevaluate their personal circumstances and relationships.

- Administration
- Case management
- Elderly services
- Local, state, and federal agencies
- Policy Analyst
- Recreation
- Rehabilitation
- Social work
- Youth services

## **Teaching**

Sociologists could be ideal for a teaching profession because they can understand how a student's sociological background can impact their educational ambition. Using this, sociologists are able to take steps to help each student find the learning style that best fits them and their unique place within the classroom.

- Elementary
- Secondary
- Special education
- Teaching English as a second language

If you have more questions about potential routes to take in your education, look at the Career Paths tab for guidance in classes you could take.

**For more career ideas, check out the following websites.**

<http://sociology.ucdavis.edu/undergraduate/careers-for-sociology-majors>

<https://www.thebalancecareers.com/top-jobs-for-sociology-majors-2059633>

<https://thebestschools.org/degrees/sociology-degree/>

**For research about sociology careers, peruse the following articles.**

<http://www.asanet.org/research-and-publications/research-sociology/research-briefs/jobs-careers-sociological-skills-early-employment-experiences-2012-sociology-majors>

<http://www.asanet.org/research-and-publications/research-sociology/research-briefs/strong-ties-weak-ties-or-no-ties-what-helped-sociology-majors-find-career-level-jobs-0>