**Sociology and Law Enforcement**

Sociology is a popular major for people who want to go into law enforcement (police officer, criminal investigator, CIA/FBI, etc).

**You should take classes in the following:**
- Crime, deviance, and delinquency: Soc 380, 383, 481
- Research design and analysis: Soc 300, 301, 307, 404, 405 (Emphasize these if you want to become a CIA/FBI or other criminological data analyst.)
- Theory: Soc 310, 311, 350 (Criminal investigators especially need a lot of different theories about why people do what they do. Also, anyone who wants to go to graduate school needs a strong theoretical background.)
- Other classes that teach you about culture, diversity, inequality, and institutions: Soc 318, 322, 323, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 345, 360, 365, 367, 370, 420, 421, 422, 424, 426, 429, 450, 460

**In addition to taking the relevant classes, you also should consider the following:**
- Be a research assistant with a professor (volunteer, for credit, for pay, as an Honors thesis, as an International Field Study, etc). This is more important than some people think. It is especially important if you want to be a criminological data analyst. However, even future police officers benefit from this.
- Get a job or internship working with crime, safety, deviance, or delinquency.
- Go to graduate school.
- If you want to be promoted within a law enforcement agency or business, you might consider getting an MBA (private agency) or an MPA (public agency).
- If you want to be promoted as a data analyst, get an MS or a PhD (or both) in sociology or psychology, emphasizing crime and/or deviance.

**Contact**
If you want to talk about how sociology can prepare you for a career in law enforcement, see:

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SOCIOLOGY prepares me for a career in LAW ENFORCEMENT.