

# What Can I Do With a Major in...

# Sociology?

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Sociology studies societies and cultures within a broadly comparative framework. As this study shows the relationships between people and their environments, students gain a deeper understanding of their own social worlds and others. Students critically address issues such as opportunity structures and inequality, and explore diversity in American society. Students also research and analyze complex social problems and choose practical areas in social agencies and criminal justice settings. Options are offered in criminal justice, social work and pre-law, and students are encouraged to undertake individualized projects involving both research and outreach activities in the community.

### Skills/Competencies Associated with Sociology Majors:

- \*Sensitivity, empathy, patience
- \*Ability to make sound judgments and decisions
- \*Works well under pressure
- \*Conflict management
- \*Critical thinking and problem solving
- \*Good communication skills
- \*Human relations skills
- \*Desire to help people
- \*Ability to assess people's needs

### Related Occupations:

Administrative Assistant	Demographic Analyst	Parole Officer
Admissions Counselor	Family Guidance Clinic Worker	Peace Corps/VISTA Worker
Adoption Agent	Family Preservation Case Worker	Political Systems Researcher
Advertising Manager	Family Services Specialist	Population Specialist
Aging Specialist	Financial Aid Director	Probation Officer
Alcohol and Drug Case Worker	Foster Care Worker	Program Director
Budget Analyst	Fundraiser/Development Officer	Public Administrator
Career Services Counselor	Gerontologist	Public Health Educator
Case Aid Worker	Group Therapist	Public Opinion Surveyor
Child Welfare Officer	Health Care Worker	Public Relations Worker
City Planner	Hospital Administrator	Recreation Director
Clergy	Human Resources Administrator	Recreation Therapist
Community Relations Director	Human Services Worker	Rehabilitation Counselor
Community Service Agency Worker	Independent Living Trainer	Reporter
Compensation/Benefits Worker	Job Analyst	Research Assistant
Congressional Aid	Labor Relations Representative	School Counselor
Consultant	Marketing Research Analyst	Secret Service Agent
Consumer Survey Advisor	Marriage and Family Therapist	Social Movements Organizer
Convention Organizer	Medical Social Worker	Social Scientist
Cooperative Extension Agent	Mental Health Agent	Social Welfare Examiner
Correctional Case Worker	Motivational Speaker	Social Worker
Corrections Officer	News Correspondent	Teacher
Criminologist		Trainer
Data Analyst		Veterans Affairs Specialist
Delinquency Counselor		Welfare Counselor

\*This is only a partial list and not meant to limit you. Come to Career Services to explore your options further.

### Strategies:

- \*Look into experiential learning opportunities (internships, coop, mentoring, externships, volunteer, etc.)
  - \*Gain experience in advocacy
    - \*Serve as a fundraiser
  - \*Enhance knowledge of community problems
    - \*Read psychological journals or articles
  - \*Gain experience as a student leader/worker on campus
- \*Research career fields to learn what type of degree and subject areas are most appropriate
  - \*Conduct informational interviews with people in fields of your interest

### Resources for Sociology Majors:

College Central Network  
[www.collegecentral.com/gmc](http://www.collegecentral.com/gmc)

American Sociological Association  
<http://www.asanet.org>

MentalHelp.Net  
<http://www.mentalhelp.net>

O\*NET OnLine  
<http://online.onetcenter.org>

LaSalle Non-Profit Center  
<http://www.lasallenonprofitcenter.org>

Information on Careers in Sociology  
<http://www.geneseo.edu/~soc/careers.html>

Careers in Sociology  
<http://www.abacon.com/socsite/careers.html>

Occupational Outlook Handbook  
[www.bls.gov/oco](http://www.bls.gov/oco)

Eastern Sociological Society  
<http://www.essnet.org>

Social Service Jobs  
[www.socialservice.com](http://www.socialservice.com)

Idealist  
[www.idealist.org](http://www.idealist.org)

Guide Star  
[www.guidestar.org](http://www.guidestar.org)

National Non-Profit Job Opportunities  
<http://www.opportunitynocs.org>

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### **Gwynedd-Mercy College Career Services**

215-646-7300, ext: 230

[careerservices@gmc.edu](mailto:careerservices@gmc.edu)

[www.gmc.edu/students/careerservices](http://www.gmc.edu/students/careerservices)