

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

## 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:**

College Central Network

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

American Sociological Association

[www.asanet.org](http://www.asanet.org)

MentalHelp.Net

[www.mentalhelp.net](http://www.mentalhelp.net)

O\*NET OnLine

<http://online.onetcenter.org>

LaSalle Non-Profit Center

[www.lasallenonprofitcenter.org](http://www.lasallenonprofitcenter.org)

Information on Careers in Sociology

[www.geneseo.edu/~soc/careers.html](http://www.geneseo.edu/~soc/careers.html)

Careers in Sociology

[www.abacon.com/socsite/careers.html](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.idealists.org](http://www.idealists.org)

Guide Star

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

National Non-Profit Job Opportunities

[www.opportunitynocs.org](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)