**SOCILOGY**

**What can I do with this major?**

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<tr>
<th>AREAS</th>
<th>EMPLOYERS</th>
<th>STRATEGIES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>HUMAN SERVICES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Direct Care:</td>
<td>Federal, state, and local government</td>
<td>Concentrate course work in an area of interest such as youth, gerontology, or poverty.</td>
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<td>Counseling</td>
<td>Advocacy groups</td>
<td>Understand goals and missions of social service work.</td>
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<td>Case Management</td>
<td>Religiously-affiliated organizations</td>
<td>Develop helping skills through volunteer positions.</td>
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<td>Mental Health Services</td>
<td>Non-profit agencies</td>
<td>Spend summers working at camps, YMCA's, or other social service agencies.</td>
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<td>Crisis Work</td>
<td>Community service organizations</td>
<td>Serve as a Peer Mentor, Resident Assistant, or other student leader.</td>
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<td>Community Organizing</td>
<td>Private foundations</td>
<td>Gain experience with diverse populations.</td>
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<td><strong>Administration:</strong></td>
<td>Adoption and child care agencies</td>
<td>Develop excellent communication skills.</td>
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<td>Advocacy</td>
<td>Nursing homes and retirement communities</td>
<td>Learn a second language in order to interact with non-English speakers and increase marketability.</td>
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<td>Programming</td>
<td>Residential treatment facilities</td>
<td>Relate your background to what the employer needs.</td>
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<td>Community Relations</td>
<td>Hospitals and wellness centers</td>
<td>Earn a master's degree in social work, counseling, or other related field to increase employment opportunities.</td>
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<td>Development/Fund Raising</td>
<td>Halfway houses</td>
<td>Most states require licensure or certification for positions involving the direct provision of therapeutic services to clients.</td>
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<td>Correctional facilities</td>
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<td>Vocational services</td>
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<td>Educational information services</td>
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<td>Insurance companies</td>
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<td><strong>CRIMINAL JUSTICE</strong></td>
<td>City/County Government Organizations including:</td>
<td>Choose criminal justice courses or concentration in sociology.</td>
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<tr>
<td>See also What Can I Do With This Major in Criminal Justice?</td>
<td>Police departments</td>
<td>Attend a post-secondary vocational or technical college that offers court reporting certification programs.</td>
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<td>Court Reporting</td>
<td>Correction facilities</td>
<td>Volunteer to work with at-risk youth and families.</td>
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<td>Court Administration</td>
<td>County sheriff departments</td>
<td>Gain experience working with diverse populations.</td>
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<td>Law Enforcement</td>
<td>Liquor Control Commission</td>
<td>Complete a formal police academy program upon graduation.</td>
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<td>Corrections</td>
<td>Animal control offices</td>
<td>Consider obtaining experience in a branch of the military.</td>
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<td>Probation and Parole</td>
<td>State Government Organizations including:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation</td>
<td>State troopers</td>
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<td>Prevention Programming</td>
<td>Crime labs</td>
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<td>Victim Services</td>
<td>Penitentiaries</td>
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<td>Forensics</td>
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<td>Investigation</td>
<td>Federal Government Organizations including:</td>
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<td>Security</td>
<td>U.S. Customs and Border Protection</td>
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<td>Loss Prevention/Asset Protection</td>
<td>Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)</td>
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<td>Internal Revenue Service (IRS)</td>
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<td>CRIMINAL JUSTICE CONTINUED</td>
<td>Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)</td>
<td>For forensics, take a significant number of science classes and plan to earn a master’s degree in forensic science or related discipline.</td>
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<td>Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)</td>
<td>Become familiar with the government application process and seek assistance from the campus career center.</td>
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<td>Department of Homeland Security</td>
<td>Learn a second language for increased marketability.</td>
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<td>Postal Service</td>
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<td>Federal Marshals</td>
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<td>Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks</td>
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<td>United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)</td>
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<td>National Parks Service</td>
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<td>Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF)</td>
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<td>Armed services</td>
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<td>Prisons</td>
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<td>Detention centers</td>
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<td>Youth corrections facilities</td>
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<td>Airports and other transportation facilities</td>
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<td>Crime laboratories</td>
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<td>Colleges and universities</td>
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<td>LAW</td>
<td>Law firms</td>
<td>Supplement curriculum with classes that help prepare students for the rigors of law school.</td>
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<td>Research the many specialties of legal practice to find ones of interest</td>
<td>Federal, state and local government</td>
<td>Participate in a debate or forensic team to hone communication skills.</td>
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<td>Corporations</td>
<td>Develop strong research skills and attention to detail.</td>
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<td>Public interest organizations</td>
<td>Gain experience with mediation and conflict resolution.</td>
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<td>Private practice</td>
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<td>EDUCATION</td>
<td>K-12: Teaching (Elementary, Middle, Secondary) School Counseling Administration</td>
<td>Complete a college level teacher preparation program to teach in the public school system. Obtain teaching certificate/license for desired subject area and/or grade level. Requirements for certification/licensure vary by state. Gain multiple certifications to increase employability. Private schools may not require certification or licensure. Obtain master's degree in subject area for increased employability. A master's degree in school counseling and appropriate certification are required to practice counseling in the schools. Earn Ph.D. to teach and research at four-year institutions. Master's or Ph.D. degree is required to teach at two-year schools. Participate in research as an undergraduate. Take research coursework, become involved with faculty research, get to know graduate students. Join appropriate professional organization and attend conferences as a student. Obtain a master's degree in student personnel, student development, counseling, or library/information sciences for student affairs and librarian positions. Gain related experience on campus through student leadership opportunities such as Peer Mentors, Resident Assistants, or Orientation Leaders.</td>
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<td>K-12 schools, public and private Boards of education Four-year colleges and universities Two-year and community colleges Technical schools Medical and professional schools</td>
<td>Federal government: There are over 170 federal departments and agencies State and local governments</td>
<td>Supplement curriculum with coursework in statistics and social research. Develop exceptional computer, communication, and research skills. Gain work experience via government internships, part-time jobs, or summer work. Develop a specialty such as aging, family, criminal justice, or healthcare. Seek leadership roles in relevant student groups.</td>
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<td>State and local governments</td>
<td>See also What Can I Do With This Major in Public Administration? Social Statistics Program Analysis Demography Public Administration Policy Analysis Research Program Development City Planning</td>
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### GOVERNMENT CONTINUED

**AREAS**
- Government
- Research
- Data Analysis
- Policy or Program Analysis
- Demographics
- Market Research
- Information Sourcing

**EMPLOYERS**
- Universities
- Government agencies
- Research institutes
- Non-profit agencies
- Private industries
- Advertising and marketing firms
- Consulting firms
- Information brokers
- Newspapers, magazines, news agencies
- Public opinion research polls

**STRATEGIES**
- Become involved in student government.
- Participate in cross-cultural organizations. Interact with the international community on campus.
- Research government agencies and identify federal job titles that are right for your combination of education and experience.
- Maintain a strong grade point average.
- Obtain a graduate degree for advanced positions.
- Learn the federal job application process and seek assistance from campus career centers.
- Consider beginning a career with the government by joining the military or Peace Corps. Such experiences can open doors to government positions.

### SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

**Research**
- Universities
- Government agencies
- Research institutes
- Non-profit agencies
- Private industries
- Advertising and marketing firms
- Consulting firms
- Information brokers
- Newspapers, magazines, news agencies
- Public opinion research polls

**Develop exceptional quantitative, statistical, writing, and organizational skills.**

**Learn to use statistical software packages as well as database, spreadsheet, and presentation programs.**

**Volunteer to help a professor with a research project or complete original research through an independent study class.**

**Develop an area of expertise through relevant experience, coursework, or advanced degree.**

**Obtain an advanced degree in sociology for research administration positions.**

**Earn certification in applied social research by The American Sociological Association.**

**Network with professionals working in areas of interest.**

**Gain experience working on teams and communicating ideas with others from varying disciplines.**
### Areas

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<tr>
<th>Business</th>
<th>Employers</th>
<th>Strategies</th>
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<td>Human Resources:</td>
<td>- Insurance firms&lt;br&gt;- Retail stores&lt;br&gt;- Banks&lt;br&gt;- Staffing agencies&lt;br&gt;- Manufacturing companies&lt;br&gt;- Service industries&lt;br&gt;- Non-profit organizations&lt;br&gt;- Healthcare organizations&lt;br&gt;- Government&lt;br&gt;- Education</td>
<td>Supplement curriculum with appropriate coursework&lt;br&gt;Supplement curriculum with appropriate coursework (accounting, finance, management, etc.) or earn a minor in business or communications. Gain relevant experience through part-time jobs, summer work, and internships. Learn to use software applications such as spreadsheets, databases, and presentations. Hone written and oral communication skills. Join related professional associations. Seek leadership roles on campus. Be willing to start in a management-trainee program or other entry-level positions. When job searching, seek employers interested in hiring &quot;any major.&quot; Understand the top skills employers desire and be prepared to demonstrate them, such as communication (oral and written), computer, interpersonal, leadership and teamwork, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training and</td>
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<td>Development</td>
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<td>Recruiting</td>
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<td>Management</td>
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<td>Sales</td>
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<td>Public Relations</td>
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<td>Office Administration</td>
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### Environmental Sociology

| Land and Water Conservation Planning Law Preserve Management Natural Resource Management Land Acquisition Parks and Outdoor Recreation Environmental Education Advocacy/Lobbying Administration and Management Recreation Planning Research Site Operations and Maintenance Ecotourism | Waste management firms<br>- Health agencies<br>- Local planning agencies<br>- Environmental advocacy groups<br>- Non-profit organizations<br>- Local, state, and federal government agencies<br>- National Park Service<br>- State, county, or city parks<br>- Consulting firms<br>- Private industry<br>- Media companies<br>- Environmental periodicals<br>- Resorts and marinas<br>- Privately owned facilities<br>- Tourism agencies<br>- Land trust organizations such as The Nature Conservancy or Trust for Public Land | Enhance curriculum with courses in ecology, environmental science, and statistics. Choose a minor or concentration in environmental studies or issues. Join environment-related student organizations. Volunteer to work on environmental clean-up projects with an organization such as Student Conservation Association (SCA). Find a related internship, part-time, or summer job. Obtain a graduate degree or law degree for advancement or to work in specific areas. Obtain legal, real estate, and financial skills through coursework, internships, or part-time jobs. Participate in travel and/or recreation programs. Learn environmental laws and regulations. Join professional associations and environmental groups as ways to network. |
GENERAL INFORMATION

- Many transferable skills such as analytical, organizational, research, interpersonal, computer, leadership, teamwork, and oral/written communication are associated with the sociology degree.
- Internships, part-time jobs, summer jobs, and/or volunteer experiences are critical to reaching career goals. Research fields of interests and gain the right skills, experiences, and advanced degrees (if necessary).
- An undergraduate degree is sufficient for many entry-level positions in non-profit organizations, business, and government.
- An bachelor’s in sociology prepares students for graduate or professional education in sociology, law, counseling, psychology, social work, medicine, education, college student personnel, higher education administration, planning, and other related fields. Research pre-requisites for graduate or professional programs of interest.
- To enhance graduate or professional school opportunities, maintain a high grade point average, secure strong faculty recommendations, join student or professional organizations, and gain relevant experience outside of the classroom through work, internship, volunteer, and research opportunities.
- Get involved with a population of interest (i.e., children, college students, elderly adults) and develop multicultural sensitivity and understanding.
- Talk with professionals working in areas of interest and build a network of contacts.