

SOCIOLOGY, B.A.

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: University Park

Career Paths

Sociology helps you to prepare for your future career in multiple ways. Sociology trains students how to design social research, how to collect data, how to analyze data, and how to interpret data. For example, students can observe and facilitate small groups, analyze a nationally representative survey, or collect social media data. Sociology provides insight about how and why society works, giving students tools to critically examine social and propose creative solutions to social problems. Sociology also gives in-depth knowledge on key aspects of social life: race, family, immigration, gender, religion, work, sexuality, violence, social movements, and more.

Careers

People with sociological training can be found in a range of careers, since sociology provides skills that translate to numerous contexts and specialized knowledge on specific topics. Our recent graduates have pursued careers in law, social work, social media, research, business, community organizing, social entrepreneurship, education, non-profit organizations, public policy, counseling, health professions, government, and criminal justice. Since our department offers a wide range of courses, students can tailor to their interests. Students also have numerous opportunities for research, career, or teaching internships.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS
FOR GRADUATES OF THE SOCIOLOGY PROGRAM (<https://sociology.la.psu.edu/undergraduate/sociology/careers-in-sociology/>)

Opportunities for Graduate Studies

Sociology provides a strong foundation for graduate study. Many students choose sociology as a step towards graduate school because it provides intensive training in data analysis and critical thinking skills. Sociology students have multiple chances to develop their communication skills, through writing, speaking, and data presentation. Research, teaching, and community internships all provide opportunities for advanced skill development and mentorship. Over half of recent sociology students have considered graduate school, especially in the fields of law, business, data analytics, human services, education, and public health.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES
(<https://sociology.la.psu.edu/graduate/sociology/>)

Professional Resources

- American Sociological Association (<https://www.asanet.org>)
- The International Sociology Honor Society (<https://alphakappadelta.org/>)