

# SOCIOLOGY

## What can I do with this degree?

### AREAS

#### HUMAN SERVICES

Counseling  
Case Management  
Advocacy  
Mental Health Services  
Programming  
Administration

#### CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Corrections  
Rehabilitation  
Law Enforcement  
Judiciary

#### EDUCATION

Teaching  
Research

### EMPLOYERS

Community service agencies  
Advocacy groups  
Federal, state and local government  
United Way agencies/local branches of  
national non-profit organizations  
Religiously-affiliated service organizations  
Private foundations  
Adoption and child care agencies  
Nursing homes and retirement communities  
Hospitals and wellness centers

Correctional institutions  
Court systems  
Federal, state and local government, especially  
law enforcement agencies

Public and private schools  
Colleges and universities

### STRATEGIES

Gain experience and develop helping skills through  
volunteer positions.  
Spend summers working at camps, YMCA's or other  
social service agencies.  
Learn to work well with diverse populations.  
Develop excellent communication skills.  
Concentrate course work in area of interest such as  
youth, gerontology or poverty.  
Learn a second language to interact with non-native  
speakers of English - particularly helpful in certain  
parts of the country.  
Take advantage of opportunities to serve as peer mentors,  
resident assistants, or other student leader positions.  
Earn a master's degree in social work, counseling or other  
related fields to increase employment opportunities.  
Most states require licensure or certification for profes-  
sional counseling-oriented positions.

Gain essential practical experience via part-time or  
summer jobs, internships, or volunteer work.  
Volunteer to work with troubled youth.  
Develop a desire to work with and help all types of  
people.  
Obtain a graduate degree for advancement.

Obtain certification/licensure to teach grades K-12. Earn  
dual certification to increase job opportunities.  
Earn a graduate degree to teach in post-secondary  
institutions; master's degree required for two-year  
colleges and a doctoral degree for four-year institutions.  
Assist a professor with research.  
Take extra courses in research and statistics.  
Develop exceptional communication skills.  
Volunteer as a tutor.  
Secure strong personal recommendations, particularly  
from professors.

**AREAS**

**EMPLOYERS**

**STRATEGIES**

GOVERNMENT

Social Statistics  
Demography  
Public Administration  
Policy Analysis  
Research  
Program Development  
Human Services  
City Planning

Federal departments and agencies including but not limited to:  
Departments of Agriculture; Education; Interior  
Health and Human Services  
Drug Enforcement Administration  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Housing and Urban Development  
Veteran's Administration  
National Institutes of Health  
National Institute of Aging  
State and local government

Take additional courses in statistics and social research.  
Develop exceptional computer skills.  
Gain work experience via government internships or summer work.  
Acquire skills in research and evaluation; develop a specialty in fields such as aging, family, criminal justice, etc.  
Learn the federal application process.  
Obtain a graduate degree for advanced positions.

SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Research  
Data Analysis  
Demography  
Market Research  
Information Sourcing

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

Develop exceptional quantitative, statistical, and writing skills.  
Learn to use statistics software packages as well as database, spreadsheet, and desktop publishing programs.  
Volunteer to help a professor with a research project.  
Obtain an advanced degree in sociology for research administration.  
Earn certification in applied social research by The American Sociological Association.

ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY

Waste management firms  
Health agencies  
Local planning agencies  
Environmental advocacy groups  
Environmental periodicals  
Federal government  
Regional, state, and local agencies  
Consulting firms

Enhance curriculum with courses in ecology, environmental science, and statistics.  
Join environment-related student organizations.  
Volunteer to work on environmental clean-up projects.  
Find a related internship.  
Obtain a graduate degree for advancement.

## AREAS

### BUSINESS

Human Resources  
Management  
Sales  
Marketing  
Public Relations  
Training and Development  
Office Administration

## EMPLOYERS

Business and industry including:  
Insurance firms  
Retail stores  
Banks  
Temporary employment agencies  
Manufacturing companies  
Service industry  
Non-profit organizations

## STRATEGIES

Earn a minor in business or take basic business classes such as accounting and finance.  
Gain business experience through part-time jobs, summer work, and internships.  
Develop excellent computer skills. Learn to use software applications such as spreadsheets, databases, and word processing.  
Hone written and oral communication skills.  
Join related professional associations.  
Seek leadership roles in student organizations.