

# Sociology

Do you find the study of human groups and social behavior interesting? With a major in Sociology, students study groups and social institutions that include various social, religious, political, and business organizations. Sociologists conduct re-search in these areas which ultimately aid educators, law makers, administrators, and human service workers in resolving social problems and formulating public policy.

A degree in Sociology prepares you for a variety of employment opportunities and for graduate study. One could apply their sociological knowledge to community and urban studies, aging, criminology, delinquency, populations, health, minorities, or family services.

Research design and data analysis skills acquired in the Sociology Major are applicable in nearly all professions.

## Skills and Competencies

The Sociology Major will expose you to courses and insights that will positively influence your understanding of the social world. In the process, you will acquire new skills. Your interpersonal communication, ability to explain and conduct research, knowledge of community resources, language skills, ability to make decisions, and ability to maintain composure in trying situations will be developed. Training in basic statistics and re-search methods is essential for most social scientists. Sociology majors are able to design projects and policies, gather information, analyze data, and present reports to decisions-makers in both public and private organizations. They are able to make a difference. Objectivity, open-mindedness, and systematic work habits are also important in all kinds of social science re-search.

## Course Work

This degree includes the following courses as part of the program requirements, and specific major requirements along with general education courses and graduation requirements.

### Core

SO101 Introductory Sociology (4 cr.)

### Research Methods

SO208 Methods of Social Research I (4 cr.)

SO308 Methods of Social Research II (4 cr.)

### Theory Cluster: Choose 8 Cr.

SO322 Social Class, Power and Mobility (4 cr.)

SO351 Social Change (4 cr.)

SO353 Globalization and Asian Societies (4 cr.)

SO372 Minority Groups (4 cr.)

SO407 Sociological Theory (4 cr.)

### Sociology Electives (16 cr.)

*At least two courses (8 cr.) must be at the 300 level or above.*

### Required Minor (16 cr.)

*Detailed course descriptions can be found at [www.nmu.edu/bulletin](http://www.nmu.edu/bulletin).*

## Career Development

You should begin the resume-building process as soon as you can. The Academic and Career Advice-ment Center can assist you with career planning, while Career Services will help you fine tune your resume and look for jobs related to your field. In the meantime, the more hands-on experience you have, the better the chances are that you will find a job. Becoming involved in a professional related internship is a way to develop your professional skills and gain experience. Your academic course work is important as well, so be sure to maintain a high grade point average.

## Additional Considerations

Some occupations are often accompanied by excellent benefits, but many require education beyond a Bachelor's degree.

Good verbal/written communication skills, and organization skills are beneficial to these occupations. Strong analytical skills and ability to make decisions quickly are required in many of these occupations. Several require education or experience beyond the baccalaureate level.

These occupations carry rewarding experiences, but require much patience. Most require a degree beyond the baccalaureate level.

## Job Outlook

Starting salaries are contingent upon geographic location and individual work experience. Most of the new careers will involve data processing and information handling.

# Potential Careers

NMU's Sociology Program prepares students for employment in the following careers:

Advertising  
Bureau of Statistics  
Census Bureau  
Child Protective Service Specialist  
City Planning  
Civil Service Agent  
Consumer Action Agency  
Consumer Attitude Research  
Criminal Justice Specialist  
Data Analyst  
Economist  
Environmental Impact Worker  
Family Outreach Programs  
Guidance Counselor  
Hospital Administrate  
Human Services Agencies  
Institutional Research  
Legislative Aide  
Marketing Research  
Mental Health  
Personnel Management  
Public Health Educator  
Public Relations  
Sales Coordinator  
Sales Representative  
Urban Planning  
Youth Advocate

# Additional Resources and Information

For Career Planning and Opportunities:

Academic & Career Advisement Center  
3302.1 C.B. Hedgcock  
906-227-2971  
[www.nmu.edu/acac](http://www.nmu.edu/acac)

Department of Sociology and Social Work  
2400 Jamrich  
906-227-2706  
[sosw@nmu.edu](mailto:sosw@nmu.edu)  
[www.nmu.edu/sociology](http://www.nmu.edu/sociology)

For Job Search, Resume and Career Information:

Career Services  
3302.3 C.B. Hedgcock  
906-227-2800  
[www.nmu.edu/careers](http://www.nmu.edu/careers)

For Information about NMU Student Organizations Associated with this Major Contact:

Center for Student Enrichment  
1206 University Center  
906-227-2439  
[www.nmu.edu/cse](http://www.nmu.edu/cse)

NMU Anthropology Club  
[anthro@nmu.edu](mailto:anthro@nmu.edu)

Student Social Work/Sociology Organization  
[http://www.nmu.edu/soc\\_work/sswso.htm](http://www.nmu.edu/soc_work/sswso.htm)

Internet Resource Links:

[www.careers.org](http://www.careers.org)  
[www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov)

For Career Information with National Organizations:

[www.asanet.org](http://www.asanet.org) -American Sociological Assoc.  
[www.socpractice.org](http://www.socpractice.org) -Sociological Practice Assoc.



**NORTHERN MICHIGAN  
UNIVERSITY**

MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN

The Academic & Career Advisement Center  
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What to do with  
a major in...

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