What can I do with a major in Sociology

Everything. Seriously. Like communications, sociology is one of those majors that applies to any occupation. Sociology provides a foundation of understanding relationships that is helpful in any field. After all, when do human beings stop being a part of society, or stop being in relationships? More and more businesses are hiring sociologists and anthropologists to help them understand their customers and organizations. Sociology is especially good for those wishing to enter professions dealing with people, cultures, organizational systems, research, and social problems. Sociology majors often pursue careers in:

- Applied Social Research
- Business
- Corrections
- Family Studies
- Personnel Management
- Ministry
- Small Group Dynamics
- Nursing & Healthcare
- Urban and Community Planning
- Cross-Cultural and Ethnic Studies
- Social Work

Why sociology?

If you are fascinated by people, and wonder why people do what they do, why they believe what they believe, how they interact, and how groups and organizations function-- if you have ever thought you would like to make a difference in society-- then sociology is a good fit for you. The sociology major is designed to assist students developing their interests and career goals and to help them achieve those goals. From the introductory course, which exposes students to the variety of fields that sociologists study, to the upper division research and applied sociology courses-- the entire curriculum works together to help students understand their place in society, and how to take their studies into their future career. Students will also learn how they can initiate change and improve their society and the organizations to which they belong.

Why sociology at MNU?

Sociology at MidAmerica combines the perspective of the behavioral sciences with those of the Christian faith. Although these are sometimes seen as contrasting, at MNU we see these two as inseparable-- a pursuit of truth without both of these perspectives is a limited one. At MNU, we value educational pursuits within a Christian context. The sociological studies done at MidAmerica are done with a Christian heart and with a desire to apply our knowledge to care for the poor, comfort those in need, and seek the betterment of society.
In the classroom: Sociology applied

Students in sociology classes at MidAmerica will find the activities and assignments are geared toward application and integration of the material with real life. For example, classroom time is given to simulations to help students understand the power structures of their society, and how organizations leverage power to exploit those in poverty. In other classes, students practice skills for community advocacy in order to bring positive change. Students often are assigned excursions outside the classroom, where they do social research or observe alternative religious practices. As is often the case in sociology, society itself becomes the classroom.

Travel

Sociology students are encouraged to combine coursework for credit with service projects and international travel offered through the University and the CCCU. In this way, a summer trip can be integrated into coursework for their major.

Will I have opportunities for internships?

As part of the sociology major, you will be required to do at least an internship during one semester. The study of globalization through cross cultural travel is also encouraged. In addition, every sociology class at MidAmerica has a real world application component.

Requirements

Major Core Requirements:
- General Sociology
- Marriage and Family
- Understanding Multicultural Behavior
- Behavioral Science Statistics
- Research Methods for Sociology
- Social Psychology
- Social Theory

Courses in Related Fields
- Criminology
- Abnormal Psychology
- Cultural and Social Anthropology

Applied Sociology
- Practicum/Internship
- Sociology of Religion
- Casework and Intervention
  Cross Cultural Exposure Trip

The Faculty

Our faculty has experience utilizing sociology in cultural context. They have extensive experience in travel and observing other cultures, participating in multi-cultural contexts, and applying sociology to business and caring and helping professions.

What our students and alumni say about us

“Loved it. Probably my favorite class so far. I have learned more in this class than any other.” -- Sociology of Religion student

“The professor was good at getting other people excited about sociology.” -- General Sociology student

What other graduates are doing

Cambria Hooven (’06): Adolescent Violence Reduction Partnership, Philadelphia, PA.
Danae Billings (’04): Lake Mary Center, Adult Placement, Olathe, KS
Jayme Crenshaw (’05): Jackson County, MO, Social Worker, Childrens Division.

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www.mnu.edu/academics/behav_sci