

# MAJOR

# BACHELOR OF ARTS IN SOCIOLOGY

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

524 West 59th Street, New York, NY 10019 ■ Haaren Hall, Room 520 ■ 212-887-6123

[www.jjay.cuny.edu/departments-sociology](http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/departments-sociology)

See all major requirements at: [www.jjay.cuny.edu/sociology-major-resources](http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/sociology-major-resources)

## WHAT WILL YOU LEARN IN THIS MAJOR?

Sociology will help you understand a wide variety of significant issues related to a rapidly changing world. For example:

- How has discrimination and segregation impacted various communities throughout history, right up to the present?
- How were such conditions created and how are they perpetrated through customs, social norms, and law?
- What policies might be implemented to promote change and provide more equitable treatment?

Sociology provides the necessary tools for a profound exploration of these issues and many more at the individual, group, societal, and global levels. There are a wide variety of careers available for those studying sociology as well, ranging from management to non-profits to law, healthcare and academics. Sociology is a broad and vibrant field that allows you to understand your place in the social world. If you're interested in finding out what makes society work, then sociology is the major for you.

### IN THIS MAJOR YOU WILL ■■■

**Discover** the social, economic and political circumstances that shape our emerging global community.

**Develop** skills to examine social institutions and social systems, and how people navigate them.

**Learn** about leading-edge research that provides insight into major issues in society.

**Strengthen** your skills in writing, statistics, and data collection methods.

**Promote** the best options for social change in local, national, and international settings.

### FIRST COURSES IN THE MAJOR ■■■

**SOC 101:** Introduction to Sociology

**SOC 232:** Social Stratification

#### Sample Course Topics in the Major:

- **SOC 202:** Sociology of Families
- **SOC 206:** The Sociology of Conflict and Dispute Resolution
- **SOC 240:** Social Deviance
- **SOC 251:** Sociology of Human Rights
- **SOC 302:** Social Problems

*“Sociology is not a spectator sport. There is not you and society. There is you, in which society lives, and there is society, in which you live. If you are concerned about an issue, that produces a reality; if you are unconcerned, that produces another reality. There is no way that you can be ineffectual. You and I are the terms of society.”*

— Michael Ventura, Columnist and Co-Founder of the LA Weekly

*“As a transfer student and Sociology Major I find the courses offered at John Jay’s Department of Sociology to be very rich. The professors are passionate and beyond knowledgeable about their subjects.”*

— Ayesha Hakim, class of ’16

## WHAT SKILLS CAN I GAIN WITH A SOCIOLOGY DEGREE?

**Conduct Research and Analyze Data:** Learn both qualitative and quantitative research methods. This will allow you to recognize trends and patterns and produce social statistics such as those used in market research, opinion polling, sales, and countless other applications.

**Communicate Skillfully:** Learn how to convey your ideas effectively in writing and presentations.

**Practice Critical Thinking:** Learn to look beyond the surface of issues to discover the “why” and the “how”. Build your analytical skills. Solve problems and identify opportunities.

**Gain a Global Perspective:** Learn about different cultures and how to analyze the interactions of groups and societies through global and historical perspectives.

**Prepare for Graduate School:** An undergraduate major in sociology provides an excellent foundation for graduate study in a wide range of fields including law, business, social work, medicine, public health, public administration and, of course, sociology.

## WHAT MINOR MIGHT BE A GOOD COMPLEMENT TO THIS MAJOR?

- Africana Studies
- Anthropology
- Criminology
- Dispute Resolution
- Gender Studies
- Human Rights
- Humanities and Justice
- Interdisciplinary Studies Program
- Journalism
- Latin American and Latinx Studies
- Law
- Spanish (For Global Change Concentration)
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sustainability and Environmental Justice

For more information about minors, go to:  
[www.jjay.cuny.edu/minors](http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/minors)

## WHAT OPPORTUNITIES WILL THIS MAJOR OFFER YOU?

- Ongoing research opportunities with faculty on cutting-edge local, national, and global projects
- Internships
- Attend and present at professional conferences
- A solid foundation for employment in the private sector (sales, marketing, human relations) or the public sector (government, research institutions, media/press)
- A sound basis for most social science graduate programs

## WHAT DO GRADUATES WITH A DEGREE IN SOCIOLOGY DO?

- Behavioral Health Programs
- Consumer Research
- Disaster Relief
- Community-Based Human Service
- Diversity Training
- Government Service
- Immigrant Social Services
- International Development
- Multicultural Marketing
- Policy Analysis
- Program Evaluation
- Social Research
- Social Work

Sociology undergraduates with questions about the major, graduate school, or careers can email [socadvising@jjay.cuny.edu](mailto:socadvising@jjay.cuny.edu) to set up an appointment with a major advisor.