What Will you learn about in this Major?

Sociology will help you understand your place in our rapidly changing social world. As communities and societies provide a sense of inclusion or exclusion, of support or struggle, why do some groups of people face more marginalization and exploitation than others? Who is responsible for such conditions, and who benefits? How were these social conditions created and how are they perpetuated through social norms, laws, and practices? How do people work together to change society so that everyone has a fair chance? Sociology provides the necessary tools for a profound exploration of our social worlds at the individual, group, national, and international level. Sociology leads to a wide variety of careers, from management to non-profits to law, healthcare, and academia, as it strengthens your skills with both words and numbers. But mostly sociology helps you 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.

The John Jay Sociology Major offers two concentrations: Global Change and Inequality and Social Justice.

In this Major you will

**Discover** the real circumstances that shape our global realities.

**Develop** systematic methods and explore social institutions and social systems, and how people navigate them.

**Recognize** and design cutting-edge research that provides insight into our social worlds.

**Strengthen** your skills in writing and in mathematics.

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

First Courses in the Major

**SOC 232:** Social Stratification

**SOC 312:** Classic Sociological Theory

**SOC 315:** Contemporary Sociological Theory

**Sociology 101** is the required prerequisite course for this major.

See further major requirements at:


“Sociology is not a spectator sport. You and I are the terms of society.”

— Michael Ventura
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.

DEPENDING ON YOUR INTERESTS, WHAT MINOR MIGHT BE A GOOD COMPLEMENT TO THIS MAJOR?

- Africana Studies
- Anthropology
- Criminology
- Dispute Resolution
- Foreign Languages (For Global Change Concentration)
- Gender Studies
- Human Rights
- Humanities and Justice
- Journalism
- Latin American and Latina/o Studies
- Law
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sustainability and Environmental Justice


WHAT OPPORTUNITIES WILL THIS MAJOR OFFER YOU?

- Ongoing research opportunities with faculty on cutting-edge, global projects
- Paid Research Internships
- Present original research at academic conferences
- 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 graduate programs

WHAT DO GRADUATES WITH A DEGREE IN SOCIOLOGY DO?

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SOCIOLOGY-RELATED CAREERS, SEE:

**Center for Career & Professional Development**
(L.72.00 New Building)
Phone: 212.237.8754
Email: careers@jjay.cuny.edu