

## What can I do with a major in SOCIOLOGY?

### SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE THAT SOCIOLOGY GRADUATES POSSESS:

- deep understanding of cultural and social issues
- good knowledge of societal and community development, related public policies, and group organization and dynamics
- ability to crucially analyze social problems, social conflicts and their potential resolution
- ability to do quantitative research such as data collection, survey design, statistical analysis and database management
- ability to do qualitative research such as interviews, participant observation and cultural analysis

It is important to enhance and diversify your skills and knowledge with work, volunteer, research and field study experiences while in university.

### EXAMPLES OF CAREER PATHS SOCIOLOGY GRADUATES HAVE PURSUED:

Sociology graduates can pursue a variety of career paths, including those that might not seem to have a direct connection to sociology at first glance. The following is a non-exhaustive list of some examples:

<b>DIRECT career paths:</b> The skills and knowledge acquired in a sociology education are often required or considered an asset in the following positions.	<b>LESS DIRECT career paths:</b> The generic skills and knowledge obtained in a liberal arts education are pertinent in the following positions.	The following paths <b>may require FURTHER STUDY or SPECIALIZED TRAINING*</b> in addition to a Bachelor of Arts in sociology.
<b>Criminal Intelligence Analysts</b> analyze police data, information and intelligence to detect patterns and serial crimes in order to develop appropriate tactics to stop, suppress or prevent those activities. They work for law enforcement in municipal governments, the R.C.M.P. or the military.	<b>Benefits Officers</b> provide specialized pay and benefits advice and services for all employees. They work for human resources departments in private companies and governments.	<b>Demographers</b> plan and conduct research to study the causes and consequences of changes in population size, mobility, distribution and composition. They present statistical information to support education, health and social programming and policies. They work for consulting firms, government health authorities or educational institutions.
<b>International Aid and Development Project Officers</b> plan, organize and administer foreign aid and international development policies and programs. They work for government departments and agencies, non-governmental organizations or international organizations.	<b>Career/Employment Advisors</b> provide advice and information on career planning and work search to a variety of client groups. They work for employment agencies, educational institutions, government agencies or independently.	<b>Environmental Consultants</b> conduct site assessments, prepare reports and provide environmentally sound solutions for reclamation and remediation projects. They work for governments, environmental consulting agencies or independently.
<b>Police Officers</b> help protect people and property, and apprehend those who break the law to maintain public peace. They work for municipalities or the R.C.M.P.	<b>Community Outreach Coordinators</b> coordinate events and programs to deliver information on health and social issues or services. They work for non-profit organizations or government agencies.	<b>Social Workers</b> provide guidance and support to individuals, families and communities to enhance their social functioning. They work for government or non-profit agencies.
<b>Social Program Officers</b> promote and deliver social assistance programs to citizens and communities in response to identified or specific needs. They work for government, public or non-profit agencies.	<b>Health Services Research Associates</b> plan and conduct research and data analyses, and provide reports on the effects of health programs and services. They work for government, research institutions or consulting companies.	<b>Survey Methodologists</b> provide survey design expertise to support studies and research. They work for non-profit organizations or educational and research institutes.

<p><b>Socio-economic Analysts</b> plan and execute research projects to inform policies and programming efforts in community development, emergency preparedness, urbanization and land development. They work for government, research institutions or consulting companies.</p>	<p><b>Recruiters</b> develop and implement recruitment plans, including traveling to recruiting events, screening and evaluating potential talent. They work for a variety of public, private organizations or recruitment firms.</p>	<p><i>*NOTE: Qualifications for similar jobs might vary depending on the employer. Try checking with the employer(s) you're interested in working for to see what they require and recommend in terms of education and/or experience</i></p>
---	---	--

**WANT MORE INFORMATION? CHECK OUT THE FOLLOWING RESOURCES:**

**Available in MacEwan University Libraries:**

- Great Jobs for Sociology Majors – *Stephen E. Lambert*
- Careers in Criminal Justice (video) – *Films for the Humanities and Sciences*

**Additional Resources (Available Online)**

- Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security
- American Sociological Association
- CCJA: Canadian Criminal Justice Association
- Canadian Population Society
- Canadian Sociological Association (CSA)
- CSC: Correctional Service Canada Careers
- Criminal Intelligence Service Canada
- The International Development Research Centre (IDRC)
- International Sociological Association
- Society for the Study of Social Problems

**WANT TO DISCUSS YOUR OPTIONS WITH SOMEONE?**

- Book an appointment on [MacEwanLife](#) under “Career Advice and Support.”
- Talk to a [sociology discipline advisor](#)

[MacEwan.ca/mycareer](http://MacEwan.ca/mycareer)

[mycareer@macewan.ca](mailto:mycareer@macewan.ca)

[/MacEwanCnE](#) 

Room: 7-121

780-633-3512

[@MacEwanC\\_E](#)  