

What about a major in...?

# Sociology (B.A.)

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

CLA COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

## What is Sociology?

Sociology examines stability and change in social life by addressing the underlying patterns of social relations in formal organizations, in legal institutions, and in the family, economy, and political arena.

Coursework focuses on the criminal justice system and criminal behavior; mental health; families and close relationships; education; population (demography); urban and rural communities; politics and policy formation; social movements and social change; diverse racial and ethnic groups; and social psychology.

Faculty interests in the comparative study of social relations and institutions add a strong international emphasis to these areas of study.

All sociology courses emphasize the skills of social inquiry necessary for analyzing patterns of social relationships.

**General Sociology Track** Many general sociology majors chose electives within a specific subfield of sociology. We offer a variety of courses in many substantive areas including political sociology social psychology, family sociology, and social organization.

**Law, Criminology and Deviance (LCD) Track** The LCD Option is more structured and gives you a concentration of courses geared toward law, criminology, and deviance.

## What are the major requirements?

Go to [www.catalogs.umn.edu/programs.html](http://www.catalogs.umn.edu/programs.html) and select "Undergraduate majors."

## How do I declare a Sociology major?

You will be required to declare a major by the time you have completed 60 credits.

1. Come to an information meeting to learn more about the major and its requirements.  
Information meetings are held several times each month in the Sociology department. Call (612) 624-4300 for dates and times.
2. After the information meeting, schedule an individual appointment with the departmental sociology adviser to complete a Major Program form.
3. If you decide to change your major, contact your student community to learn more about your new major's declaration process.

## For more information:

### About the Sociology major:

Undergraduate Advising  
Department of Sociology  
909 Social Sciences Bldg  
(612) 624-4300

<http://www.soc.umn.edu/>

### About CLA requirements, graduation, and other information about majors:

CLA Social Sciences Student  
Community  
575 Heller Hall  
(612) 626-7714

<http://socsci.class.umn.edu/>

or

CLA Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Program

19 Johnston Hall  
(612) 625-2300

<http://class.umn.edu/mlk/>

[mlk@class.cla.umn.edu](mailto:mlk@class.cla.umn.edu)

### About careers, internships, and community learning opportunities in this major and others:

Career and Community  
Learning Center

135 Johnston Hall  
(612) 624-7577

<http://cclc.umn.edu/>

[cclc@class.cla.umn.edu](mailto:cclc@class.cla.umn.edu)

### About graduation with honors:

CLA Honors Division  
20 Nicholson  
(612) 624-5522

<http://cla.umn.edu/honors/>

[honors@class.cla.umn.edu](mailto:honors@class.cla.umn.edu)

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

### Skills

Sociology majors develop skills that are applicable to a wide variety of careers.

These skills include:

- Verbal and written communication skills
- Ability to formulate clear and persuasive messages
- Listening, clarifying, questioning and responding skills
- Ability to work well with diverse groups
- Research and analytical skills

### Employment

Common areas of employment for this major include but are not limited to:

- Nonprofit—fundraising, programming, management, advocacy
- Social services—social work, programming, development
- Government—criminal justice, public information, campaigns, research, planning, evaluation, public policy
- Education—teaching, research, admissions, advising, student affairs, evaluation
- Business—marketing, human resources, sales, consulting, recruiting, management
- Financial—financial advising, accounting, insurance
- Health services—patient advocacy, health professionals

Today's workplace requires individuals with interpersonal skills, the ability to communicate effectively, an ability to solve problems, and adaptability. CLA graduates find that they are well-prepared in all these areas and that their education—especially when combined with experience gained through internships, volunteer positions, past jobs, and other collegiate involvement—makes them competitive.

The **Career & Community Learning Center** provides students with the tools to identify and pursue potential careers. An extensive resource room, career courses and workshops, and a helpful staff are just some of the ways we can help.

### Remember!

You have not declared a major until you have completed a Major Program form with your major adviser.

**Don't forget: keep a copy for yourself!**