The 21st century labor market is fast-changing, increasingly global, and technology driven. The skills you need to succeed in the 21st century include: creativity, innovation, critical thinking, analytic problem-solving, communication, collaboration, global understanding, and excellent written expression.

The good news for sociology majors is that your studies are uniquely suited to help you develop the skills you need for a successful 21st century career. Sociologists study social life, social change, diverse communities and their interactions, and they use scientific methods to find empirical answers to complex social questions.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A SOCIOLOGY DEGREE?

As a graduate with a Sociology degree, you will have a foundation for better understanding and engaging with the globalizing world. You will be equipped with the tools needed to make sense of the shifting social world and contribute solutions to difficult social problems.

Studying sociology can help foster your creativity, innovation, critical thinking, and analytic problem solving and communication skills.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Services</th>
<th>Community Work</th>
<th>Law</th>
<th>Education</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation</td>
<td>Non-profit agencies</td>
<td>Law enforcement</td>
<td>College Admissions</td>
</tr>
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<td>Urban planning</td>
<td>Investigations</td>
<td>Advising</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth/Elderly services</td>
<td>Childcare</td>
<td>Probation/Parole</td>
<td>Alumni Relations</td>
</tr>
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<td>Recreation</td>
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<td>Criminal justice</td>
<td>Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Environmental groups</td>
<td>Judicial affairs</td>
<td>K-12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adapted from Careers in Sociology, a publication of the American Sociological Association. What are they Doing with a Bachelor’s Degree in Sociology
What Do You Do With A Sociology BA Degree?

Social Services/Counselors
- **Domestic Violence Victims Advocate**
  “I work as an advocate for victims of domestic violence in a public assistance office.”
- **Residential Crisis Counselor**
  “I work as a counselor for homeless and runaway youth in a shelter.”
- **Teen Court Case Manager**
  “Case manager for first-time juvenile offenders participating in alternative program to traditional juvenile court.”

Teachers/Librarians
- **Elementary School Teacher**
  “I am a Kindergarten teacher: I instruct students in the Spanish language.”
- **EFL Teacher**
  “I’m an English as a Foreign Language teacher in [Latin America] at a technical college...”
- **Assistant Site Manager**
  “I manage a before and after school program for elementary students that includes activities, lessons and enrichment.”

Sales/Marketing
- **Social Media/Marketing Analyst**
  “Assessed the performance of social media strategies as they relate to traffic growth, reader engagement, SEO, sales, and marketing. Created quantitative analyses using advanced Excel, Google Analytics, and Wordpress.”
- **Events and Marketing Coordinator**
  “I plan the events and do all marketing and communication for the mentoring and career services office...”
- **Marketing Associate**
  “Outreaching to hospital executives in order to schedule sales meetings for healthcare performance technologies.”

Administrative Support
- **Office Manager**
  “Budget management, general accounting, supervision of other employees.”
- **HR Assistant**
  “Provide support within different parts of Human Resources (including recruiting, benefits, payroll, and director of HR).”
- **Executive Assistant and Externship Outreach Coordinator**
  “Assisting the CEO of the institution, along with assisting the Externship/Internship department.”

Sample Classes: Social worker; Working with school children
SOC 3413 – Parenting
SOC 4750 – Social Welfare
SOC 3700 – Intro to Social Services
SOC 3730 – Juvenile Delinquency
SOC 3620 – Sociology of Education
SOC 3410 – Sociology of the Family

Sample classes: Prisoner rights; Advocate in a non-profit
SOC 3418 - Mediation
SOC 3710 – Social Policy
SOC 4730 – Police and Society
SOC 3730 – Juvenile Delinquency
SOC 4790 – Social Control & Society
SOC 4800 - Women, Crime, Punishment
SOC 3410 – Sociology of the Family

Not many job announcements ask for a sociologist, but sociology majors report having a lot of skills and knowledge valued on their jobs:
- Understanding of Diversity
- Social institutions & their impact
- Groups and teams
- Social problems
- Critical Thinking
- Sociological concepts / theories
- Data analysis
- Research design
### MEDIAN SALARIES BY OCCUPATION
#### 2014-2015

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<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>Salary Range</th>
<th>Median Salary</th>
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### Visit the Career Occupational Handbook to learn more about a specific occupation:


The OCH covers hundreds of occupations and describes: What They Do, Work Environment, How to Become One, Pay, and more. Each profile also includes BLS employment projections for the 2010–20 decade.

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### Honor Society in Sociology

Alpha Kappa Delta is the International Sociology Honor Society and CSUEB has a local chapter. AKD provides opportunities for sociology majors to network and socialize, as well as take advantage of professional development and leadership opportunities.

Alpha Kappa Delta: [http://www...](http://www...)

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### CSUEB Career Services- AACE

- Assistance with developing a career plan and choosing a major
- Career counseling and guidance on building a RESUME
- Preparing for an interview, assistance with job searching and networking.

Phone: (510) 885-3621

Student Services & Administration Building (SA), Suite 2300

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**Thinking about a Graduate Degree in Sociology?**

Many sociology major students choose to continue their education beyond their bachelors degree. Which degree they aspire to depends heavily on their particular interests and motivations for doing so. Some might want to leverage their sociology expertise to help people and advise organizations in doing so. Others may want to perform research, while some maybe just love to learn. Earning a master's or doctorate degree in sociology may be fundamental for higher education teaching and advanced research or applied careers.

*All graduate sociology programs will require that you take the GRE; write a personal statement; submit official transcripts; and obtain letters of recommendation.*

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**Sociology Masters Programs**

Sociology masters programs typically confer a Master of Science (MS) or a Master of Arts (MA) degree. The differences between these two options could be minimal, as both programs typically emphasize classical and contemporary sociology theory and research methodology. However, occasionally, the type of degree might tell you something about the curriculum. For example, a Master of Science in sociology program might lean more toward analytical skills and the science behind why people behave the way they do. Whereas a Master of Arts program might emphasize other skills, like cultural awareness and communication.

Master's degree programs in sociology exist with both thesis and non-thesis tracks, as there are two types of sociology master's degree programs: traditional programs and applied, clinical, and professional programs. Applied, clinical, and professional masters programs prepare students to enter the workplace, teaching them the necessary analytical skills to perform sociological research in a professional setting. Research sociologists are employed in nonprofits, government and businesses. Traditional masters programs in sociology prepare students to enter a Ph.D. program. A Master's degree is generally required to teach at the community college level.

While every school is unique, generally it takes 2 years of full time study to earn Masters degree in sociology.

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**Doctorate in Sociology Programs**

Sociology doctoral programs typically confer a Doctorate in Philosophy (PhD), the highest degree awarded in sociology. Earning a doctorate in sociology, your experience depends heavily on your area of interest and course of study. That's because most PhD programs in sociology are research based- meaning your research topic of choice has a big influence on what you learn and the types of courses you take.

As research is generally a big component in earning a sociology PhD, your curriculum is likely to include a number of courses centered on research practices and methodology. Doctorate programs also include a dissertation requirement, generally hundreds of pages long PhD program in Sociology trains future scholars in the fundamental skills of the discipline of sociology. Students will acquire advanced knowledge of sociological theory and research in their chosen areas of specialization in order to make a significant and original contribution to the field via a dissertation.

Graduates of these programs are prepared to pursue advanced research and post-secondary teaching positions.

Achieving a PhD in Sociology may take anywhere from 4-8 years to complete, depending upon the school, re-search subject, and whether or not a student attends full-time.