Sociology

Get to know SOCIOLOGY

Sociology is the study of how societies work. We study social life at every level, from personal relationships to institutions, nations and global interconnections. Sociology enables us to understand the structures and dynamics of societies, and their intricate connections to patterns of human behaviour, public issues, everyday life, politics, culture and individual life chances. It examines how various social forces produce social order and social change and in so doing influence what we do and how we think.

With courses as diverse as Surveillance and Visibility to the Sociology of Crime and Delinquency to Consumer Culture, the Sociology department is reputed for its emphases in Criminology and the Law, Media, Information and Surveillance, and Inequalities and Social Justice.

Our degree program is designed to enable international exchange opportunities in your third year, helping you to study Sociology overseas, expand your network, and gain unique experiences. A degree in Sociology from Queen’s University will provide you with extensive transferable skills, essential for a range of career opportunities from law to marketing, corrections to international development.

“Sociology at Queen’s offers a unique focus on criminology, digital society, and inequalities.”

Degree OPTIONS
Bachelor of Arts (Honours)
Major / Medial / Minor
Bachelor of Arts (General)

Queen’s ADMISSIONS
Students apply to Queen’s Arts (QA) through the OUAC (Ontario University Application Centre) website. Secondary School prerequisites include Six 4U and 4M courses, including a minimum of three 4U courses, one of which must be ENG4U. Applicants outside of Ontario may have additional requirements.

A Common START
Students in our Faculty are admitted into Arts, Science or Computing but the focus is on a common first year. Through self-exploration, and while you settle into university life, you have the chance to work with our advisors and faculty to uncover where your real interests and opportunities for success are. Sometimes that discovery happens fairly quickly, and for other students it takes some work and time before the “ah-ha!” happens – either way your first year will be a great experience at Queen’s.

Course HIGHLIGHTS
Sociology offers a diverse and exciting range of courses that focus on contemporary social changes that are shaping the world in which you live such as Consumer Culture, Deviance and Social Control, and Social Psychology. Some popular courses within Sociology include Crime and Delinquency, Information and Communications Technologies, Cities: Urban Societies, Space, and Culture, and Race, Sex and the Body.

That is a degree from Queen’s.
quartsici.com
**1ST YEAR**

**GET THE COURSES YOU NEED**
- Take SOCY 122.
  - For details on plan requirements, go to the Arts and Science website. See an Academic Advisor at the Arts and Science Office or speak with the Undergraduate Chair for advice.

**GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**
- Join teams or clubs on campus such as Sexual Health and Resource Centre and the Queen’s Project on International Development (QPID).
- Volunteer at nearby hospitals, Kingston charities, or organizations like Queen’s Health Outreach (QHO) and Student Wellness Services.

**GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY**
- Volunteer on or off-campus with different community organizations, such as the Levara Gender Advocacy Centre, Half the Sky, Soul Food, and Community Literacy Centres.

**GET THINKING GLOBALLY**
- The Queen’s University International Centre is your first stop to learn how to internationalize your degree or to leverage your existing cross-cultural experience.
  - Speak to a QUIC advisor or get involved in their events and training opportunities.

**GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION**
- Grappling with program decisions? Go to Majors night or get some help wondering about career options from Career Services.

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**2ND YEAR**

**GET THE COURSES YOU NEED**
- Complete all required courses: SOCY 210, 211, 226, 227. Complete at least 2 SOCY 200 option courses.
  - Think about your area of focus: criminology and law, media, information & surveillance, inequalities & social justice, or a mixture. Ask your USG chair for advice on course selection.

**GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**
- Look into summer jobs by talking to the dept. or Career Services about work through SWEP or Work-Study.
- Take more responsibility within different clubs or extracurriculars. Think about applying to positions in student services or the AMS.

**GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY**
- Get involved with the Departmental Student Council (DSC). Make friends in your Major: collaborate, seek support, or start study group.
- Join the Sociology Facebook Page. Tutor or assist other students at services like ASUS Peer Tutoring and Queen’s Learning Commons.

**GET THINKING GLOBALLY**
- An exchange in your future? Start thinking about where you would like to study abroad. Apply in January for a 3rd year exchange through the International Office. If exchange isn’t for you, come talk to QUIC about other options.

**GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION**
- Explore different careers of interest by reading books in the Career Services Information Area, such as Great Jobs for Sociology Majors. Prepare to take any required tests (like the LSAT or GMAT) and get help thinking about grad school from Career Services.

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**3RD OR FINAL YEAR**

**GET THE COURSES YOU NEED**
- Take at least 6 SOCY option courses including 3 SOCY 300 option courses this year.
  - Attend the March information session on how to apply to 4th year and complete the application. Think about whether you want to do a thesis in 4th year and ask your USG chair for advice.

**GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**
- If interested, apply for an Undergraduate Student Summer Research Fellowship (USSRF). Consider applying to do a 12-16 month QUIP internship between your third and fourth year.
- Ask your Professors about research and volunteering opportunities in Corrections, Criminal Justice, Media and Communications, and Welfare.

**GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY**
- Do targeted networking with alumni working in careers of interest by joining the LinkedIn group Queen’s Connects. Check out Career Services networking workshops.
- Connect with professors at networking, trivia quiz, and other social events or workshops hosted by the Department Student Council (DSC).

**GET THINKING GLOBALLY**
- Build your intercultural competence by getting involved with other cultures or by practicing or improving your language skills.
  - Stop by QUIC for ideas to go abroad or volunteering.
  - Think about working overseas, possibly at organizations like Habitat for Humanity. Volunteer for one of the Community Outreach Committees.

**GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION**
- Start focusing on areas of interest. Research education requirements for careers of interest. If needed, prepare to take any required tests (like the LSAT or GMAT) and get help thinking about grad school from Career Services.

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**4TH OR FINAL YEAR**

**GET THE COURSES YOU NEED**
- Apply to graduate on SQUIS.
  - SOCY Majors: complete 2 SOCY400 seminars plus remaining SOCY options.
  - SOCY Medials: complete 1 SOCY400 seminar plus remaining SOCY options.

**GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**
- Investigate requirements for full-time jobs or other opportunities related to careers of interest.
- Assess what experience you’re lacking and fill in gaps with volunteering, clubs, or internships – check out the Career Services skills workshop for help.

**GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY**
- Consider joining professional associations like the Canadian Sociological Association and the Canadian Association of Social Workers.
- Join groups on LinkedIn reflecting specific careers or topics of interest in Sociology. Use the Sociology Facebook page and LinkedIn to see what opportunities your peers have pursued.

**GET THINKING GLOBALLY**
- Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking QUIC’s Intercultural Competency Certificate, and research possible immigration regulations.
- International students interested in staying in Canada can speak with an International Student Advisor.

**GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION**
- Apply to jobs or future education, or make plans for other adventures. Get help from Career Services with job searching, resumes, interviews, grad school applications, or other decisions.

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**WHERE COULD I GO AFTER GRADUATION?**

Advertising and marketing
Child and youth care
Communications
Consulting
Consumer research
Corporate training and development
Corrections
Counselling
Demography
Editing
Education
Ethics
Funding
Gerontology
Health research
Human resources
Immigration services
Informatics
Insurance
International development
Investment and pensions
Journalism
Law
Professor
Program evaluation
Public administration
Public relations
Publishing
Social policy and services
Statistics
Urban and regional planning

*some careers may require additional training*

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Visit careers.queensu.ca/majormap.html for the online version with links!
How to use this map

- Got questions about careers and classes?
- Feeling a little lost or overwhelmed by choices?
- Wondering what you are “supposed” to be doing?

Use this map to plan for success in five overlapping areas of career and academic life. Each map helps you explore possibilities, set goals and track your accomplishments. To make your own custom map, use the My Major Map tool.

Don’t stress if you haven’t done all of the suggested activities. The map is not a prescription – it’s a tool for finding your own way at Queen’s.

Getting what you need to succeed in the workplace

**WHAT DO EMPLOYERS WANT?**

In a recent survey from the Canadian Council of Chief Executives the top 6 skills sought by employers were:

1. People skills
2. Communication skills
3. Problem-solving skills
4. Analytical abilities
5. Leadership skills
6. Industry-specific knowledge

**HOW DO I GET THE SKILLS I NEED?**

It is important to develop a balanced skill set – many of which you will develop during your studies. To stand out, take advantage of experiential learning through the multitude of clubs and activities in and around Queen’s. Check out the Get Relevant Experience section of this map.

**WHAT CAN I LEARN STUDYING SOCIOLOGY AT QUEEN’S?**

- Research skills – conduct research, use social scientific databases, explain and interpret social research data
- Research techniques – employ relevant qualitative and quantitative research techniques to produce and analyze data
- Ability to accurately and critically evaluate existing research and programs
- Reason and argument – develop coherent and reasoned argument; deconstruct and critique arguments and evidence
- Problem solving – approach an issue from several perspectives in a systematic manner
- Oral, written and media communication – write coherent reports, present information orally and visually in a range of media
- Resource and time management – effective prioritization of resources, skills, and time to complete projects

**WHAT MAKES ME SPECIAL?**

No one will get exactly the same experience as you. Take the time to think about what skills you have developed to be able to best explain them with compelling examples in future applications to employers and further education. For help with this, check out the Career Services skills workshop.