Career Options after Sociology

www.utsc.utoronto.ca/sociology
Specialist, Major, Minor

What is Sociology?

**Sociology is a Social Science** that asks big questions and focuses on understanding and analyzing our complex social world. Sociology examines:

- How inequalities are created and maintained
- The impact of race and ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ability and disability on individual life chances
- Institutions such as families, workplaces, prisons, states, and schools
- The role of ideas and symbols in shaping social relations and institutions
- Processes such as globalization, democratization, immigration, and more.

**Skills of Sociology Grads**

- Explain important differences in the life experiences of people
- Present sociological explanations of social issues
- Identify/explain the impact and consequences of social policy and social institutions
- Make an evidence-based argument
- Work with people who differ in race, ethnicity, gender or class
- Write a report that can be understood by a broad audience
- Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of different research methods
- Analyze and interpret results of various quantitative and qualitative data using tables and graphs

*Key Source: ASA, Social Capital, Organizational Capital, and the Job Market for New Sociology Graduates Survey, 2012*

What makes Sociology at UTSC unique? An exciting range of courses specifically designed to develop your writing and research skills – be sure to look for them!

**Entry-Level Jobs for Bachelor Grads**

Common employment destinations include:

- Child and Youth Worker/Social Service Worker/Outreach Worker in Community Services
- Research Associate/Analyst in Marketing Agencies
- Donor Relations Coordinator in Charities
- Case Manager in Social/Government Services
- Policy Advisor in Government Services
- Communications Assistant/Public Relations Consultant/Media Correspondent in Corporations
- Office Administrator/Human Resource Assistant/Project Manager in Businesses

With advanced studies:

- Guidance Counsellors/Teacher in Education
- Lawyer/Paralegal/Victim Advocate in Legal Services

**Graduate & Professional Studies**

Popular further education opportunities include:

- Sociology – Master of Arts
- Social Work – Bachelor or Master
- Education – Bachelor or Master
- Public Health – Master
- Law School – JD (Juris Doctor)
- Paralegal Studies – Diploma
- Human Resources – Certificate (earning CHRP)
- Marketing – Post-Graduate Certificate

**Use LinkedIn!**

UTSC Sociology graduates are working in Education, Marketing, and Administration.

Attend our LinkedIn workshop to learn about the *Find Alumni* tool for networking!

**Sociology Grads from UTSC have gone on to:**

- UN High Commission on Refugees (Intern)
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Policy Advisor)
- Travel and Leisure webzine (Marketing)
Examples of Fields that ‘Fit’ the Skills of Sociology Grads

• Non-Profit Causes (Poverty, Human Rights)
• Social Work and Healthcare
• Marketing and Communications
• Financial Services
• Government (Federal, Provincial, Regional, Municipal)
• Human Resources and Recruiting
• Education
• Law / Legal Services

Your 4-Year Career Exploration Action Plan

1. **Do Your Research**

   The databases below provide you with details about job prospects, nature of work, educational requirements, working conditions, pay and related career paths:

   **Career Cruising**: Log into clnx.utoronto.ca, click on Resources, and click on Career Cruising to be logged in automatically

   **O*Net**: online.onetcenter.org (U.S. site)

   Attend our workshop **Discover Your Skills and Career Options**, meet with a Career Counsellor, and use our resources to get to know your skills, values, personality and interests:

   www.utsc.utoronto.ca/aacc/get-know-yourself

   Use the advice on our tipsheets for gathering information: www.utsc.utoronto.ca/aacc/tipsheets

   • Information Interviews
   • Working On-Campus
   • Internships
   • Volunteering

2. **Explore Career Options & Get Experience**

   Gain exposure to your options in the world of work and make connections while you are a student via campus events and programs listed on clnx.utoronto.ca and clnx.utoronto.ca/ccr:

   • Extern Job Shadowing
   • In the Field
   • Partners in Leadership (4th year students)
   • All-in Leadership Programs (Student Life)
   • Employer Information Sessions
   • Career & Volunteer Fairs
   • Departmental Student Association Events

   Apply for Work Study jobs in CLNx in Fall & Spring!

   You also find work via www.scsu.ca/opportunities.

   Find networking opportunities, internship programs and entry-level jobs via websites like www.talentegg.ca and www.charityvillage.ca.

   As an upper year student (14+ credits), attend UTSC’s Get Hired Conference and participate in Jobs for Grads.

   As a graduate, explore internships and other trainee programs like www.careeredge.ca

3. **Build Your Network**

   Explore **Professional Associations** and get involved: volunteer for their events and conferences, and get to know people in your industry of interest. These are your future mentors, supervisors and colleagues!

   Students Of Sociology - https://www.facebook.com/SOSatUTSC

   Canadian Sociological Assoc’n - www.csa-scs.ca  American Sociological Association - www.asanet.org

   Ontario College of Social Workers - www.ocswssw.org

   Canadian Marketing Assoc’n - www.the-cma.org  Assoc’n for Financial Professionals - www.afponline.org


   **Other associations and websites for finding networking opportunities and experience include:**

   Canadian Community Social Planning Councils - http://www.ccsd.ca/

   Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences - www.ideas-idees.ca

Please note: This document is a starting point for your further research into career options in this field of study. For more information on this program and course requirements, please visit the departmental website at the top of the first page.