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 emphasis 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 in Sociology
Bachelor of Arts (General)
Internship option available

Queen’s ADMISSIONS
Students apply to Queen’s Arts (QA) through the OUAC (Ontario Universities Application Centre) website (ouac.on.ca). 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.

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.
**1ST YEAR**

In first year take SOCY 122 (or BISC 100 and 101 at Hermonmoneux Castle).

Each Plan will have at least one required first-year course, including minors. It is important to take a variety of first-year courses to keep as many pathways open as possible for you going into second year. For details see the Arts and Science Academic Calendar.

Want to enhance your degree? Consider a certificate in Sexual and Gender Diversity or explore other certificates available.

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**GET THE COURSES YOU NEED**

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**2ND YEAR**

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

All Plans have additional required courses not listed above that include Care, Option, and Supporting Courses. Plans may also have Exclusions or Substitutions. Please see the Academic Calendar to ensure you are taking the correct courses.

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**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. See the AMS Clubs Directory or the Queen’s Get Involved page for more ideas.

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**GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY**

Volunteer on or off-campus with different community organizations, such as the Levana Gender Advocacy Centre, Half the Sky, Soul Food, and Community Literacy Centres.

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**GET THINKING GLOBALY**

The Queen’s University International Centre is your first step 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 programs, events and training opportunities.

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**GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION**

Grapple with program decisions? Go to Majors Night or get some help wondering about career options from Career Services.

Build your transferrable skills in time management, organization, writing and more with Student Academic Success Services.
How to use this map

Use the 5 rows of the map to explore possibilities and plan for success in the five overlapping areas of career and academics. The map just offers suggestions – you don’t have to do it all! To make your own custom map, use the My Major Map tool.

A balanced approach leads to long-term success. While you will learn a lot from your studies, taking time to get relevant experience outside of the classroom, build your network, and gain international experience, will position you to be more competitive in your job search or grad school applications.

Get started thinking about the future now – where do you want to go after your degree? Having tentative goals (like careers or grad school) while working through your degree can help with short-term decisions about courses and experiences, but also help you keep motivated for success.

Get the help you need

Queen’s provides you with a broad range of support services from your first point of contact with the university through to graduation. At Queen’s, you are never alone. We have many offices dedicated to helping you learn, think and do.

Ranging from help with academics and careers, to physical, emotional, or spiritual resources – our welcoming living and learning environment offers the programs and services you need to be successful, both academically and personally, and Queen’s wants you to succeed! Check out the Student Affairs website for available resources.

What employers want

The Canadian Council of Chief Executives list the top 6 skills sought by employers as:

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

Take the time to think about the unique skills you have developed at Queen’s, starting with the skills list here for ideas. Explaining your strengths with compelling examples will be important for applications to employers and further education. For help, check out the Career Services skills workshop.

What can I learn studying SOCIOLOGY?

- Research skills to conduct research, use social scientific databases, explain and interpret social research data
- Research techniques to 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 to develop coherent and reasoned argument; deconstruct and critique arguments and evidence
- Problem solving to approach an issue from several perspectives in a systematic manner
- Oral, written and media communication to write coherent reports, present information orally and visually in a range of media
- Resource and time management for effective prioritization of resources, skills, and time to complete projects