Imagine having the ability to analyze the dynamics of an urban gang, track patterns and changes in the global environment, study migration, and understand the different cultures we find around the world. The labor market is fast-changing, increasingly global and technology-driven. The jobs that you may apply for as a graduate may not yet exist. To navigate the 21st century means being able to keep up with a changing world. As society evolves, a sociology major will have the tools to critically analyze the world. You will also learn the practical skills you need to succeed.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, founded in 1855, is the nation's pioneer land-grant institution dedicated to the mission of teaching, research, and outreach. The university now offers some 200 areas of study in 14 colleges. The total enrollment is approximately 47,000, including about 7,500 at the graduate level. The student body represents every country in Michigan, all 50 United States, and more than 125 foreign countries. Such a broad cultural cross section offers a unique opportunity to explore sociology from diverse perspectives.

For more information about an undergraduate degree in sociology, visit our website, write or call:

Department of Sociology
Michigan State University
311 Berkey Hall
East Lansing, MI 48824-1111
(517) 355-6640
www.sociology.msu.edu

For additional careers in sociology go to American Sociological Association: www.asanet.org

The College of Social Science at Michigan State University offers a SOCIOLOGY Undergraduate Major, Minor and PhD Programs that give you skills in research, data analysis, communication, critical thinking, and global perspective advantages that will allow you to pursue your career path with confidence.
The Undergraduate Sociology Program

The Undergraduate Sociology program at MSU consists of a set of required core courses and additional elective courses to complete a minimum of 33 semester credits in sociology.* The following is a list of courses that can be found in our academic program.

**Core Courses:**
- Introduction to Sociology
- Social Psychology
- Development of Sociological Theory
- Methods of Social Research
- Social Issues in Contemporary Societies

**Elective Courses are offered in the following areas:**
- Family and Gender
- Urban Race and Migration
- Health and Wellbeing
- Food, Environment, Agriculture, Science and Technology
- Sociology of Population

Writing is an important skill in today’s world, and sociology majors gain that experience through this program. Learning to use personal computers prepares you for analyzing data, handling surveys and writing reports. Advanced courses typically have 35 or fewer students, which allows for an optimal level of exchange in class. At the upper level, you have the opportunities for faculty-supervised independent study, and as a senior you enroll in a senior seminar that may involve an individual research project.

In addition to regular classroom work, you have opportunities for internships. Interns work part-time for one semester or more with community groups on issues ranging from self-help, community service, community education, research and technical assistance projects. You may even earn internship credit for studying the structure of your own work place.

The Academic Minor in Sociology

The minor (19 credits) is administered by the Department of Sociology. This program provides a fundamental understanding of the linkages between people, organizations, agencies, structure in society and the ways in which global forces are transforming modern society.

The academic minor is available as an elective to students who are enrolled in other undergraduate programs at Michigan State University. With the approval of the department and college that administer the student’s degree program, the courses that are used to satisfy the minor may also be used to satisfy the requirements for the bachelor’s degree. Many required courses are available online during summer sessions.

Additional Programs in Sociology

Additional programs in Sociology include study abroad, study away, second degrees and additional majors. A teaching minor in sociology is available to the majors in the college of education as well.

If you are interested in teaching at the elementary or secondary school level, you may apply to the College of Education to combine your major in sociology with the 5-year teacher certificate program. More information about the application process and requirements for certification is available from the MSU College of Education.

*For complete information on college and university requirements, see the Academic Programs book and the Description of Courses book available from the Office of the Registrar, Michigan State University, 150 Administration Building, East Lansing, MI 48824-1046. 517/355-3300 www.msu.edu

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Recent graduates from the Sociology program at MSU sharing their career stories.

“I am currently studying for my masters in Sociology while working as an administrative assistant at a fine arts charter school…I try to ensure that there is a viable line of communication between the school’s administrators and the teachers…”

“After graduating with a degree in Sociology I started my career in the juvenile justice system. I am currently working as a Court Intake Specialist for the Juvenile Assessment Center…the life changing experiences that I have encountered while working with this organization have inspired me to further my education!”

“I graduated from Sociology in 2008 and am currently living and teaching in Seoul, Korea. I am responsible for making lesson plans and ensuring that the curriculum is followed. I teach all levels of the English language, from phonics and simple words to grammar and sentence structure.”

“I am currently living in Phoenix, AZ working for the state as a Human Service Specialist within the Division of Developmental Disabilities. I work with children with developmental disabilities…as well as behavioral children. I organize their services and therapies, ensuring adequate patient-professional care.”

“I am currently serving as an AmeriCorps*VISTA with the Michigan Community Service Commission, a state agency that supports and encourages Michigan resident volunteering.”