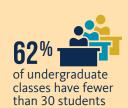


WHY APPLY TO SOCIOLOGY, B.A.?

Sociology is the scientific study of society, social institutions, and social relationships. A key contribution of the discipline is the idea that social factors matter; our lives are not only shaped by our individual personalities, but also by our places in the social world. Sociologists develop theories and conduct analyses to address important social issues in areas such as education, immigration, race, health and work.





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(U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges Rankings, 2020)



Sociology faculty members at UC Merced are building a vibrant and collegial intellectual community—one marked by outstanding scholarship and participation in interdisciplinary communities of inquiry.

The goal of our department is to foster scholarly excellence in sociology, with a specific focus on social inequality, organizations and institutions and politics. Our program is nationally and internationally recognized for its high-quality teaching, influential scholarship, and lasting contributions to the university and community.

Internship Opportunities

Sociology students have several opportunities to gain experience in a wide range of settings. These include internships that can help students develop skills and experience with research projects, non-profit work, community organizing, and industry employment.

Graduate Program Opportunities

▶ Students will leave the major with research skills developed in conjunction with knowledge gained from substantive coursework. This gives sociology majors an excellent basis for pursuing graduate studies in law, sociology and other social and cultural studies programs. Recent alumni have pursued graduate degrees in sociology, political science, social work, nursing, and public health.

Job/Career Prospects

UC Merced Sociology graduates are working in a variety of professional settings including community-based agencies in the arts and culture sector, social services organizations such as United Way, and university administration offices.

The sociology major also prepares students for a variety of other careers, including:

- Education
- Public policy
- Social work
- Marketing
- law
- Criminal justice



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ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Robert Garcia

B.A. '22

Minor: Critical Race and Ethnic Studies

I am currently building on my capstone research on is the impact of performing the "act of coming out" and whether it is necessary to do so. Usually, the work I tend to do is very LGBTQ+ or intersectionality-focused.

During my time here as an undergraduate in the field of Sociology at UC Merced has not only helped provide the necessary foundation, I need to succeed in the world outside the educational field but help discover my passions and how I can implement them into a career of my liking.

In addition to learning and understanding the many ways our society works through a sociological perspective through either research or hands on experiences in the many different sociology classes I took, it also help me continue to be humbled and grateful for the many different opportunities presented to me in my field of interest while broadening my perspectives.