

Research Opportunities

Our professors are known for their research on issues such as adolescent romantic relationships and the transition to adulthood, inequalities in the justice system, family structure and child well-being, and violence in intimate relationships (to name just a few). Students may have the opportunity to assist faculty with their research. In addition, our sociology department has two federally funded research centers – The Center for Family and Demographic Research (CFDR) and the National Center for Family and Marriage Research (NCFMR) – in which students may have the opportunity to work as interns. We support students in presenting their own research at the BGSU undergraduate research symposium.

Real-World Opportunities

Students are encouraged to pursue related internships in their selected areas of interest. BGSU sociology students have completed internships at the Victims Advocacy Program, Wood County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Toledo Municipal Court, City of Toledo Department of Police Operations, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, Unison, Epilepsy Center, NFO Research, Inc., Cleveland Clinic Foundation, and other facilities and businesses.



Looking Ahead

Employers today look for graduates with diverse skills. Students who earn a bachelor's degree in sociology from BGSU have the right mix of skills for many professional opportunities. Here are just a few of the career possibilities (some of these require additional training beyond a bachelor's degree):

- > Census research assistant
- > Chief welfare officer
- > City or regional planner
- > Criminal investigator
- > Data analyst
- > Demographic analyst
- > Environmental organizer
- > F.B.I. or Secret Service agent
- > Human resources administrator
- > Legislative aide
- > Market researcher
- > Parole or probation officer
- > Police officer
- > Political researcher
- > Public health educator
- > Social worker
- > Statistician
- > Teacher or professor
- > Social policy analyst
- > Community organizer

Call or Visit

We invite you to visit BGSU and learn more about the Department of Sociology. Call or visit us soon.

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A History of Shaping Futures.



Department
of Sociology

Undergraduate Program



“Majoring in sociology has opened my eyes to a variety of theories, beliefs, and ideas that I can use to interpret the world around me. Many

of my courses have been wonderfully interesting, and the knowledge I’ve gained from them has been applied to a variety of settings, both in and out of the classroom.”

- Courtney Reid, sociology and psychology undergraduate student

Start here.
Go anywhere.

Sociology is an ideal course of study. It gives you a strong scientific understanding of human behavior, relationships, social change and movement, demographics, social class, race and ethnicity, and much more.

At BGSU, we add critical thinking, communication, research, analysis, and qualitative and quantitative skills. The result? Our students have the tools and broad-based knowledge that employers across the board and around the globe look for today.

Our graduates have exceptional organizational and presentation skills. They are skilled writers, analysts, and confident researchers.

They are problem solvers with a strong understanding of how, why, and what is happening around the globe. They are poised to pursue careers in fields ranging from population studies, to family and social services, to criminology.

A Launching Pad

Sociology majors and students who take core courses in this field are also well-positioned to move into law school or medical school or to pursue advanced degrees in education, public health, public administration, social work, criminal justice, human services, and many other courses of study.

Thinkers and Doers

You don’t have to go back one hundred years to find sociologists who have left their mark around the globe. Many people began their careers by studying sociology. They were—and are—pioneers in their fields. They are advocates for human rights. Supporters of political reform. Authors and environmentalists.

They are people like Shirley Chisholm, the first black woman elected to Congress. First Lady Michelle Obama. President Ronald Reagan. Rev. Jesse Jackson. Author Saul Bellow. Former U.S. Secretary of Labor Francis Perkins. Sportscaster Ahmad Rashad. Nobel Prize winner Emily Balch. BGSU sociology alumnus, Harvard professor and former advisor to President Bill Clinton, Dr. William Julius Wilson, and many more. Each of these persons recognized the value of studying human relationships and then used that knowledge to make a difference in one of hundreds of ways. You can do the same.

The Program

BGSU’s Sociology Program offers one of the broadest based curricula at the University. Our nationally-recognized faculty teach students a variety of sociological concepts and methods to help them understand real-world social phenomena. Students complete courses in these and other areas:

- > Family Studies
- > Criminology and Corrections
- > Deviance and Social Control
- > Population Studies
- > Social Psychology
- > Minority Groups
- > Sociology of Aging
- > Sociology of Gender
- > Introductory Statistics and Methodology
- > Introduction to Demographic Techniques
- > Applied Survey Research

Scholarship and internship opportunities are available to sociology majors.

“Sociology courses helped me find my academic home in a discipline that weds fascinating research and the opportunity to change the world for the better.

My work as an undergraduate at BGSU provided a strong foundation for my acceptance into my top choice graduate program.”

- Spencer Headworth '08, sociology

