



<http://web.uvic.ca/soci/>

### Real-life Learning

The Co-operative Education option within the BA program provides for some Sociology students to obtain relevant work experience while completing their degree requirements. Students who successfully complete (what will normally be) four work terms and satisfy the academic requirements of the BA program offered by the Department of Sociology will receive a notation to this effect on their transcripts at graduation.

### Faculty Research Interests

The faculty at the department of sociology conduct research in a range of areas, including political sociology, social inequality and social movements, the sociology of health, aging, and demography, gender and sexuality, social problems, risk and surveillance, to name a few. Full descriptions of faculty areas of expertise and areas of interest can be found on our website: <http://web.uvic.ca/soci/>

### Research Centre Affiliations

The Department is affiliated with several university-based research centres that offer additional academic and research resources to Sociology students. These include the Centre on Aging, the Centre for Youth and Society, the Centre for Addictions Research of BC, Statistics Canada's Research Data Centre and the Population Research Group.

### Why Choose Sociology: Students' views

"I study Sociology first and foremost for its multiple perspectives on social equality. I love the breadth of Sociology, how it examines almost all aspects of life – its field of study is everything people do beyond their own two ears. I chose Sociology because it gives me many career options in government, business, nonprofits, and research."

*Renee, BA in Sociology '07*

"Sociology has provided a multitude of ways to better understand the world around me, and more directly, has allowed me to find a job that I love. I'm interested in helping to bring about changes that improve people's lives and for the way I understand things, sociology just makes sense to me. I love it. I love the theory, the passion of the researchers (no matter what their topics), and the multitude of methods that can be employed. I find sociology rewards creativity and encourages people to try and understand an *other's* point of view."

*Dann, BA in Sociology '09*

### Spectacular Location

UVic is located on Canada's fabulous west coast where the mountains shake hands with the sea. Living in Victoria will provide you with an opportunity to work and play in a vibrant city, surrounded by mountains, rain forests, and the Pacific Ocean.

### Department of Sociology

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Webpage: <http://web.uvic.ca/soci/>



University  
of Victoria  
Social Sciences

## Sociology



# Making sense of societies.



University  
of Victoria  
Social Sciences



# What is Sociology?

**Sociologists study how societies are organized and how this organization shapes human behaviour. Sociologists primarily study their own culture and examine contemporary issues and aim to produce research that has relevance to solving current social problems, such as poverty and inequality, racism, and population and environmental issues. As a discipline, sociology stresses empathy and tolerance, values of ever-increasing importance in our rapidly changing world.**



## What will you learn while taking a Sociology degree?

The University of Victoria Department of Sociology is committed to providing high-quality undergraduate education in a stimulating and supportive environment. The sociology program offers comprehensive training in research methodology, sociological theory, and oral and written communication. A sociology degree will allow you to acquire skills that are extremely valuable in today's job market, such as how to collect sociological data (through surveys, interviews as well as other methods), how to analyse and manage data, and how to communicate your research results effectively.

## Careers for Sociology graduates

Sociology graduates have excellent and diverse employment prospects. Sociology graduates can be found in academic, managerial, policy planning and research positions in the private and public sectors nationally and internationally.

Some examples of careers pursued by our graduates include:

- Working in social services
- Designing and evaluating social policies and programs
- Working with local and international non-profit and non-government agencies
- Human resources management
- Policing
- Working with independent research and polling firms
- Public sector research careers, with Statistics Canada and Census Canada

A sociology degree is also an excellent preparatory degree for future post-secondary study, including law school, as well as MA and PhD programs in Public Administration, Business Administration, Sociology, and Demography.

## Sociology at the University of Victoria

The Department of Sociology offers General, Major and Honours programs leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts. The general degree offers the most flexibility but is not recommended if you intend to pursue a graduate degree in sociology or a related discipline. The Major degree involves taking a full year of introductory sociology, plus courses in research



methods and research design and sociological theory. You will also choose from a menu of sociology electives covering topics such as gender, sexuality, the family, the environment, population studies, inequality, crime and deviance, and health and addictions. If you elect to do an Honours BA in Sociology, you will, in addition to the requirements for the Major, conduct an independent research project under the supervision of a faculty member in the Department of Sociology.

All information about course selection, program requirements, and facilities available to University of Victoria undergraduate students, as well as links to information about financial support can be found on our website: <http://web.uvic.ca/soci/>

## Concentrations in Sociology

You can also choose between two optional concentrations in Sociology: Social Justice and Social Change or Health and Aging. Doing a concentration requires the same number of total units as for a Major or Honours Degree in Sociology.

The concentration in Social Justice and Social Change highlights a family of approaches to sociology that view the discipline as engaged with the issues, problems, and struggles of our times. It is critical of social inequality, emphasizes the power that social actors have to change these social inequities, and is engaged in developing solutions to social inequity. Topics include social injustice, social inequality, the transformative potential of social movements, the relationship between sociological research and social policy, and historical perspectives on the ways in which sociology has been engaged with social control, social reform, and social activism.

The concentration in the Health and Aging incorporates the sociology of health and health care (including medical sociology), the sociology of aging, and the intersection of these areas. It includes topics such as changing population characteristics; health practices and the lived experiences of wellness, illness, and dying; health policies and health care systems. It considers particular age groups as well as the whole life course, and is not exclusively focused on old age. Inequalities of age, class, gender, and race/ethnicity are addressed in all topical areas.