

## WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR IN **SOCIOLOGY**

### OVERVIEW OF MAJOR

Concordia University offers both undergraduate and graduate programs in Sociology. At the undergraduate level it offers a full range of programs including a joint specialization in Sociology and Anthropology. At the graduate level it offers programs leading to a Master of/Magisteriate in Arts in Sociology and a Ph.D. in Social and Cultural Analysis which is a bi-disciplinary sociology and anthropology program. For the latest information on programs as well as faculty and their research interests, go to the Department of Sociology and Anthropology website at <http://socianth.concordia.ca/>.

Sociology is a well-established field of study that examines social and cultural life in a variety of societies. Graduates develop the theoretical and analytical tools needed to understand and help solve society's problems.

### CELEBRATED SOCIOLOGY MAJORS OR WORKING IN THE SOCIOLOGY FIELD

**Saul Bellow.** Quebec-born Novelist and Nobel Prize Winner for Literature

**Martin Luther King Jr.** American Civil Rights Movement Leader

**Karl Marx.** Father of the Communist Revolution

**Max Weber.** One of the Founders of Modern Sociology

**Ruth Westheimer.** Sex Educator Known as "Dr. Ruth"

**Robin Williams.** Actor/Comedian

### EXAMPLES OF JOBS ACQUIRED BY CONCORDIA GRADUATES

The following job titles are representative of the types of entry-level positions for which Concordia University students are qualified upon graduation. Note that the numbers following each job title refer to Canada's National Occupational Classification (NOC) code. For details on these titles go to <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/>

- Activity Programmer
- Advisor, Aboriginal Housing
- Animator
- Bilingual Service Coordinator
- Case Manager
- Child Empowerment Program
- Officer
- Community and Culture
- Assistant
- Community Organizer (4164)
- Coordinator of Community
- Relations and Volunteer Services
- Education Material Officer
- Essential Skills Interviewer
- Events Coordinator (1226)
- Facilitator
- Fund Development Officer
- Fundraising Administrator
- (0611)
- HIV/AIDS and Reproductive
- Health Educator (4165)
- Home Support Assistant (6471)
- Legal Court Liaison
- Liaison Officer (1221)
- Outreach Worker
- Program Officer
- Program Planner (4164)
- Project Manager
- Public Relations Assistant (5124)
- Relief Dispatch Operator
- Research Assistant
- Social Science Analyst (4164)
- Surveillance Officer
- Volunteer Coordinator (4212)

## MORE JOB TITLES

Sociology embraces theories and concepts that help one understand communities, organizations, bureaucracies, families and small groups. There are very few careers that do not require work in at least one of these settings. For those with advanced degrees in the field, research and teaching are the most popular destinations. The titles below are not meant to be exhaustive but are representative of fields which sociology majors pursue. Keep in mind that some occupations require further education (e.g., a higher degree, second degree, diploma). Note that the numbers following each job title refer to Canada's National Occupational Classification (NOC) code. For details on these titles go to <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC>.

- Affirmation Action Worker (4164)
- Alumni Relations Assistant
- Assistant Personnel Officer (1223)
- Census Research Assistant
- Child Care Worker (4212)
- Community Service Worker (4212)
- Compensation Worker
- Consumer Relations Worker
- Correctional Officer (6462)
- Criminology Assistant
- Demographic Assistant
- Family Counsellor (4153)
- Fundraising Assistant (5124)
- Group Home Worker (4212)
- Health/Medical Sociologist (4169)
- Health Policy Researcher (4165)
- Human Resources Manager (0112)
- Insurance Agent (6231)
- Labour Relations Coordinator (1121)
- Legislative Aide (4211)
- Market Researcher (4163)
- Mediator (1121)
- Personnel Coordinator (0112)
- Population Specialist
- Probation Officer (4155)
- Program Development Officer
- Public Administration Assistant
- Public Opinion Researcher (4164)
- Research Assistant, School Board
- Social Gerontologist (4169)
- Social Research Assistant (4164)

- Survey Research Technician
- Teacher
- Training Assistant
- University Admissions Officer (1221)
- University Research Assistant (4122)
- Youth Outreach Worker (4212)

## POTENTIAL WORK SETTINGS

The study of sociology prepares one for a multitude of careers in many different settings. For example, graduates can work in health, welfare, religious and recreation sectors and deal with a wide variety of populations such as youth, seniors, immigrants, mentally ill, and physically disabled. To research specific employers who hire those in the field, there are many resources available in such locations as the Career Resource Centre, the Webster Library, Vanier Library and the Internet.

- Advertising/Marketing Research
- Firms
- Child Welfare Agencies
- Community Services
- Consulting Firms
- Consumer Research
- Correctional and Rehabilitation Services
- Educational Institutions
- Employment Counselling
- Environmental Agencies
- Government, Federal & Provincial
- Health-Related Services
- Insurance Companies
- Labour Relations
- Military
- Municipal Departments
- NGOs
- Non Profit Organizations
- Personnel Agencies
- Public Relations
- Recreational Centres
- Religious Institutions
- Research Centres
- Sales
- Seniors' Residences
- Social Service Agencies
- Universities and Colleges

## SKILLS AND CHARACTERISTICS

Students of sociology develop strong skills in research and data analysis and have a sound knowledge of social relations and cultural diversity. The sociological perspective is a real asset to those working in today's international, multi-ethnic business world. In addition, students will find the following skills, interests, values and other characteristics valuable for succeeding in the field.

- Ability to Apply Statistical Software
- Analyze Qualitatively and Quantitatively
- Analyze, Synthesize and Interpret Information
- Apply Theoretical Approaches to Research Problems
- Appreciate Diversity
- Critical Thinking
- Curiosity
- Design and Conduct Surveys
- Good Communication
- Identify Cultural/Social Considerations
- Insight into Group Dynamics
- Knowledge of Community Resources
- Knowledge of Statistics and Research Methodology
- Read Critically
- Recognize Social Processes
- Sensitivity to Cultures
- Understand Complex Problems and Identify Solutions
- Understand Social Trends

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION AND OTHER LINKS

Making wise career decisions requires exploring your field. A multitude of Internet sites and other resources will help you do this to the best of your ability. Professional association sites, in particular, are very useful for their career descriptions and job hunting tips. Moreover, these authoritative sites frequently provide links to Internet sites which announce job openings and list potential employers. A few recommended sites are included below.

### CANADIAN

#### Canadian Sociological Association

<http://csa-scs.ca>.

This site will allow one to keep up-to-date on the Canadian sociology scene through its forums, blogs and online activities. It also has information on jobs, publications and conferences.

### INTERNATIONAL

#### American Sociological Association

<http://www.asanet.org>

A wealth of useful information for both students and professionals can be found on this site. One can click on Employment to access numerous articles on careers and career paths as well as ASA's Employment Bulletin and Job Bank.

## CREATE YOUR AMAZING CAREER – CAREER RESOURCE CENTRE TITLES

For those who need more help with their career and educational planning, the Career Resource Centre (CRC) offers books, pamphlets, DVDs and recommended Internet sites. It is located in the Hall Building, H-440, at 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West. The following titles are just a few of the titles available in the CRC.

- Careers for Scholars & Other Deep Thinkers
- Careers in Business
- Careers in Criminal Justice
- Careers in Government Panel Discussion (DVD format)
- Careers in International Affairs
- Careers in Medicine
- Careers in Sociology
- Careers in Sociology Panel Discussion (DVD format)
- C.E.G.E.P Teaching Careers Panel Discussion (DVD format)
- Great Jobs for Sociology Majors
- Guide to Careers in Community Development
- I'm a People Person: A Guide to Human Service Professions
- Many Paths, One Purpose: Career Paths for Social Work and
  - Human Services Majors
  - Smart Moves for Liberal Arts Grads
  - 24 Hours With 24 Lawyers
- What to Do with Your Psychology or Sociology Degree?