



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

For more information visit www.uwinnipeg.ca or contact a student recruitment officer at welcome@uwinnipeg.ca or 204.786.9844. In any case where The University of Winnipeg Course Calendar and this fact sheet differ, the current Calendar takes precedence.

Sociology

Sociology is a social science that uses theoretical and scientific methods of research to investigate the social world.

Sociology is an examination of the relations between the “individual” and “society”. Studying sociology can help you to develop a “sociological imagination.” A sociological imagination is a quality of mind that gives us the ability to understand our own personal experiences as they are shaped by the society in which we live. Sociologists help us to understand how common sense comes to be common sense. In other words, sociology tells us how and why certain ideas are taken for granted and become *popular* and *dominant* during different social, economic and historical time periods. Sociology is often referred to as the “queen of the social sciences” because it uses history, philosophy, economics and statistics to understand social phenomena like crime rates, social inequality, student protest and changes taking place in capitalist democracies. Undergraduate sociology students learn a variety of rigorous methods used by contemporary sociologists to understand and explain the social world. In part, this involves developing foundational skills in statistical reasoning, qualitative research methods, and sociological theory. A degree in sociology will provide you with the analytical tools required for engaged citizenship in the 21st century.

This programme leads to a **Bachelor of Arts degree (3-year, 4-year, or Honours)** with a Major in Sociology.

Students taking a 4-year degree in another Major may choose to add a Minor in Sociology as a secondary area of interest.

SAMPLE CAREERS

Students who graduate with an undergraduate honours degree in sociology go on to advanced study in a variety of areas such as law, journalism, social work, criminology, business, and politics. Others find employment in government and non-governmental organizations doing advocacy work, social scientific research, and community service.

SAMPLE COURSES

Introduction to Sociology is a required first-year course that introduces the study of society and the discipline of sociology. Topics include culture, socialization, social differences, inequality, and the dynamics of social change. Social institutions such as the economy, family, education, religion, and the state will also be examined.

Criminological Theory is a popular second-year course that examines biological, psychological and sociological explanations used to explain crime and develop punishment policy. The course provides a foundation for the advanced study in undergraduate criminology.

Race, Ethnic and Aboriginal Relations, a second-year course, examines the place that ‘race’ occupies in the history of Euro-American settler societies such as Canada. This course considers a wide range of topics including government policies dealing with indigenous peoples, various forms of racism and hate crime, and the theory and practice of anti-racism.

Sociology of the Environment, a second year course that examines environmental issues including environmental movements, the political economy of the environment, and debates surrounding concepts like sustainable development, deep ecology, and green consumerism.

Sex and Gender Relationships is a course that discusses the dynamics of sex and gender relationships in different socio-cultural contexts. Major topics include gender role identification, sex role stereotyping, and changes over time in male/female relationships in North American Society.

MORE SAMPLE COURSES

Introduction to Research Design and Qualitative Research Methods
Introduction to Quantitative Research Methods
Sociological Theory
Beginnings in Law & Criminology
Sociology of Youth
Youth Justice

Green Criminology
Policing, Governance & Security
Sociology of Law
Sociology of Families
Sociology of Aging
Green Justice

DID YOU KNOW?

Research opportunities may be available to students in their third and fourth year of study. • In addition to entrance and undergraduate scholarships available to all students, there are seven scholarships designated for continuing Sociology students. Applications are available from the Department Assistant.

WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY...

"Sociology is a scientific discipline that taught me how to use empirical data and theoretical concepts to make sense of the social world. As an undergraduate sociology student I learned how to do research and to think like a social scientist. In today's "knowledge economy" you will discover that not all information is factual or reliable. The critical thinking skills you gain from a degree in sociology will enable you to assess arguments and conclusions. These are valuable skills you will carry throughout the course of your life and career enabling you to become an engaged citizen. Whether you decide to become a journalist, activist, parent, lawyer, social worker, or small business owner, studying sociology will help you to make informed (evidence-based) decisions to maximize your personal and professional contributions to the social world in which you live and work. The skills I gained from earning my undergraduate degree in sociology enabled me to understand world events and to make sense of my own experiences. Today, it helps me to understand and navigate through the various issues we all face in a global economy."

- Dr Kirsten Kramar (BA Hons '91 Sociology, Associate Professor & Chair, Department of Sociology)

"Faculty members in the Department of Sociology provided me with advanced learning and research opportunities that enabled me to secure an internship at the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada in Ottawa. This opportunity complements the work I am doing at Carleton University where I am studying for my graduate degree in Sociology." - Shayna Gersher (BA Hons '11)

"Studying sociology at The University of Winnipeg has enabled me to understand my environment with greater depth. Faculty members encouraged me to think critically both inside and outside of the classroom, and were particularly supportive of my intellectual pursuits. The curriculum was strong, and each professor offered practical solutions to improving the social world. Since graduating with an honours degree, I have secured small grants for my own research interests, obtained lucrative contract work through local agencies, and received full funding for graduate school. The opportunities are countless!"

- Caitlin Forsey (BA Hons '07 Sociology)

SAMPLE FIRST YEAR

NOTE: This sample first year is representative of the courses you may take. For many of our programmes, you may choose another set of courses and still be well on your way to a degree. Also, for most programmes you do not have to take 30 credit hours (five full courses) in your first year.

SOC-1006(3) Beginnings in Law and Criminology

SOC-1101(6) Introduction to Sociology

RHET-1102(3) Academic Writing: Social Sciences or any other section of Academic Writing (if required)

6 credit hours Humanities (e.g. Classics, Philosophy, History or English)

12 credit hours Electives, depending on interest. Examples are first-year courses in Women's & Gender Studies, Rhetoric & Communications, Politics, or Psychology.

REQUIRED HIGH SCHOOL COURSE

You must meet The University of Winnipeg's general admission requirements. No specific courses are required.

HOW TO APPLY – Domestic Student

Apply online at uwinnipeg.ca or pick up an Application for Admission from your high school counsellor's office or the Admissions Office at The University of Winnipeg. To meet Scholarship deadline submit your application and \$80 application fee by **March 1st**.

HOW TO APPLY – International Student

Apply online at uwinnipeg.ca/index/intl-apply and submit all official documents by mail. To meet Scholarship deadline submit application, fee, and documents by **March 1st**. International application fee is \$100, which includes a one-time courier fee.

CONTACT US

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