What is Sociology?

Sociology is the scientific study of social life, social change, and the social causes and consequences of human behavior. In the Department of Sociology & Anthropology, Sociology majors also take at least one class in Anthropology, which is the study of humanity, including human behavior, human biology, cultures, and societies - both past and present. Sociologists and Anthropologists design systemic studies to explain social phenomena such as:

Why do only 4% of people in the world immigrate to another country?

Why do some people become addicted to drugs?

What really is “race” and why does it matter?

When players kneel in protest during the national anthem, why is it applauded by some people and reviled by others?

Concentrations

Sociology majors can have concentrations in:

- **Anthropology:** examines all aspects, both biological and cultural, of all humans, both living and dead.
- **Inequality & Social Justice:** examines the causes and consequences of inequalities primarily based on class, gender, race/ethnicity, nationality/immigration status, disability, age, and sexual orientation.
- **Health & Society:** focuses on contemporary issues in health and illness, health care, organizations, public health policies, and health inequalities.
- **Work & Organizations:** studies occupations, work, and organizational structures.
- **Families & Inequality:** analyzes the problems and issues of contemporary families from a sociological perspective.

Skills Obtained

Our majors gain the skills as stated by the American Sociological Association (ASA) and the American Anthropological Association (AAA):

- Conduct research and analyze data
- Communicate skillfully
- Practice critical thinking
- Gain a cross-cultural perspective
- Understand human diversity
- Prepare for graduate school

Academic Programs

We offer the following degrees:

**Major**
BA or BS in Sociology (33 credit hours)

**Minors**
Students can minor in Sociology or Anthropology (15 credit hours)

**Fast Track**
Students interested in earning their Master’s Degree in Sociology can get on an accelerated degree path in which up to 9 graduate hours count toward both the Sociology BA/BS and MA.
Career Opportunities:

Students with degrees from the Department of Sociology & Anthropology work in fields such as:

- Business Management and Leadership
- Family and Social Services
- Demographic and Survey Research
- Health and Human Services
- Law Enforcement
- Marketing Analysis and Research
- Nonprofit and Charitable Organizations
- Youth and Educational Organizations

Student Opportunities

We offer the following extracurricular opportunities for students:

- Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD) – the international sociological honor society
- Nebraska Undergraduate Sociology Symposium (NUSS)
- Research, professional conference presentations, and publishing opportunities with faculty
- UNO Sociology Club
- UNO Student Anthropology Society

Double Majors

Students can easily complement their Sociology major with a double major. Two examples of plans in which up to 4 classes count toward both majors:

Medical Humanities:
Explores multiple perspectives and the connections between humans, cultures, medicine, and allied health sciences. Website: https://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-arts-and-sciences/medical-humanities/index.php

Latino & Latin American Studies:
Prepares students with a comprehensive understanding of Latino and Latin American peoples, societies and cultures. Website: https://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-arts-and-sciences/ollas/academics/index.php

Other common double majors include Criminology & Criminal Justice, Political Science, Psychology, and Women’s & Gender Studies.

Course Highlights

In addition to a solid foundation in both disciplines, students may choose to take electives in the dovetail with their interests. Recent elective courses include:

- Archaeological Field Methods
- Culture, Drug Use, & Addiction
- Environmental Sociology
- Latin American Migrations
- Loneliness & Health
- Race & Ethnic Relations in the U.S.
- Social Justice & Social Change
- Sociology on Film
- Sports & Society

For more information:

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