

SOCIOLOGY ●

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (2015), the average college graduate will hold 12-15 jobs in their lifetime. Sociology is a skill-rich major that prepares students for a wide variety of jobs.

TOP 10 SKILLS

employers say they seek, according to Forbes¹

SKILLS LEARNED IN THE SOCIOLOGY MAJOR

Ability to work on a team ●●●●●●	Teamwork and collaboration How to work with others toward a common goal, creating a positive working atmosphere and supporting others to combine individual strengths to enhance team performance.
Ability to make decisions and solve problems ●●●●●●	Decision-making and problem-solving How to examine the nature of a problem, evaluate alternatives, propose viable solutions and determine the outcome of the various options
Ability to plan, organize and prioritize work ●●●●●●	Planning and organization How to plan projects, events and programs; organize information, people or things in a systematic way; ability to establish priorities and meet deadlines
Ability to communicate effectively with people inside and outside of an organization ●●●●●●	Interpersonal skills How to effectively communicate and engage with people from a wide range of cultures and backgrounds; ability to empathize with others; ability to give feedback in a constructive way; ability to resolve conflicts that stem from different perspectives or interests
Ability to obtain and process information ●●●●●●	Analytical skills How to synthesize information and ideas; ability to draw specific conclusions from a set of general observations or from a set of specific facts
Ability to analyze quantitative data ●●●●●●	Research How to find and collect relevant background information; ability to analyze data, summarize findings and write a report of findings
Technical knowledge related to the job ●●●●●●	Active listening skills and adaptability How to listen and interpret instruction; ability to adapt to new situations and settings and to tolerate change well
Proficiency with computer software programs ●●●●●●	Computer proficiency How to efficiently use word processing, graphics and multimedia, spreadsheets and databases
Ability to create and/or edit written reports ●●●●●●	Advanced writing and editing How to select, interpret, organize and synthesize key ideas; ability to edit a written text to ensure that the message is clear, concise and accurate
Ability to sell and influence others ●●●●●●	Customer service skills How to quickly build rapport with clients; ability to ask and respond to questions effectively; ability to make others feel relaxed and build trust

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The discipline prepares students for the following career with salary ranges provided by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Family, Social and Community Services

Salary range \$33,050 – \$77,360²

Job Titles: Case Manager; Child/Family Advocate; Family Resource Coordinator; Foster Care or Adoption Professional; Housing Officer; Activity/Recreation Coordinator; Volunteer Coordinator; Youth Services Worker; Crisis/Hotline Worker; Clergy, Pastoral Care

Policy and Law

Salary range \$40,800 – \$90,880⁴

Job Titles: Politician; Juvenile Services Specialist; Probation Officer; Victim Advocate; Foreign Service Officer; Community Organizer

Education and Training

Salary range \$39,600 – \$97,160³

Job Titles: Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE); Extension Agent; Family Resource Coordinator; Preschool Teacher; After School Program Worker; Birth to Three Service Coordinator; Adult Education Services Provider

Communications and Business

Salary range \$48,490 – \$101,800⁵

Job Titles: Human Resource Specialist; Family Financial Counselor; Student Affairs Professional; Real Estate Agent; Insurance Broker; Pharmaceutical Sales; Public Relations

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¹ <https://www.forbes.com/sites/susanadams/2014/11/12/the-10-skills-employers-most-want-in-2015-graduates/#64c8ad902511>

² <https://www.bls.gov/oes/2017/may/oes210000.htm>

³ <https://www.bls.gov/oes/2017/may/oes211091.htm>

⁴ <https://www.bls.gov/oes/2017/may/oes211092.htm>

⁵ <https://www.bls.gov/oes/2017/may/oes131141.htm>