From job interviews to first dates to diplomatic meetings, social interactions shape people’s lives. At the Department of Sociology at the University of Maryland, we study the micro and macro, from family organization to globalization, to better understanding how society functions. We conduct one-on-one interviews and analyze massive data sets locally and around the world. We’re bringing greater clarity to sociological processes as well as recommendations for policymakers to improve human welfare. Our proximity to Washington, D.C. gives our students rich opportunities to research and intern at government agencies and institutions including the World Bank. The National Science Foundation, the Department of Defense and the National Institutes of Health, among others, fund our research to help veterans returning from war, families struggling in the recession and hurricane victims rebuilding their lives.

Programs

Major
- Sociology Major (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/behavioral-social-sciences/sociology/sociology-major/)

Minor
- Demography Minor (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/behavioral-social-sciences/sociology/demography-minor/)

Advising

Regular advising is strongly recommended for all majors. Advising is particularly important for those majors who are considering graduate school. Majors are reminded of the importance of taking the required foundation courses (SOCY100, SOCY201, SOCY202, SOCY203, SOCY230 & SOCY441) as soon as possible because these are prerequisite courses for the four 400-level Substantive courses. Degree audits are required of all majors at 60 and 90 credits. Further information on course work, internships, the department honors program, careers, and other topics may be obtained from the Sociology Undergraduate Advisor, 2108 Parren J. Mitchell Art/Sociology Building, 301-405-6389.

Opportunities
Internships

Although internships are not a requirement for the major, students may wish to consider the internship program offered by the department or through the Experiential Learning unit of the University Career Center @ BSOS (https://bsosundergrad.umd.edu/opportunities/opportunities-introduction/). Majors may receive up to six credits in SOCY386 when an internship/volunteer position is combined with an academic project. A prerequisite of 12 credit hours in sociology coursework is required.