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 understand how society functions. We conduct one-on-one interviews and analyze massive data sets locally and around the world. We bring 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**


**Minors**


**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 & SOCY200/SOCY241/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://fellercenter.umd.edu/career-planning/](https://fellercenter.umd.edu/career-planning/)). 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.

**Scholarships and Financial Assistance**

The Parker-Fuller Scholarship is awarded annually to an outstanding female Sociology undergraduate student. This scholarship carries an award of $500 that may be used toward educational expenses for the following fall semester. Applications are accepted during the spring semester. Female students who have earned 60 credits and have a minimum GPA of 3.0 are eligible to apply.

The Tara Lynn Resnick Scholarship is awarded annually to a full-time undergraduate Sociology major in their senior year of study on the basis of need. It provides an annual award of $1,000. Applications for this scholarship are accepted during the spring semester.

The Office of Student Financial Aid (OSFA) administers all types of federal, state and institutional financial assistance programs and, in cooperation with other university offices, participates in the awarding of scholarships to deserving students. For information, visit: [http://financialaid.umd.edu](http://financialaid.umd.edu).