



SOCIOLOGY

What is the study of Sociology?

Sociology is the study of the interactions of human beings and the social structures we create. Sociology has been described as both an academic field (the study of human society) and a practical accomplishment (recognizing the social rules, policies, and structures that shape our lives). Looking at the world through the lens of sociology, we can better understand how our past and even our present moments fit within the larger social structure and even the course of history. Using what C. Wright Mills called the “sociological imagination” to examine our own lives, we might begin to question how social forces and relationships have given us certain privileges, like access to wealth or the ability to attend university. It might also lead us to question how social forces like racism and economic inequality might make us disadvantaged compared to others.

Sociology is unique in its recognition that while our society shapes each one of us, each of us also contributes to shaping our society. One of the main strengths of sociology is that it touches upon every aspect of human social life and activity. It examines the foundations of society – including culture, socialization, interaction, social groups, and social inequality. It also looks at human actions such as sexuality, deviance, politics, work, and social movements.

What is unique about Sociology at the UM?

The Sociology Department at the University of Manitoba specializes in six main areas of investigation: criminology and social justice; culture and social relations; population health and wellness; power, privilege and resistance; social development and social inequality; and social policy and practice. The University of Manitoba’s Sociology Department is home to many accomplished academics. Faculty members regularly win teaching awards for their work in the classroom, secure large grants to support research programs, and publish books and articles in their areas of specialization.

Program Options

B.A. Honours Program - 4 years
B.A. Double Honours Program - 4 years
B.A. Advanced Major - 4 years
B.A. General Major - 3 years
Minor

Career Opportunities

Airport Security Screening Officer
Border Services Officer
Emergency Preparedness Analyst
Foreign Service Officer
Social Policy Analyst
Social Program Coordinator

