Sociology

The Department of Sociology consists of 14 full-time faculty, 150 undergraduate majors, and over 30 graduate students. Founded in 1922, the department has a long tradition of inspiring students to apply sociology to the world around them.

Sociology is the study of groups, social interaction, and social institutions. To study these, the department has developed a core curriculum centered on sociological methods (how we know) and sociological theory (how we explain). Beyond the theory and methods courses, majors enroll in a two-course practice sequence and senior capstone. These courses are designed to help students explore their calling as sociologists, develop an area of specialization, and explore career options. To help students craft their own area of specialization, students are closely mentored by faculty who share their expertise and advise students on their choice of electives in sociology.

Sociology prepares students for a range of career options. The extensive training in sociological methods and theory qualifies students with BA degrees to work in both non-profit (including social service agencies) and for-profit (marketing, consumer, data analysis) work settings. Many graduates pursue graduate degrees in social work, law, non-profit management, public health, and doctoral programs in sociology. Our graduates have become leaders in the non-profit sector and academic careers.

Our location in the Lincoln Park neighborhood in Chicago gives students access to a remarkable range of community service opportunities, field experiences, and internships. With its ethnic communities, economic development, and urban concerns, Chicago is an exciting site for research and observation.

Faculty

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