

Sociology

Department Information

- **Department Web Site:**
www.ndsu.edu/socanth/ (<http://www.ndsu.edu/socanth/>)
- **Credential Offered:**
B.S.; B.A.; Minor
- **Official Program Curriculum:**
catalog.ndsu.edu/undergraduate/program-curriculum/sociology/ (<http://catalog.ndsu.edu/undergraduate/program-curriculum/sociology/>)

Sociology is the study of human social interaction and social organizations. Sociologists study social change, diverse communities and their interactions, and use scientific methods to find empirical answers to complex social questions. Studying sociology fosters creativity, innovation, critical thinking, analytic problem solving, and communication skills. Sociology majors are employed in a variety of business, nonprofit, and government jobs.

The Program

Sociologists attempt to develop a better understanding of the way society works. They examine social relationships in institutions like the family, religion, the economy, health care, media, education and government. Sociology majors develop applied research and analytical skills and a perspective that prepares them to address social concerns. Courses are offered on campus and online. North Dakota State University offers graduate work leading to a master's degree and frequently has students who pursue doctorates at other universities.

Faculty and Facilities

The faculty in sociology have varying research interests and areas of specialization. The sociology faculty provide expertise in areas such as gender, research methods, social psychology, education, social inequality, religion, and community development. They employ survey, ethnographic, and experimental design methods. The department contains two social research laboratories.

Career Opportunities

Sociological expertise can be useful in careers that involve community service, research analysis, non-profit organizations, human and social services, urban and regional planning, population analysis, economic or marketing studies, health-related industries, agricultural and rural life advocacy, government administration, and policy research. For more information on sociology employment, refer to the North Dakota State University Sociology website or visit the American Sociological Association website at <https://www.asanet.org>.

Internship Program

Students in sociology may apply for the internship program. Students typically complete internships during their junior or senior year. Internship opportunities exist in many agencies in North Dakota and Minnesota and can be done any time during the calendar year. Students who complete internships are able to combine the theoretical and applied aspects of professional preparation. Our students have worked in a variety of settings including human and social services, volunteer agencies, community development, business and industry.

The Curriculum

Sociology students explore their interests within the program, including social psychology, social inequality, community development, applied sociology, environmental sociology, gerontology, and gender issues, by taking classes in the areas of their choice.