

# Careers by Major - Sociology



This document serves as a starting point for your career research. Each Careers by Major page provides lots of ideas on various career areas, as well as how to gain related skills and experience. Useful resources and job samples are also provided. Visit us in the Career Centre to find out more about career areas that interest you.

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## Sample Occupations and Jobs

Below is a sample of the many types of occupations and jobs pursued by graduates of this program.

### Sample Occupations

Note: This is not an exhaustive list. Detailed career profiles are available in the Career Centre. Some occupations require further education and experience.

Economic Development Officer* Activist* Border Services Officer Census Field Officer Immigration Officer* Foreign Service Officer* Human Rights Officer Legislative Assistant Lobbyist* Political Aide* Politician* Public Policy Analyst* Aboriginal Liaison Officer Bailiff* Bylaw Enforcement Officer Case Management Officer Correctional Officer* Court Administrator/Clerk* Court Liaison Worker Court Reporter Crime Prevention Specialist Criminal Lawyer* Family Court Support Worker Judge* Legal Arbitrator Paralegal* Penologist Police Officer* Probation Officer* Social Program Officer Victim Services Worker Youth Court Worker Child Development Worker Education Policy Analyst Post-Sec. Education Admin.* Teacher* School Counsellor*	Advertising Account Executive* Communications Specialist* Fundraiser* Human Resources Specialist* Journalist* Labour Relations Officer Public Relations Specialist* Real Estate Appraiser* Travel Agent* Union Communication Specialist Abuse/Crisis Counsellor* Addictions Counsellor* Adoption Counsellor* Child and Youth Worker* Community Worker* Developmental Service Worker* Employment/Career Counsellor* Family Justice Counsellor Health Care Administrator* Housing Support Worker Marriage and Family Therapist* Mediator* Public Health Inspector Recreation Coordinator Refugee Services Coordinator Rehabilitation Counsellor* Settlement Worker Social Worker* Street/Youth Outreach Worker Urban/Regional Planner* Volunteer Manager* Humanitarian Aid Worker* Medical Sociologist Demographer Librarian* Market Research Analyst* Social Welfare Research Officer
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\* View these titles at Career Cruising, available on CLN (cIn.utoronto.ca) under the Resources tab.

### Sample Job Listings

Below is a sample of positions that have been promoted within the Career Centre. To access current postings, login to CLN at [www.cIn.utoronto.ca](http://www.cIn.utoronto.ca) and click on Jobs.

- Youth Settlement Worker, Centre for Info & Community Services
- Community Health Partnership Coord., Canadian Cancer Society
- Market Research Analyst, Medtech Solutions
- Peer Leadership Coach, Centre for Student Engagement, UTM
- Student Border Services Officer, Canada Border Services Agency
- Real Estate Assistant, Metropolitan Commercial Realty Inc.
- Autism Support Associate, Kerry's Place Autism Services
- Policy Analyst, Ontario Public Service
- Social Worker, Alzheimer Society of Ontario
- Positive Space Engagement Assistant, Student Housing & Residence Life, UTM
- Index and Reference Officer, Legislative Assembly of Ontario
- Report Writer, Flow Consulting
- Research Assistant, Department of Sociology, UTM
- Court Services Officer, Government of Ontario
- Grant Researcher, LetsStopAIDS

### Sample Areas of Employment

- Police forces, prisons and halfway houses
- Political parties
- Non-profit organizations
- Research and policy institutions
- Substance abuse treatment centers
- Women's shelters, youth shelters
- Immigrant service agencies
- Government agencies and courts
- Mediation firms
- Community centres, libraries
- Newspaper and magazine companies
- Public relations agencies
- Unions and workers' compensation boards
- Universities, colleges and schools
- Hospitals and medical centres
- Consulting firms, legal agencies
- Employment service centres
- Community development agencies

## Program-Related Skills

Academic courses in this program provide opportunities to develop the following types of skills. Make a career counselling or an employment strategy appointment to discuss how you can demonstrate these skills to employers.

- **Communication:** develop and write research papers; articulate concepts and ideas; present data using graphs, tables and diagrams; summarize findings; public speaking; actively listen and engage in discussions.
- **Research & technical:** plan and conduct research using appropriate methodologies; collect data ethically; analyze quantitative and qualitative data; use statistical software packages.
- **Critical thinking & problem-solving:** analyze social phenomena and structures; evaluate major sociological concepts, theories and debates; reflect on historical and contemporary social issues; synthesize information; identify problems and develop solutions, including policy, recommendations and change orientation.
- **Organizational:** identify goals; manage time; multitask; work independently and collaboratively with others.

## Explore Careers & Build Networks

### Career Exploration 101

Take our 15 minute online module available at [utm.utoronto.ca/careers/career-planning/career-exploration](http://utm.utoronto.ca/careers/career-planning/career-exploration) and attend the Career Exploration Part 2 in-person workshop read about how you can gain access to UTM's career exploration programs:

- Extern Job Shadowing
- In The Field

### Informational Interviews

Informational interviews are a great way to connect with professionals in a career area of interest and gain valuable insights about a career, company, or industry that would otherwise be difficult to find in books or online. Check out our tip sheet to learn more.

### Alumni Profiles

Check out our Alumni Profiles page with submissions from UTM grads to find out how their experiences have affected their career direction.

### Events

Attending career panels, networking events, employer info sessions, and career fairs is a great way to meet professionals and learn more about careers, companies, and industries. Login to CLN and click on Events & Workshops to see what's coming up.

### Talk to Professors

Connecting with your professors can be a great way to explore the different paths a major can lead you to, as well as learn about possible opportunities for research, volunteering, or becoming a TA. Drop by during their office hours or request an appointment.

### Student Organizations

Join a student club or an academic society at UTM to meet like-minded people, explore your interests, and gain valuable skills. To view a list of current clubs and societies, visit the Centre for Student Engagement online. Some organizations you may consider are:

- Sociology & Criminology Society
- Sexual Education & Peer Counselling Centre
- UTM Students' Union
- Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children UTM
- OUT@UTM

### LinkedIn

Create a LinkedIn profile to connect with professionals in various fields, explore the career paths of UTM alumni, research employers, apply for specific positions, and more. Need help? Come to the Career Centre to book a LinkedIn profile critique.

### Professional Associations

There are many benefits of becoming a member of association(s), such as developing a network of contacts, learning about industry trends, accessing industry-related job postings, and stating your affiliation on your resume. Some associations related to this major are:

- Canadian Sociological Association (CSA)
- Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers (OCSWSSW)
- Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences

## Get Experience

Get some experience and exposure to the industry while being a student. This will increase your chances of finding a job after graduation, while helping you decide what area might be most suitable for you.

### Crack the Hidden Job Market

Networking is an essential element of job search today, as most jobs are not advertised. While you should still apply for positions you find online, building relationships with professionals is a proven way to access the "hidden job market" with some of the most desirable opportunities.

Attend the "Learn to Network" workshop to discover proven techniques to effectively introduce yourself and make contacts.

### On-Campus

#### On-Campus Opportunities Booklet

Check out the On-Campus Opportunities booklet on [www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/on-campus-opportunities](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/on-campus-opportunities) to view a list of some of the ways you can get valuable experience on campus.

#### Work Study Positions

The work study program provides eligible students with an opportunity to work on campus during the academic year and gain experience. Many departments use this program to hire UTM students during the Fall/Winter and Summer terms.

#### Research Opportunity Program (ROP)

UTM's Research Opportunity Program (ROP) allows undergraduate students to gain valuable research experience and earn a course credit by participating in a faculty member's research project. Courses are held during Summer and Fall/Winter terms.

#### Part Time and Volunteer Positions

- Attend the annual Get Experience Fair
- Check out our binder with detailed information on volunteer opportunities; available in the Career Centre
- Learn about the Co-Curricular Record (CCR), which can help you find opportunities beyond the classroom and have your skills and experiences captured on an official document; go to [www.ccr.utoronto.ca](http://www.ccr.utoronto.ca) to find out how you can get involved

#### Student Organizations

Join a student club or an academic society at UTM to meet like-minded people, explore your interests, and gain valuable skills. To view a list of current clubs and societies, visit the Centre for Student Engagement at [www.utm.utoronto.ca/student-life/student-organizations](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/student-life/student-organizations).

### Off-Campus

#### Internships, Summer, Part Time and Volunteer Positions

- Check out our binders with detailed information on internships and volunteer opportunities; available in the Career Centre
- Login to Career Learning Network (CLN) and click on Jobs to access current postings advertised to UofT students
- Attend the annual Get Hired: Summer and Full-Time Jobs Fair
- Consider taking an academic internship course through your department
- Check out Government of Ontario - Job Programs for Youth Summer Employment Programs' web page
- Review our Internships, Summer Employment Programs, and Summer Job Search tip sheets at [utm.utoronto.ca/careers/tip-sheets](http://utm.utoronto.ca/careers/tip-sheets)

#### Full Time Positions

- Login to CLN and click on Jobs to access current postings advertised to graduating students and recent UofT grads. Note: You must attend the "Now That I'm Graduating, What's Next?" workshop to gain access to these postings.
- Attend the annual Get Hired: Summer and Full-Time Jobs Fair
- Check out our list of industry-specific job boards on [www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/jobs/jobs-resources-links](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/jobs/jobs-resources-links)

## Useful Resources & Next Steps

### Appointments

- Attend a one-on-one appointment with a career counsellor or an employment strategist to discuss what career options might work for you and determine a job search plan. Contact the Career Centre for more information.
- Meet with an academic or departmental advisor, who can guide you in achieving academic success. Contact the Office of the Registrar or your department for more information.

### Additional Web Resources

- Prospects - Career Options in Sociology
- Top Universities - What Can You Do With a Sociology Degree?
- WetFeet - Careers and Industries Overview
- Correctional Service Canada
- Canada's Top 100 Employers for Young People

### Career Resource Library

The Career Resource Library contains information about a wide range of occupations in all industries, resume and cover letter resources, effective work search methods, graduate/professional school preparation guides, and more. Located in DV 3094.

### Career Planning by Year

Look for our Career Planning by Year web page on [www.utoronto.ca/careers/career-planning](http://www.utoronto.ca/careers/career-planning) for ideas of important career related activities for each year.

### Questions?

Visit the UTM Career Centre located in DV 3094, call 905-828-5451, or visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers).

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