

# COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

WILLIAM PATERSON  
UNIVERSITY

## Sociology Major (Bachelor of Arts)

Concentrations: General Sociology, Social Services, Applied Sociology

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

### About Sociology



An undergraduate sociology degree provides valuable insight into social factors such as race, ethnicity, gender, age, education, and social class that affect how institutions operate. Students who graduate with a degree in sociology and enter the job market directly not only hold a valuable liberal arts degree, but have an advantage—knowledge of social inequalities and a firm grasp of research design and methods.

**SOCIAL SERVICES CONCENTRATION:** This concentration is designed for students seeking a career in social work and social services. Students take several courses specifically about the field of social work, in addition to the standard sociology curriculum. In their senior year, students complete an internship in an area of the field within which they seek employment. Most find the experience to be a strong first step toward beginning a career in a profession such as social work. Many choose to go on to graduate training in social work, psychology, or a related field.

#### **GENERAL SOCIOLOGY OR APPLIED SOCIOLOGY CONCENTRATIONS:**

Students with a strong interest in community activism may prefer to concentrate in applied sociology, where a community internship is required. All other students should choose the general sociology concentration, where the internship is optional.

### Career Opportunities

The BA in sociology provides excellent preparation for a wide variety of careers in fields such as:

Education • Consumer research • Social services • Insurance • Advocacy • Activism and mobilization • Real estate • Planning and program development • Personnel/training • Human resources • Administration • Management • Evaluation research • Demography/planning • Community relations • Community organizing • Policy analysis • Sales • Counseling • Marketing and advertising • Environmental protection • Government

### Sociological training helps you:

- Think critically about social problems
- Understand how organizations work
- Notice and analyze changing trends and patterns of behavior
- Understand how social structure impacts a person's behavior and life chances
- Work with diverse groups of people
- Speak effectively in public
- Evaluate research
- Write reports and proposals
- Conduct surveys/interviews/focus groups
- Use computer programs to analyze, evaluate, and present data

## Examples of Field Work Placements

- Municipal, county, or state police departments)
- Municipal, county, or state courts
- Probation/parole offices
- Public and private prisoner re-entry services
- Juvenile correctional agencies
- Public and private youth service agencies
- Public and private victim service agencies
- Offender treatment programs
- Law offices
- Child protection services
- Women's services
- Adoption services
- Homelessness and hunger services
- Family services
- Elder services
- Disability services
- School settings
- Healthcare centers
- Community development agencies
- Substance abuse treatment centers

### Sociology Field Work Opportunities:

The 3-credit field work course gives practical work experience in a variety of settings. Students typically work a minimum of 8 hours a week under the supervision and guidance of an on-site supervisor in community, corporate, or social services work environments.

Students typically find placements in hospitals (medical sociology, social service); consumer relations, market research, personnel, public affairs (research methods, organizations); museums and galleries; senior citizen centers (family, aging); and welfare agencies (social services).

## Faculty Expertise

The renowned faculty members who teach in the program have diverse expertise in such areas as:

### Community activism/social movements

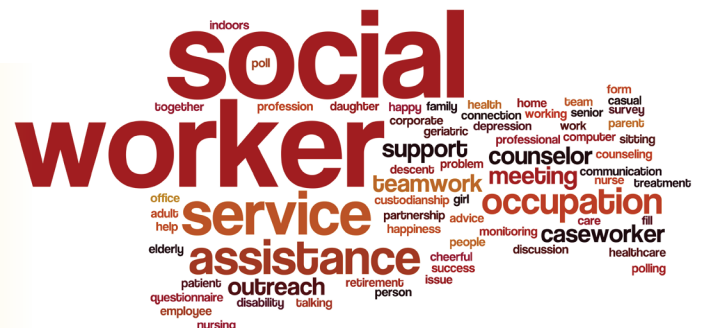
• military sociology • nutrition and health behavior disparities • quantitative sociology methods • racial identity and racial relations • immigration and social inequalities • adolescent deviant behavior • sociology of the family, and many more

## Our greatest strength is helping you find yours

At William Paterson, we help students not only reach, but expand their potential and discover abilities they may not have been able to see for themselves. As with other programs at WP, the sociology major provides:

- Hands-on experience to enhance career marketability
- Opportunity to get involved in research or scholarly activities with faculty
- Professors who bring real world experience to the classroom
- A chance to work with industry professionals through internships
- State-of-the-art campus facilities
- Civic engagement/service learning opportunities

Sociology students have opportunities to learn and develop outside the classroom, such as joining the Sociology/Criminal Justice Club, engaging with community groups and organizations, special presentations, conducting research with professors, and presenting at conferences.



**Will. Power.**

For more about the sociology major:  
[wpunj.edu/cohss/departments/sociology/](http://wpunj.edu/cohss/departments/sociology/)

For Admissions information: [wpunj.edu/undergraduate](http://wpunj.edu/undergraduate)