**WHY STUDY Sociology AT WSU VANCOUVER?**

Sociology is the scientific study of social life. A fundamental insight of the discipline is that the social matters. Our lives are affected not only by our personal psychology but also by our place in the social world.

Few fields offer such a breadth of opportunities for inquiry. Sociologists conduct research on a wide range of issues, from social inequality to human ecology and the environment, from deviance and crime to religion, from medicine to politics.

The sociology faculty at WSU Vancouver are committed to excellence in teaching and research. The program offers small classes, along with internship and research opportunities that provide hands-on learning experiences. Faculty research projects focus on gender; work and organizations; aging and the life course; the military; criminology and criminal justice system policies; race and ethnicity; and social inequality generally.

---

**For more information**

**PROGRAM LEADER**
Clay Mosher  
cmosher@vancouver.wsu.edu  
360-546-9439

**PROGRAM COORDINATOR**
Annette Bradstreet  
annette.bradstreet@vancouver.wsu.edu  
360-546-9640

---

**Earn a degree in Sociology**

- Bachelor of Arts in Sociology
- Minor in sociology
- Minor in addiction studies
A broad look at human behavior

Students majoring in sociology will complete core courses in the areas of sociological theory, research methods and statistics, as well as a capstone internship or research practicum.

Substantive courses in sociology include social inequality, race relations, sociology of professions and occupations, gender, family, juvenile delinquency, deviance and criminology, addictions, society and environment, and sociology of film, among others.

Some sociology courses can also be used for credit toward the Bachelor of Arts in Social Sciences and the Bachelor of Public Affairs.

Opportunities for students

An internship or a research practicum can fulfill your required capstone experience while deepening your knowledge of the theory and practice of sociology.

Internships

Internships are supervised work experiences on campus or in the community. Here are a few places where WSU Vancouver students have interned:

- YWCA Clark County
- Children’s Home Society of Washington
- Lutheran Community Services
- Innovative Services Northwest
- Clark County Juvenile Court and Probation
- Drug and mental health treatment agencies
- Law enforcement agencies

Research

The research practicum is a hands-on experience in selection of social problem, review of literature, identifying data sources, developing methodology and reporting results.

Students have completed research on many topics, including the following: inequality in access to digital technology by social class; historical changes in poverty rates among African-Americans; trends in labor force participation among women and men; the effects of getting a college degree on later earnings; and the analysis of the Clark County Juvenile Court’s restorative justice programs, among others.

“Only when we learn to value the differences among us can we achieve the true spirit of humanity.”
—CHARLES S. WEINBLATT

Careers

In today’s changing job market, the skills provided by a liberal arts education are increasingly important—skills in analyzing problems, developing solutions and understanding diverse peoples.

Sociology provides a liberal arts education that enhances critical thinking and communication skills. Successful sociology majors graduate with an understanding of how social institutions shape individual experiences, as well as an understanding and appreciation of diversity.

These skills are useful in a wide range of careers, including the following:

- Public relations
- Teaching
- Government and social agencies
- Criminal justice system professions
- Industry

Sociology is also a good foundation for professional careers. Some examples:

- Architecture and community planning
- Counseling
- Law
- Politics
- Public administration

“

“My sociology professors at WSU Vancouver were passionate and knowledgeable, and provided mentorship as much as answers. My classes were small, and the diverse students got to know each other well as we worked together. I cannot imagine another campus where a student gets so many opportunities to work with all levels of the university in many ways, from student clubs to working with the administration on projects.”

—SOCILOGY GRADUATE WHO IS NOW A UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

CAS.VANCOUVER.WSU.EDU/SOCIOLOGY