A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE

Studying sociology gives you essential skills to succeed in today’s economy and prepares you to pursue careers as:

- Entrepreneurs
- Policymakers
- Government officials
- Nonprofit leaders
- Lawyers
- Teachers

“Sociology taught me how to understand people’s behaviors based on the groups they associate with. I use this in college admissions, which is increasingly data-driven. Universities need people who know how to interpret trends and understand how high school students think when it comes to choosing a college.”

Jasmine Rodriguez, ’12
Associate director of admissions: multicultural recruitment
Franklin College

“Sociology taught me to think critically about the impact social structures and organizations have on inequality, allowing me to integrate my experience growing up in rural Mississippi with my academic interest in business and passion for technology. This perspective has proved invaluable, and I rely on the theories and training I learned at Stanford in my work at Apple.”

Cory Quinn, ’10, MA ’10
Business affairs manager, Apple

DO YOU WONDER WHY SOCIETIES DEVELOP DIFFERENTLY?

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SOCIAL NETWORKS?

DO YOU WANT TO LEARN HOW TO EVALUATE HUMAN BEHAVIOR?
EXPLORE SOCIOLOGY

Learn how to understand and address social issues that affect everything from interpersonal relations to broad challenges like climate change. Sociology prepares you for a lifetime of change by helping you develop a deep understanding of culture and social organization.

PICTURED: Self and Society: Introduction to Social Psychology course

START HERE

Explore the discipline by taking Introduction to Sociology at Stanford and Self and Society: Introduction to Social Psychology. Then delve deeper with courses like:

- Sport, Competition, and Society
- The Urban Underclass
- Understanding Race and Ethnicity in American Society
- The Social Determinants of Health

FIND A FOCUS

Get involved in departmental research projects including:

- Trust and Sharing in the New Sharing Economy
- Immigration in History Textbooks
- Elite Mobility in the Chinese Bureaucracy
- Relationship Dynamics and Break-Up

Interested in quantitative research? Take the Data Science, Markets, and Management track and study social phenomena through a computational lens. Or reach across campus to work with centers like the Clayman Institute for Research on Gender and the Center for Poverty and Inequality.

Students have written honors theses on topics like diversity training in medical schools, what determines attitudes toward capital punishment, and how food culture differs in the United States and Italy.