CAREERS: SOCIOLOGY

The University of Maryland BA and BS Sociology graduates have been successful in many different fields post-graduation, including law, business, education, consulting, medicine -- not to mention social work, politics, and public administration. Sociology provides a rich fund of knowledge directly concerning each of these fields.

Using information from the annual University of Maryland Graduation Survey, we have compiled details about SOCY majors, such as their post-graduation adventures. Review additional resources at the University Career Center @ BSOS Your Career webpage.

TITLES/INDUSTRY OF RECENT ALUMNI (Sample)

Explore career paths of SOCY majors with LinkedIn’s Alumni tool.
Note: Must have a LinkedIn account to access.

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<th>Job Titles:</th>
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<th>Entry tips:</th>
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<td>Education/Advising</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Advisor</td>
<td>Capital Hill Cooperative Nursery School</td>
<td>Important qualities/skills generally include: communication, organizational, and creativity skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Program Specialist</td>
<td>El Camino College</td>
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<td>Advisor</td>
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<td>Assistant Coordinator</td>
<td>Hunt Valley Country Day</td>
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<td>Assistant Teacher</td>
<td>National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine</td>
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<td>English Teaching Assistant</td>
<td>Prince George's County Public Schools</td>
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<td>Field Instructor</td>
<td>Rosslyn Children's Center</td>
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<td>Lead Teacher</td>
<td>Swarthmore College</td>
<td>Apply for experiences working with youth while in school to demonstrate and test your interest.</td>
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<td>LGBTQ+ Fellow</td>
<td>Teacher for America</td>
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<td>Preschool Teacher</td>
<td>The Academy at SOAR</td>
<td>Public school teachers at the K–12 level must be certified by the state in which they teach.</td>
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<td>Senior Program Assistant</td>
<td>The Goddard School</td>
<td>Learn more about school social work.</td>
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<td>Teacher</td>
<td>The Shefa School</td>
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<td>Teacher Resident</td>
<td>University of Maryland University College</td>
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<td></td>
<td>University of Maryland, College Park</td>
<td>For detailed tips, visit Vault’s Guide to Education.</td>
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<td>Urban Teacher Center</td>
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<td>Bright Beginnings, Inc.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>CACI International</td>
<td>Important qualities/skills generally include: communication, interpersonal, organizational, research, analytical, speaking, problem-solving and writing skills.</td>
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<td>Cravath, Swaine &amp; Moore</td>
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<td>District of Columbia Government</td>
<td>Apply for internships. Gaining experience in the field will test your interest and demonstrate interest to law school programs.</td>
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<td>Hogan Lovells</td>
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<td>McCabe, Weisberg and Conway</td>
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<td>New York Department of Transportation</td>
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<td>Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein, and Fox</td>
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<td>The Law office of D.M. Harris LL</td>
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<td>U.S. Department of Justice</td>
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<td>For detailed tips, visit Vault’s Guide to Law Careers.</td>
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Job Titles:
Account Executive
Analyst for Organizational Development
Assistant Property Manager
Associate Client Success Manager
Campaign Assistant
Client Support Representative
Consultant
Consultant- Entry Level
Contracts Administrator
Cyber Risk Consultant
Development Assistant
Development Coordinator
Executive Assistant
Financial Leadership Program
Fundraising Associate
General Manager
HR Administrative Assistant
HR Associate
Human Resources Specialist
Junior Consultant
LAC Peer Editor
Management Associate
Marketing Team Associate
Recruiting Assistant
Recruiting Coordinator
Sales Development Representative
Securities Analyst II
Senior Sales
Social Media and PR Coordinator
Social Media Supervisor
Supply Chain Associate
Support Services Specialist
Territory Representative

Organizations:
Abt
Aerotek
American Eagle Outfitters
Ankura Consulting Group
Bozzuto Group
CoStar
Deloitte
Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP
Financial Leadership Program
Girl Scouts Nation's Capital
International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)
Market Bridge
Mayson-Dixon Strategic Consulting
Miriam's Kitchen
Monumental Sports and Entertainment
MullenLowe U.S.
National Center on Education and the Economy
Okta, Inc.
PepsiCo, Inc.
Power Connections
Public Welfare Foundation
Sierra Club
The Sak Group
Transit Employees Federal Credit Union
Tremor Video DSP
Trivergent Health Alliance MSO
United Technologies Corporation
University of Maryland Hillel
University of Maryland, College Park
Wells Fargo
World Bank Group
Yelp

Entry tips:
Important qualities/skills generally include: analytical, communication, creativity, decision making, interpersonal, and organizational skills.

For detailed tips, visit Vault’s Guide on…
- Business Administration Jobs
- Consulting
- Real Estate
- Consulting Jobs
- Case Interviews

Apply for internships. Employers recruit full-time employees from their internship programs.

Consulting:
- Be willing to learn and take the initiative to learn.
- When you first start, you are mostly a generalist, so be open to joining any training classes.
- Diversify your experiences – there is no just clear-cut path.
- Prepare for case interviews.
### Human Services/Advocacy/Government

**Job Titles:**
- Assistant Budget Analyst
- Case Manager
- Certified Medical Technician
- Child Psychiatric Specialist
- Children's Bereavement Services
- Community Integration Specialist
- Essential Needs Program Fellow
- Government Transformation and Agency Partnerships
- International Missionary
- Management and Program Analyst
- Mental Health Associate
- Police Officer
- Program and Training Coordinator
- Rehab Therapist
- Residential Instructional Associate
- Scheduling Assistant
- Staff Assistant

**Organizations:**
- A Wider Circle
- AmeriCorps
- Children's National Medical Center
- Community Support Services
- Creative Family Connections
- Cru
- District of Columbia Government
- General Service Administration
- Johns Hopkins University
- National Alliance on Mental Illness
- North Brooklyn Coalition Against Family Violence
- Partnership for Public Service
- Service Source
- SOS Children's Villages USA
- The Arc
- U.S. Department of Justice
- U.S. House of Representatives
- U.S. Senate
- University of Maryland Medical Center

**Entry tips:**
*Important qualities/skills generally include:* creativity, communication, and attention to detail skills, as well as being flexible and patient.

Gain experience through internships/volunteering working with the population of interest. Learn more about the field of Human Services.

**Federal opportunities:**
- [USAJobs](https://www.usajobs.gov)
- [Application tips](https://www.vault.com)

For detailed tips, visit Vault’s Guide to Politics, Public Policy, and Activism Jobs.

### Research

**Job Titles:**
- Crime Data and Intelligence Analyst
- Data Specialist
- General Associate
- Jr Data Analyst
- Lab Manager
- Marketing Researcher
- Program Assistant: International Dissertation Research Fellowship Program
- Research Analyst
- Research Assistant
- Research Associate
- Research Interviewer
- Syndicated Research Analyst

**Organizations:**
- American Institutes for Research
- CoStar Group
- Court Watch Montgomery
- Eureka Facts, LLC
- Hagerstown Police Department
- Hearst Magazines
- ICF International, Inc.
- IMPAQ International
- Lead Management Consulting
- Population Reference Bureau
- Social & Scientific Systems for the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)
- Social Science Research Council
- START
- U.S. Department of Education
- UMD Group Processes Lab
- Vocus

**Entry tips:**
Start building relationships and gaining experience as a student with faculty on campus.

Best search strategy: Networking. Examine who is conducting the type of research you are interested in pursuing and reach out to them. Share that you are a student/recent grad and that you think you can help them in their pursuits because of your (insert skills).

A popular post bac research program with UMD students is the NIH Postbac Program.
University Career Center @ BSOS

EXPLORE CAREER PATHS: RESOURCES

Use the sample job titles listed in this document to start exploring career paths.

The links below provide search boxes for you to locate more information on the titles as well as search for other options.

- **Occupational Outlook Handbook**, a career title dictionary
- **O*NET Online**, the nation's primary source of occupational information
- **FOCUS2**, explore career paths using self-assessment questionnaires
- **Terrapins Connect**, talk with professionals working in the field through UMD’s alumni network
- **Federal positions by major**, research career titles with the federal government related to your major

**Vault Guides** - browse 100’s of industry guides to gain inside tips *(see examples below)*.

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**Gain Experience**

The links below will be a helpful starting point in locating opportunities. **Identify the type of experience** that meets your needs.

**Sample list of opportunities:**

- **BSOS Engagement Opportunities** - browse links on out of the classroom experiences
- **Careers4Terps** - check out job and internship openings for off-campus positions for UMD students
- **UMD National Scholarships Office** - review a listing of opportunities for UMD
- **Federal government internships** - links to openings and application tips
- **Start your search with these tips** - provided by the University Career Center @ BSOS
- **Browse positions** - featured in Careers4Terps
- **SOCY E-News Blog** - lists current research position openings

**Did you know?**

“Whether or not one has an internship impacts short-term and longer-term career success. Survey takers who completed at least one internship received a job offer more quickly and had a higher first position salary than those who did not.”

-NACE 2018

The **President’s Promise** ensures that the University of Maryland is chock-full of opportunities outside the classroom to help you identify your passions and gain a competitive edge.
Internships are a great way to try out an interest, regardless if they are directly related to your major. Employers tend to favor job seekers who have had an internship in the field they are hiring for. Review inspiring internship stories from BSOS students to gain ideas.

Sample internship sites/title

- American Planning Association, Public Relations Intern
- ANH Refractories Company, HR Intern
- Cold Spring Elementary School, Child Development Intern
- Columbia Heights/Shaw Collaborative, Quality Assurance Intern
- Common Ground Multicultural Dialogue Program, Peer Dialogue Leader
- Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Policy Assistant- Pathway Intern
- Korea Institute for Future Studies, Program Intern
- Majestic Relations Inc., Intern
- Montgomery County Correctional Facility, Intern
- Montgomery County State’s Attorney, Gang Prosecution Intern
- National LGBTQ Task Force, Research Fellow
- Orbital TMS, Human Resources Intern
- Rural Migrant Ministry, Intern
- U.S. Dept. of Justice: DEA Newark Division, Intern
- U.S. Investigative Services, Student Intern/Record Searcher
- USIS, Intern/Record Searcher
- Washington National Cathedral, Project Manager
- Women’s Right Information Center, Intern

Skills lead to jobs. Which skills do you possess?

- Assess your skills, abilities, interests, and values and explore how they relate to career options.
- Complete this skills inventory to get started.

Sample list of skills developed in class by Sociology majors.

- Critically thinking
- Assessing/examining information
- Use of sociological concepts and a social science mode of argument
- Ability to use research tools to conduct and assess research literature
- Understanding of the role of theory in the construction of sociological inquiry
- Ability to apply statistical concepts

What skills are in demand?

Check out these “Must Have” Career Readiness Competencies, according to employers - NACE

- Knowledge of social science model of evidence and argument
- Social science statistical techniques
- Data analysis
- Organizing and presenting information
- Lead research project

Add to your skill set with these courses or videos…

University Career Center @ BSOS
Start researching your career path of interest to identify the educational requirements. The list below offers a brief overview of some of the more popular graduate degree programs and institutions our SOCY undergraduates have attended.

**Graduate programs listed by topic:**

**Sociology**
- North Carolina State University, Ph.D.
- The Johns Hopkins University, Ph.D.
- The Ohio State University, M.A/Ph.D.
- University of Maryland, College Park, Masters
- University of Maryland, College Park, Ph.D.
- University of Maryland, Baltimore Clinical Social Work, Masters

**Law**
- Harvard, J.D.
- University of Delaware, J.D.
- University of Baltimore, J.D.
- The University of Denver, J.D.

**Medical**
- Nursing, Masters: Johns Hopkins University
- Therapeutic Herbalism, Masters: Maryland University of Integrative Health

**Graduate programs listed by area, degree, & institution:**

**Business and Management, MBA**
- University of Maryland

**Clinical Psychology, Masters**
- Walden University

**Counseling, Masters**
- Johns Hopkins University
- Niagara University

**Criminology and Criminal Justice, Masters**
- University of Maryland

**Education, Masters**
- Johns Hopkins University
- University of Maryland

**History, Masters**
- University of Maryland

**Pastoral Studies, Masters**
- Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

**Public Policy, M.P.P.**
- University of Maryland

**Public Policy, Masters**
- University of Southern California

**Rabbinical Ordination, Masters**
- Jewish Theological Seminary of America

**School Counseling, Masters**
- Trinity Washington University

**Social Work, Masters**
- Widener University

*Reported by University of Maryland undergraduate Sociology graduates. Sample list only.*
CONNECT & GROW YOUR NETWORK

Meet professionals in your field of interest to learn about the field, establish new networking contacts, and conduct informational interviews.

Did you know?
“Studies reveal 85% of all jobs are filled via networking.”
-LinkedIn

Start connecting: Engagement Opportunities (sample)
- **Connect with alumni** - gain tips on specific career paths using Terrapins Connect to review a listing of alumni who have volunteered to share career information, review resumes, etc.
- **Employer networking events** - attend on-campus events to meet professionals and gain knowledge of openings
- **UMD Event Calendar** - review a listing of career exploration panels and career readiness workshops on-campus
- **Join LinkedIn groups** to meet alumni. Connect with other BSOS alumni in the UMD College of Behavioral and Social Sciences LinkedIn group
- **Tips for using LinkedIn** to make industry specific connections

Need help starting your career exploration or job search? Schedule a career consultation appointment with the University Career Center & The President’s Promise. Get started mapping your career action plan today!

University Career Center & The President’s Promise
College of Behavioral and Social Sciences
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CAREER the Turtle...because SUCCESS starts here.

University Career Center @ BSOS