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.

Education/Advising

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job Titles:</th>
<th>Organizations:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Advisor</td>
<td>Capital Hill Cooperative Nursery School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Program Specialist</td>
<td>El Camino College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advisor</td>
<td>French Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Coordinator</td>
<td>Hunt Valley Country Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Teacher</td>
<td>National Academy of Sciences,</td>
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<tr>
<td>English Teaching Assistant</td>
<td>Engineering and Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Instructor</td>
<td>Prince George's County Public Schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lead Teacher</td>
<td>Rosslyn Children's Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGBTQ+ Fellow</td>
<td>Swarthmore College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool Teacher</td>
<td>Teacher for America</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Program Assistant Teacher</td>
<td>The Academy at SOAR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>The Goddard School</td>
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<td>Teacher Resident</td>
<td>The Shefa School</td>
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<td></td>
<td>University of Maryland University College</td>
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<td></td>
<td>University of Maryland, College Park</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Urban Teacher Center</td>
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<td>Bright Beginnings, Inc.</td>
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Entry tips:
Important qualities/skills generally include: communication, organizational, and creativity skills.

Apply for experiences working with youth while in school to demonstrate and test your interest.

Public school teachers at the K–12 level must be certified by the state in which they teach.

Learn more about school social work.

For detailed tips, visit Vault’s Guide to Education.

Law/Legal

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<tr>
<td>Background Investigator</td>
<td>CACI International</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conflict Analyst Assistant</td>
<td>Cravath, Swaine &amp; Moore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>District of Columbia Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Assistant</td>
<td>Hogan Lovells</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paralegal</td>
<td>McCabe, Weisberg and Conway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patent Clerk</td>
<td>New York Department of Transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein, and Fox</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>The Law office of D.M. Harris LL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>U.S. Department of Justice</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Entry tips:
Important qualities/skills generally include: communication, interpersonal, organizational, research, analytical, speaking, problem solving and writing skills.

Apply for internships. Gaining experience in the field will test your interest and demonstrate interest to law school programs.

For detailed tips, visit Vault’s Guide to Law Careers.
## 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**

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

Consider applying for post-grad management or rotational programs to gain experience and build relationships.

**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.

## Internship Spotlight:

**SHRADDHA GOPAKUMAR ’19**
Clinical Intern, Kennedy Krieger Institute, Center for Diversity/Specialized Transition Program

**How did your coursework help you in your internship?**
Having a strong background in sociology made it easy to have perspective on health equity during our discussions, and to understand the various patients we worked with in regard to their economic situations, health insurance, immigration status, etc.

Additionally, having a strong background in biology and previous experience working in clinical settings made it easy to learn about the patients and treatment methods at my internship.
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
- 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](#)
- [Application tips](#)

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
- 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
- Leed 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](#).
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
  - **Browse positions** - featured positions in Careers4Terps for BSOS majors
- **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
- **SOCY E-News Blog** - lists current research position openings

**The UMD Department of Sociology offers:**

- Internship
- Scholarships
- Study abroad
- Honors programs

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**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
WHERE ARE SOCY MAJORS INTERNING?

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 DEVELOPED AS A SOCY MAJOR

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
- 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 learning videos/courses.
Graduate School Programs SOCY Majors Are Pursuing

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
Counseling, Masters: Niagara University
Criminology and Criminal Justice, Masters: University of Maryland
Education, Masters: Johns Hopkins University
Education, Masters: 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 Maryland
Public Policy, Masters: University of Southern California
Rabbinical Ordination, Masters: Jewish Theological Seminary of America
School Counseling, Masters: Trinity Washington University
School Counseling, Masters: John’s Hopkins University
Social Work, Masters: Widener University

*Reported by University of Maryland undergraduate Sociology graduates. Sample list only.

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

College of Behavioral and Social Sciences
@UMDCareerCenter  |  www.careers.umd.edu  |  go.umd.edu/UCCBSOS