

# SOCIOLOGY

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*Note: "Sociology and Anthropology" is a single academic department at Fordham, but the academic information for each subject is listed on a separate web page. Information about anthropology programs is listed under anthropology.*

Sociology is the study of group life—ranging from the analysis of passing encounters between individuals on a city street to the examination of current trends in globalization. As a social science, it combines scientific and humanistic approaches to study the diversity of social relationships in our modern world. As a liberal arts major, sociology represents excellent preparation for future graduate work by developing critical thinking and research skills, and it similarly provides fundamental grounding for students planning careers in law, business, social work, criminal justice, medicine, and international affairs. The scope of the discipline is quite broad, satisfying a variety of interests. A major or minor in sociology also offers a good background for students whose career goals involve marketing research, teaching, communications, government work, or extensive contact with the public and business. As such, sociology will provide a deeper understanding of the complex social and cultural world that shapes life experiences. The wide selection of courses offers students the opportunity to study crime and criminal justice, urban issues and public policy, social institutions, including education, the economy, religion, the family, and media, as well as social inequalities, including those of class, race, ethnicity, and gender.

## Program Activities

### Honors and Awards

The Departmental Honors Thesis in Sociology and Anthropology is designed for FCRH and FCLC students who are interested in conducting independent research during their final year. Working closely with a faculty advisor, students plan and execute their own research, and then report the results in a substantial thesis. Students who earn a minimum grade of B on the thesis will graduate with honors in the sociology or anthropology major. Students are invited to apply by email during the spring of their junior year. Applicants must have a 3.4 overall grade point average and a 3.5 average in their major to be eligible for the program.

The department offers students an opportunity to become members of Alpha Kappa Delta, the international honor society for sociology students. Each spring, students are inducted into Fordham's Chapter Iota. At Rose Hill, the department honors its seniors at the end-of-year awards ceremony, Encaenia, by bestowing the Rev. Joseph P. Fitzpatrick, S.J., Memorial Award for the best submitted essay by a graduating sociology major. At Lincoln Center, the department also recognizes excellence in its graduating seniors with departmental honors in sociology at its own diploma ceremony.

### Internships

Both sociology and anthropology majors and nonmajors are encouraged to take advantage of the Internship Seminar offered by the department. This course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to develop skills in social analysis, policy development, program evaluation, and interpersonal relations while being of service to others in a real-life setting outside the classroom. Employment opportunities include agencies and corporations in the New York metropolitan area, ranging from organizations in the public sector, including the New York State Department of Corrections, the Legal Aid Society, and the Puerto Rican Family Institute, to organizations in the private sector such as CBS,

Merrill Lynch, and IBM. Participating students are required to take SOCI 4900 (Internship Seminar) and to spend a minimum of eight to 10 hours per week in an agency (public or private) or organization chosen to fit the individual student's interests and expertise.

## For more information

Visit the Sociology and Anthropology department web page