Sociologists study the “big picture” focusing on the study of social life, social change and the social causes and consequences of human behavior. Sociology encompasses a wide range of topics including family dynamics, social deviance and crime, government policies, social and demographic trends, and the impact of contemporary issues on businesses, corporations, schools and other public and private institutions. Sociology investigates how personal problems and social issues interact in matters such as romantic love, race and gender identity, family and community conflict, aging, and religious and culture differences. At the societal level, sociology focuses on matters such as crime and punishment, poverty and wealth, prejudice and discrimination, social movements, and school and work environments. At the global level sociologists examine trends related to population growth, migration, war and peace, food insecurity and economic development. Sociology offers an enlightening way of seeing and understanding the social world which shapes our understanding of human social relationships, cultures, and institutions that profoundly shape both our lives and human history.

Statistics:

With a High School Diploma
Avg. Unemployment: 9.4%
Avg. Earnings: $1.2 million

With a Bachelor’s Degree
Avg. Unemployment: 4.1%
Avg. Earnings: $2.1 million

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, jobs in sociology are projected to grow by 15% over the next decade.

In studying our social world, students explore and analyze important issues in our personal lives, our communities and the increasingly global world we share. Students trained in Sociology learn to think critically about social issues, to ask important research questions, and to evaluate and communicate clearly and effectively. As a Sociology major, you will develop the knowledge and analytical skills sought by employers in a wide range of fields. Courses in Sociology also prepare students to work with diverse populations in both public and private organizations; to succeed in working with people in human relations and human services fields; and to collect, analyze, and report on data. Graduates of our program are well prepared to engage in a wide range of career trajectories and vocational callings.

Bachelor’s courses in sociology cost $335.00 per credit hour for 2017-18. Cost may change on an annual basis. This price includes all tuition and fees. Books and other course materials are not included. No other course fees are charged.

Financial Aid is available to all students. Make sure to complete your FAFSA to receive scholarship, grant and loan opportunities. Call SDSU’s Financial Aid Office for additional inquiries: 605-688-4695 or 800-952-3541.
A SOCIOLOGY MAJOR CAN DO MANY DIFFERENT THINGS

I CARE ABOUT...

Planning Successful Communities and Neighborhoods

Urban and Regional Planners
Employment, Recruitment and Placement Specialists
Social and Human Service Specialists

Helping Individuals, Families, & Communities Succeed

Medical and Public Health Social Workers
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers
Child, Family and School Social Workers and Counselors

Learning, Teaching and Research

Secondary School Teachers
Post-Secondary Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement Instructors
After-school and Summer Program Leaders and Staff
Survey and Poll Research Assistant

Data Analytics

Collecting and Managing Data
Use Research to Solve Important Questions
Business Intelligence & Data Assurance

Justice and Rehabilitation

Correctional Officers and Jailers
Detectives and Criminal Investigators
Police and Sheriff’s Patrol Officers
First-line Supervisors / Managers of Police and Detectives
Probation Officers and Correctional Treatment Specialists
Jail diversion and youth remediation program leaders

Effective Organizations

Human Resource Directors
Managers and Supervisors
Financial Analysts
Marketing Specialists
Evaluation Support

What is MyState?
MyState is an all-inclusive campus page personalized to you as an SDSU student. Gather information on upcoming courses, registration details, textbooks, current course schedules, your tuition bill and faculty contact information. Staying on track is easy with this central source of information for your online program.

How do I check class availability for next semester?
Click the Web Advisor link for information on all of the course offerings in a semester. You can refine your search according to program area, course level, day and time restrictions and preferred instructor. Web Advisor helps ensure you choose courses that fit your program requirements, schedule and interests.

How do I check my campus email?
For any correspondence from professors or classmates, you can click the email link to sign in on MyState.

How do I find my list of required texts for class?
Simple! Click the MyState Textbooks link and look up your courses. All required books will be listed below each course.

What else?
Through MyState, you can view your academic transcript, apply for scholarships and receive standard SDSU updates.

MORE INFORMATION

Program Contact: Mary Emery, Ph.D.
Department Head Sociology and Rural Studies
mary.emery@sdstate.edu
605-688-4889

Continuing & Distance Education
SBL 119 Box 2115 | Brookings, SD 57007
1-866-827-3198 (toll-free) or (605) 688-4154
sdsu.distance@sdstate.edu
SDSTATE.EDU/ONLINE

Notice: South Dakota State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer (Female/Male) and offers all benefits, services, educational and employment opportunities without regard for ancestry, age, race, citizenship, color, creed, religion, gender, disability, national origin, sexual orientation, or Vietnam Era veteran status.