

# LINKING SOCIOLOGY WITH CAREERS

2019/20



Sociology is the study of society, how it affects people's behaviour and how they experience everyday life within it. You will gain a range of skills and knowledge which will stand you in good stead across careers in social work, international development, the Civil Service, policy institutes, political parties, the charity sector and marketing.

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## What workplace skills does sociology develop?



**Analysis:** You will analyse the data, theories and concepts found in past research, as well as your own. Analysis is a vital skill for researchers, scientists engineers, medics, tradespeople and IT support workers.

**Cross-cultural understanding:** Appreciating the variety of social norms is useful in the Diplomatic Service but also in any organisation spans multiple countries or job that requires travel.

**Research:** Advanced research skills and techniques are useful not just in policy research but also for scientists, journalists, analysts and market researchers.

**And one you might not have thought of...**

**Numeracy:** The analysis of qualitative - or numerical - data in sociology provides a good background for fields which require a high level of numeracy, such as engineering, science, medicine, accountancy, finance and statistics.



## What jobs can you get with psychology?

**Social researcher:** Study sociology at A-level then choose a degree in the social sciences.

**Housing officer:** Do an A-level in sociology then a foundation degree, degree or other higher qualification in any subject.

**Advocacy officer:** Choose sociology A-level then a degree in the social sciences.

## Apply for an apprenticeship... or go to university?



### Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships for students who want to pursue a sociology career

include: content writer, librarian, paralegal, press officer, digital marketer, childcare assistant, nursery manager, registered nurse, care worker, residential childcare worker, digital marketer, business degree apprentice, social change and development officer.

### University

12.2% of 2017 graduates went into the legal, social and welfare field, including roles in the criminal justice system, police, social services and benefits system. Others went into the business, human resources (HR) and finance fields, while others work in the childcare, health and education sectors with career paths including youth worker, nursery nurse and learning support worker.

## What did sociology do for them?

"Through sociology I also learnt how to provide an objective opinion. Sociology even helped with my confidence; it is a subject that requires a lot of debate so your answers need to be concise and backed up by evidence. That's similar to what auditors do when liaising with clients."

—**Valentina, assistant auditor at National Audit Office.** [Read the full interview here.](#)



"Sociology involves using organised and shrewdly-analysed debate to reach a conclusion. I use these skills every day in the insurance litigation department. We are often presented with different types of evidence, such as medical reports and witness statements, and it's essential that we analyse these thoroughly in order to assess the merits of a case. It's important that we then report to our insurer clients what our conclusions are, and the reasoning behind them."

—**Leah, solicitor apprentice at Sintons LLP**



"During my sociology A-level, I was required to do a lot of analysis of statistics, reports and studies. My teacher motivated us to keep up with current affairs, which improved our knowledge of society as a whole. These days I regularly read up on the real estate sector, which helps me at work. It also allows me to network better, as I'm more informed."

—**Kemika, surveyor apprentice at Cushman & Wakefield**

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