
YOUR FUTURE STARTS NOW

BSocSc SOCIOLOGY



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Congratulations!

You have reached the end of your degree in BSocSc Sociology.

So what happens next?

Whether you have your career all mapped out, or if you just don't know where to start, this booklet will show you how you can use your degree to move forward in planning for a successful future.

BSocSc Sociology and your future

How your degree can help you achieve success. Hints for things to write on your job applications!

Our Manchester Graduates

What can you do with a Sociology degree?

Careers Service

You still have full access to the Careers Service for two years after graduation. Get in touch and see what they can do for you.

BSocSc Sociology and your future

To get more information about the skills you have developed, how to search for a job, get an internship and so on make sure you join the Sociology alumni Facebook group:

www.facebook.com/groups/manchestersociologyalumni/

In your studies you will have developed a detailed knowledge of how societies are organised, how they change, and how that change impacts on, and is experienced by, different social groups. The skills to understand social change from the perspective of different social groups is unique to a sociology degree.

Specific skills you will have developed during your degree:

- Sociologists know how to investigate, describe, evaluate and critique social organisation, from everyday micro practices all the way up to international governance. From your theoretical training you will have a good critical approach to social relationships and see problems through social lenses, giving you a unique disposition to problems of social, corporate and governmental work.

- Sociologists are good at working with quantitative and qualitative data and can use small and large datasets to produce information that serves as the basis for further investigations and decision-making. You will have good critical skills for interpreting and challenging claims made on the basis of data, so you will be an asset to any organisation that uses data in its operations and management.
- Sociologists pick up expert knowledge on a range of social issues through the modules they choose, for example on family life, gender and race, urban regeneration, environment and technology issues, protests, social order, and much more. All of your knowledge gleaned from your modules can be turned towards different career paths where these issues are at stake.

Transferable skills you will develop during your degree:

- Research, data and information management and analysis skills.
- Ability to identify, summarise and critically evaluate complex ideas.
- Communication, argument and presentation skills.
- Creative, critical and rational thinking skills.

A few broad career areas that sociologists often find work in:

- **Research and data analysis**

Research is a huge industry and all major companies will employ a range of researchers in different roles. Our students develop excellent research skills and are able to pull-together information from diverse sources, summarise the key findings and make an argument based on data. Our students go on to lead teams and projects on research design, development and evaluation. You'll find sociologists working in all kinds of research environments, from studying consumer behaviour patterns for large corporations, conducting surveys for research consultancies, charities or government, or working in universities.

- **Charities, NGOs and campaign groups**

Our students often study sociology because they are interested in changing society and they find that the skills they develop in critiquing social order and understanding social change are vital to work in this sector, whether they're working in campaign funding, social media, volunteer training, human resources or otherwise. Sociology is well attuned to leading roles in civil society organisations

- **Advertising, marketing and public relations**

Our students develop brilliant communication skills and are able to understand how people experience contemporary everyday life. How our social relationships work and shape our understanding of the world is a question at the centre of selling products and understanding consumer behaviour, so you'll find sociologists right at the heart of the media, advertising and PR industry all across the globe.

- **Civil Service**

There are a number of levels at which government operates, from local councils all the way up to Parliament and government departments. Our students use the skills they develop in understanding and critiquing social change at all levels of the civil service. Sociology is an excellent degree to make use of in the governance of education, health care, social care, law enforcement, the economy and social policy. Our students have also gone on to work in governance in Europe and at the United Nations

- **Banking, finance, insurance and law**

Our students get a good critical understanding of contemporary society and industry, excellent data management and writing skills, superior communication and presentation skills and a number of other excellent transferable qualities that are attractive to graduate schemes. Through such schemes sociologists find work in any number of industries and develop their talents through further on-the-job training or by working towards a professional qualification.

Our Manchester Graduates

Some roles that our students have gone on to take in these areas:

- Museum, library, archive and data management, for employers as diverse as Cambridge University Library and Manchester United Football Club
- Service, administration and management roles in many industrial sectors such as human resources, retail, property development, financial and legal services and more.
- Local and national government civil service roles across a range of sectors, including in finance, education and health and social care.
- Researchers and data analysts in a range of charities, universities and industries, including as academics, case investigators, and marketing and recruitment consultants.
- Media, broadcasting and entertainment roles, such as in weather and news journalism, publicity, accounts management, project development and production.

- Roles that develop further professional qualifications and on-the-job training such as becoming trainee legal clerks, recruitment consultants, brokers and accountants.

Some organisations that our students have gone to work in:

- Amazon, Microsoft and British Telecom.
- British Civil Service and The United Nations
- Barclays Investment Bank, Credit Suisse, and the Royal Bank of Scotland.
- The NHS, British Heart Foundation and the Lesbian and Gay Foundation.
- The Guardian, the BBC, Sky and the Discovery Channel.
- The University of Manchester, University of Cambridge and the Open University.

Examples of the types of jobs a Sociology degree might be relevant for can be found here:

www.prospects.ac.uk/options_sociology.htm

Careers Service

Chat to us about exploring your options and how to take your next steps. Not sure what you want to do after graduating? Let us help you start figuring out what's right for you whether that's finding a job, further study or taking some time out to travel.

If you know what you want to do we can help with finding opportunities and making your way through the recruitment process.

Whatever you do, we will continue to support you for two years after your graduation.

Get Advice

Book yourself a guidance appointment to receive tailored, one-to-one support to help you reach your goals. You can also get help with CVs, applications, psychometric tests, assessment centres and interviews.

You can find the Careers Service in the Atrium in University Place, but if you can't make it on to campus, you can get the same advice via email, on the phone or on Skype.

www.careers.manchester.ac.uk/services/guidance/

Find a job

Hundreds of job vacancies are advertised on CareersLink as well as a range of placements and internships.

You'll even be able to find voluntary opportunities which can give you valuable experience to put on your CV.

Here are two useful job search links to get you started:

www.manchester.ac.uk/careerslink/

www.careers.manchester.ac.uk/findjobs/graduatejobs/grad-jobsearch/

Want to stay in Manchester? Find a graduate internship with Manchester Graduate Talent

MGT helps source paid graduate-level jobs exclusively for University of Manchester students graduating in 2018. Participating recruiters are all based in Greater Manchester, and include start-ups, multi-national firms and departments within the University. MGT vacancies cover a variety of sectors and a wide range of roles. They include graduate internships and permanent positions.

<http://www.careers.manchester.ac.uk/findjobs/graduatejobs/mgt>

Use LinkedIn

LinkedIn currently has over 225 million members. It's a great resource for finding people, organisations and roles you might be interested in learning more about.

Build your LinkedIn profile using our guide, and use the next steps tips to take your profile to the next level.

www.manchester.ac.uk/careers/findjobs/networking/linkedin

You'll also find some really useful resources for using LinkedIn at **<https://students.linkedin.com/uk>**.

Explore your options

It's not too late to start thinking about what you'll do next. Find out what's out there, explore your options and most importantly discover what's right for you.

<http://www.careers.manchester.ac.uk/whichcareer/>

For more information and support

Visit our graduate website:

www.manchester.ac.uk/careers/graduates

Remember to update your email address on your Careerslink account so that you continue to receive vacancy email alerts:

www.careers.manchester.ac.uk/careerslink/

Whatever you do – tell us about it!

Each year all leavers are asked to take part in a survey to find out what they are doing.

This survey takes place around 15 months after you have graduated.

It is called The Graduate Outcomes survey and will be carried out by an independent company on behalf of the University.

Look out for the request to take part in the survey.

Help us collect as much information as possible to ensure that the University and our School are accurately represented.

Stay in touch!

Join our School of Social Sciences LinkedIn group.

The group is open to all current and past students and staff to share ideas and keep in touch.

Join the group by following this link: **www.linkedin.com/groups/8135040**

Or search: School of Social Sciences, University of Manchester

Connect with other alumni

Through LinkedIn you can connect instantly with over 22,000 alumni of the University of Manchester and you can research the career paths of over 130,000 former students.

Use your network to find alumni who can help answer your questions, show you what they did after they graduated and point you in the right direction – backed up by real life experience.

You can find information about the alumni network here at **<http://your.manchester.ac.uk/alumni-network>**

Need some guidance on getting started with LinkedIn?

Go to: **www.careers.manchester.ac.uk/findjobs/networking/linkedin/**

Your global alumni community

At Manchester we're proud to have the largest global alumni community of any campus-based university in the UK, with many of the 380,000 graduates we are in contact with holding top positions in every imaginable field.

Get advice online

The Manchester Network is The University of Manchester's online professional networking service. It features Ask Me About, which you can use to connect with thousands of alumni who want to:

- offer careers advice;
- review CVs and applications;
- offer work experience, internships and jobs.

You can register and find out more at **<http://network.manchester.ac.uk>**.

You can also use the Manchester Network to share advice with current Manchester students.

Update your personal details

You can also use the Manchester Network to update your personal details. We will use this information to:

- send you your alumni magazine and news about the University;
- invite you to exciting events around the globe;
- let you know about ways to network with Manchester alumni wherever you are in the world;
- tell you about volunteering opportunities and ways you can give back to the University. "

Library e-resources

As well as on-campus access to The University of Manchester Library, we are able to offer you access to free or heavily discounted e-resources that will prove invaluable to you for personal research and professional development.

You can find out more at **<https://your.manchester.ac.uk/services/discounts/e-resources/>**.

While you study to develop what you know, use your alumni network to grow who you know

USE YOUR ALUMNI NETWORK



STEP ONE

Create an effective profile on LinkedIn - visit our website (link below) for tips



STEP TWO

Connect instantly with over 22k+ alumni by joining our LinkedIn group: The University of Manchester Alumni Association



STEP THREE

Explore the careers of 130k+ alumni by using the LinkedIn alumni search directory: bit.ly/Li_UoM



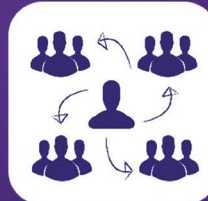
STEP FOUR

Tactfully approach an alumnus/na you want to learn from. Invite them to join the LinkedIn group where you can have an open discussion



STEP FIVE

Grow your network and find opportunities - as you gain confidence, offer your help to the students of the future



your.manchester.ac.uk/alumni-network

#ILoveUoM @alumniUoM

School of Social Sciences

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