Students are encouraged to complete SOCI 3301 Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences and SOCI 4301 Research Methods before completing their sociology electives. Waiting to take these courses could delay graduation.

SOCI 4391 can be substituted for any upper division elective. Sociology majors do not need to have a minor.

The degree in sociology will prepare students for civic and professional participation in an increasingly global society. The students will learn the skills to critically analyze the world; address social, ecological and other problems; and obtain employment opportunities that emphasize critical thinking, research and data analysis.

**Contact Info**

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**Additional Info**

Students are encouraged to complete SOCI 3301 Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences and SOCI 4301 Research Methods before completing their sociology electives. Waiting to take these courses could delay graduation.

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The degree in sociology will prepare students for civic and professional participation in an increasingly global society. The students will learn the skills to critically analyze the world; address social, ecological and other problems; and obtain employment opportunities that emphasize critical thinking, research and data analysis.
First Year
- Shoot for a GPA of 3.5.
- Complete major foundation classes.
- Complete 30 credit hours.
- Shoot for a GPA of 3.5.
- Meet with your academic advisor and bring your orientation folder with you to every session!
- Choose a major with confidence. Visit my.utrgv.edu and check out the Kuder Journey.
- Attend a departmental program such as Anthropology (e.g. MLK Day of Service).
- Attend a diversity based campus or community event.
- Participate in a campus-sponsored community service project.
- Ask a student in class to study with you.
- Set up your profile on the Engagement Zone through My.UTRGV.edu.
- Attend a diversity based campus or community event (e.g. MLK Day of Service).
- Attend a departmental program such as Anthropology Club Event.
- Join a student organization! Consider looking into Alpha Kappa Delta or Visit Vlink (utrgv.edu/Vlink) for options.
- Create a résumé and set up your profile on the Career Connection icon (My.UTRGV.edu).
- Got summer plans? Visit Career Center and ask about places to do some job shadowing.
- Research shows that students who work on campus perform better than those who work off campus. Look for a job on the Career Center portal!
- Check your UTRGV email for the daily Messenger - locate and attend one student workshop.
- Update your résumé in Career Connection and have it reviewed.
- Visit the Career Center site to find a job fair to attend. At the event, approach a recruiter and discuss internships.
- Will a minor expand your career options? No minor is required in sociology.
- Explain to someone how your academic program aligns with your strengths and interests.
- Check out the Sociology department website for postings and other information.
- Think about three people you can ask for letters of recommendation (professors, mentors, advisors, supervisors, etc.). Give them at least two weeks' advance notice!
- When is the deadline for your graduate school application? Visit the program admissions webpage. Most do not accept late applicants!
- Have you received your acceptance for graduate school or an employment offer? If not, network: talk to faculty, the Career Center, and get on LinkedIn.
- Formulate and implement a strategy for life after graduation: attend career fairs, graduate fairs, apply to fellowships, etc.
- Update your information with Alumni Relations. Enjoy alumni mixers, events and continued access to Career Center services!
- Remember to do your exit loan counseling on studentloans.gov.

Second Year
- Shoot for a GPA of 3.0.
- Complete 30 credit hours.
- Shoot for a GPA of 3.0.
- Want to explore different careers? Check out Kuder review!
- Come ready with course suggestions and questions when you visit your academic advisor.
- Visit the Communication Hauser Lab for help with your speeches.
- Trouble making your tuition payment? The Financial Aid Office can help. Payment plans and emergency loans are also available.
- To find undergraduate research opportunities, visit the Engaged Scholarship & Learning Office.
- Consider attending the Leadership Institute or attend the Engaged Scholar Symposium.
- Consider serving on a campus life/community committee or become a student leader and make a difference. Visit Vlink or speak with your Student Government Association for more information!
- Travel the world! Look into study abroad opportunities. Consider attending the LeaderShape Institute or visit the Engaged Scholarship & Learning Office.
- To find undergraduate research opportunities, visit the Engaged Scholarship & Learning Office.
- Consider attending the Engaged Scholar Symposium.
- Go show off your research, service-learning or creative works at the Engaged Scholar Symposium!
- Sharpen your writing skills! Visit the Writing Center or become the secretary for your organization.
- Consider attending the LeaderShape Institute or visit the Engaged Scholarship & Learning Office.
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Third Year
- Shoot for a GPA of 3.5.
- Complete 30 credit hours.
- Have you landed an internship or acquired research experience? This is the year to make it happen.
- Seek out research opportunities within your major and join a professional organization such as American Sociological Association.
- Check DegreeWorks to make sure you are on track for graduation next year.
- Apply for internships and/or job shadowing opportunities. Discuss this with your advisor, faculty mentor, or Career Center.
- Engage in an independent study project or an academic internship to complement your major.
- Discuss future plans with your faculty mentor or advisor that includes employment, finances, and other life goals.
- Apply for graduation one semester prior to your anticipated date. Visit the Academic Advising Center to ensure you are on track.

Fourth Year
- Shoot for a GPA of 3.5.
- "I have a plan for after graduation." If this describes you, great! If not, visit your Faculty Advisor or Career Center!
- Register for your Capstone/senior/portfolio project.
- Complete at least 30 credit hours to graduate.
- Submit your application(s) for graduate school, an apprenticeship, or for full-time employment.

Global, Campus & Community Engagement
- UTRGV has a Writing Center and a Learning Center.
- Make it a point to visit them!
- Complete your core English classes (section 010) during your first year.
- Complete 30 credit hours every year in order to graduate in 4 years.
- Shoot for a GPA of 3.5.
- Take your MATH course in your first year.
- Meet with your academic advisor and bring your orientation folder with you to every session!
- Choose a major with confidence. Visit my.utrgv.edu and check out the Kuder Journey.
- Visit a faculty member during their office hours and ask a question about class.
- Classes fill up fast. When registration opens, be sure to register on the first day for your group.
- Cold or flu getting you down? We have Student Health Center services!
- Classes fill up fast. When registration opens, be sure to register on the first day for your group.
- Ask a student in class to study with you.
- Look for a service-learning course! For guidance, visit Engaged Scholarship & Learning Office.
- Participate in a campus-sponsored community service project.
- Consider attending the Leadership Institute or attend the Engaged Scholar Symposium.
- Consider serving on a campus life/community committee or become a student leader and make a difference. Visit Vlink or speak with your Student Government Association for more information!
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Life After Graduation
- Visit the Communication Hauser Lab.
- Before a job interview, schedule a mock interview with the Communication Hauser Lab.
- Identify employers of interest and seek them out at job fairs, career fairs, online, at on-campus information sessions, staffing agencies, etc. The Career Center can help.
- Before a job interview, schedule a mock interview with the Career Center or speech coaching with the Communication Hauser Lab.
- Remember to do your exit loan counseling on studentloans.gov.

For additional info, visit the Career Center website and check out “What Can I Do With This Major?” www.utrgv.edu/careercenter

Milestones
- GLOBAL, CAMPUS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
- ADVISE & SUPPORT
- APPLY WHAT YOU LEARN

Career
- Research
- Data analysis
- Policy or program analysis
- Demographics
- Market research
- Information sourcing
- Statistics
- Administration:
  - Advocacy
  - Programming
  - Community relations
  - Development/ Fund raising
  - Grant writing
  - Non-profit management
  - Volunteer coordination

Research & Development:
- Fundraising
- Grant writing
- Non-profit management
- Volunteer coordination

Plan your future! - - The Life After Graduation section provides valuable information for students considering their post-graduation plans. It encourages students to be proactive in their career development by holding job interviews, preparing for mock interviews, and seeking out opportunities that align with their career goals. The section also highlights the importance of communication skills and the availability of career services, such as the Communication Hauser Lab, which can help students prepare for these experiences.