

School of Social Sciences
and Philosophy

Sociology – Undergraduate Degree Programmes



Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

www.tcd.ie/sociology

Department of Sociology

Trinity College Dublin is recognised internationally as Ireland's leading university and as one of the top universities in the world. Trinity was founded in 1592, and today the university is a lively and cosmopolitan community of students from around the globe. Its bustling 47-acre campus is the ideal environment for studying, learning, relaxing and living.

There has been a rich tradition of sociological education at Trinity College since the 1960s. The Department is committed to advancing the understanding of society and to igniting the passion of our students through exceptional teaching which is strongly informed by the research interests of Departmental staff. It has an active research programme and is recognised internationally for its innovative research on social inequalities in education and employment, the challenges of migration and conflict between social groups. The Department also has a growing expertise in the social impact of digital communications and social networks. The Department of Sociology prioritises analytical thinking and the collection and critical evaluation of evidence. Students learn the full range of social research methods and when to deploy each to best effect.

Why Study Sociology?

If you are curious about people and society then Sociology is the course for you. Sociology provides you with a comprehensive understanding of the rapidly changing nature of contemporary society. With core themes such as migration, race and gender, conflict studies, digitalisation, identities and employment studies, you will gain a critical global perspective on a variety of social issues.

You will also learn invaluable analytical, communication, research and presentation skills – transferrable skills which can be applied to a wide range of careers and postgraduate programmes.

Undergraduate Programmes

Sociology at Trinity may be studied through the following degree programmes:

Business, Economic and Social Studies (BESS)

Provides a broad-based education in business and the social sciences combined with the opportunity to specialise solely in Sociology or to combine with the study of Business, Economics or Political Science. It is a uniquely flexible programme where, after a common first year, students can adjust their course options to reflect their academic strengths, interests and emerging career aspirations.

Philosophy, Political Science, Economics and Sociology (PPES)

Brings together some of the most important approaches to understanding the social and human world as well as developing skills relevant to a wide range of future careers and activities. There is a gradual specialisation over the course of the degree with students ultimately having the option to study Sociology alone or in combination with Philosophy, Political Science or Economics.

Joint Honours - Sociology

Allows students to study two arts subjects to degree level with advanced specialisation in one or both subjects depending on their course choices. The Joint Honours - Sociology programme offers a choice of 15 subjects which complement the study of Sociology such as History, Psychology, Geography and a range of languages.

What our students say:

"The Sociology and Social Policy course at Trinity provides an excellent overview of the area of study through the provision of a diverse range of interesting module choices. I would highly recommend Sociology at Trinity to anyone interested in gaining a greater understanding of the forces which have shaped and continue to shape the society in which they live. "

Jake Hurley,
Sociology and Social Policy Graduate 2017

"Studying sociology has been an incredibly enriching, mind-opening and rewarding experience. I was initially drawn to sociology because it seemed as though it could offer me a way to explore all the confusing questions that I had about our complex, messy, violent, beautiful world."

Ellen O'Keeffe,
TSM Sociology Graduate 2017

Study Abroad

In third year, approximately one third of Sociology students participate in Erasmus and non-EU international exchanges at distinguished universities around the world. Opportunities for full-year or half-year exchanges are available in countries such as France, Germany, Sweden, Turkey, Australia, Singapore, China, Canada and the USA.

Career and Postgraduate Opportunities

Trinity graduates are extremely well regarded worldwide and from a career perspective Sociology opens up a wide range of opportunities. Many Sociology graduates have gone on to postgraduate study both at Trinity College Dublin and at other leading universities around the world such as University College London, Kings College London, the University of Oxford, the University of Cambridge and the University of Edinburgh.

Sociology graduates find that their broad training and appreciation of how society and people work means they can thrive in careers in the media, journalism, consulting, academia and teaching, policy analysis, non-governmental organisations, management, and advisory roles in the public service.

The following are just a few examples of the diverse organisations where Sociology graduates work:



How to Apply

If you are interested in applying for a Sociology degree programme please visit: www.tcd.ie/study

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