

Internship and Career Services Industry Guide: Social Sciences

OVERVIEW

Social science is a career field focused on the study of society and human nature by examining the groups and social institutions that people form. The social science field consists of people who work as practitioners or professors in their discipline including anthropology, archeology, criminology, economics, linguistics, history, political science, sociology, human geography, and psychology.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A SOCIAL SCIENCES DEGREE?

Students who major in the social sciences bring a diverse set of skills to a wide variety of job titles. Social science majors have a wide range of fascinating and high-earning career paths available to them, including many roles that require creativity in addition to practical knowledge and technical training.

INDUSTRY	CAREERS	EMPLOYERS
Aging Studies	Financial planning, housing, nursing, nutrition, activities director, counseling, creative arts, industrial and product design, travel programs, social work, education, law, pharmacy, retirement planning, transportation, architectural services, banking, public relations/media, area planning and coordination	Federal, state and local government agencies, hospice, area agencies on aging, AARP, university research institutes, direct service agencies serving the needs of the elderly, marketing firms, architectural firms, travel agencies
Economics	Economist, financial analyst, bank officer, appraiser, financial reporter, investment analyst, consultant in business or government, auditor, teacher or professor	Banks and financial institutions, large firms, insurance companies, research firms, brokerage houses, government agencies, schools or colleges
Environmental Studies	Ecologist or environmental manager, water resources or land use planner, forestry technician, industrial developer, hazardous waste planner	U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Forest Service, National Park Service, planning agencies, business consultants, schools and colleges
Geography	Cartographer, travel agent, geographic information systems, market researcher, international business, satellite/aerial photo analyst, emergency hazards management, location analyst	Federal, state, and local government, real estate developers, school boards, map and atlas companies, planning agencies, business consultants, airline or trucking firms, schools and colleges, utilities
International Affairs	Foreign service officer, economic developer, intelligence analyst, political risk analyst, research and educational assistant, journalist	U.S. government (State, Defense, Intelligence), state government, multinational corporations, nonprofit organizations, international organizations, United Nations, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, educational institutions
Interdisciplinary Social Science	Social studies teacher, management trainee, research analyst, probation officer, federal service worker, legislative aide, assistant planner, administrator, public agencies and government	Public school systems, federal agencies, city and county planning departments, large corporations, state agencies (youth services, family services, natural resources)

Political Science	Political history archivist, public and private researcher, urban planner, customs agent or inspector, labor relations specialist, governmental relations, pre-law, veterans' claims representative, foreign service officer, pollster, lobbyist, political aide	Federal, state, local government; schools and colleges, corporations, media, political action committees, civic and taxpayer associations, regional planning councils, political party headquarters and candidates/campaigns
Public Administration	Manager of wide range of government organizations, manager of nonprofit organizations, management analyst, program evaluator, purchasing specialist, HRM specialist, budget specialist, emergency management specialist, policy researcher	National, state, local, and international government organizations; nonprofit organizations, courts, legislatures, policy research organizations, private businesses, especially government contractors
Sociology	Criminologist, community organizer, corrections officer, market research analyst, statistician, opinion pollster, management trainee, government agencies at all levels, industrial sociologist, child welfare, case worker, demographer	Schools and colleges, governmental agencies, mental health agencies, court system, welfare agencies, large corporations, community agencies, financial institutions

WHAT CAN I DO NOW?

Get involved & do research: Exploring internships, volunteer opportunities, and attending networking events are great next steps to widen your connections and knowledge. Complete research projects in your major/interest area. Working on faculty-led research, or your own is great exposure and experience.

Access some associations: Although you may already have joined a social sciences club at your school, a professional association or society can put you in touch with many more resources in your field (i.e. American Anthropological Association, American Institute for Economic Research, National Women's Studies Association, etc.).

Scan specialized job boards: If you want to get a bead on social science openings in particular, you're better off going where the specialized postings are. (i.e. H-Net.org, ArchaeologyFieldwork.com., Econ-Jobs.com, ESLCafe.com and ESLEmployment.com, PsycCareers, Socialservice.com and SocialWorkJobBank.com).

Online Resources

[Butler University Political Science Resources](#)

[Butler University Sociology & Criminology Resource Links](#)

[Butler University Anthropology Student Resources](#)

[Internship & Career Services: Guide to Professional Success PDF](#)

[Careers in the Social Sciences \(coss.fsu.edu\)](#)

[Social Sciences Careers \(socialsciencecareers.org\)](#)

[Guide to Majors-Social Science \(worldwidelearn.com\)](#)

[Best Jobs For Social Science Majors \(payscale.com\)](#)

[Indiana Internships \(indianaintern.net\)](#)

[Great Entry-Level Jobs for Social Science Majors \(monster.com\)](#)

[Social Sciences Internships Abroad \(goabroad.com\)](#)

[Arts & Social Sciences Internships \(cty.jhu.edu\)](#)