

# SOCIOLOGY

---

[pcc.edu/programs/sociology/](http://pcc.edu/programs/sociology/)

## DESCRIPTION

Sociology is a social science involving the study of the lives of people in relation to groups and societies. Sociologists examine everything from the analysis of brief interactions between anonymous individuals on the street to the study of global social processes.

The goal of the sociology program at PCC is to support students in cultivating a sociological imagination; that is, the ability to connect their personal experience to broader social and historical contexts. In doing so, students develop the skills to identify, analyze and intervene in the larger social forces that shape their lived experiences, their communities, and the broader social world.

At PCC, sociology students will: 1) develop a sociological imagination, 2) apply social theories and empirical evidence to analyze larger social forces, 3) analyze the construction of culture and its relationship to systems of inequality, 4) articulate a sociological perspective in written form, and 5) apply a sociological understanding of social change to intervene in the larger social forces that shape their lived experiences, their communities, and the broader social world.

Many sociology courses offer community-based learning options, which allow students to apply course material to volunteer work in the greater Portland community.

Whichever career a student chooses, from engineering to social services, sociology provides a foundation for understanding how the social world works and the roles we play within it.