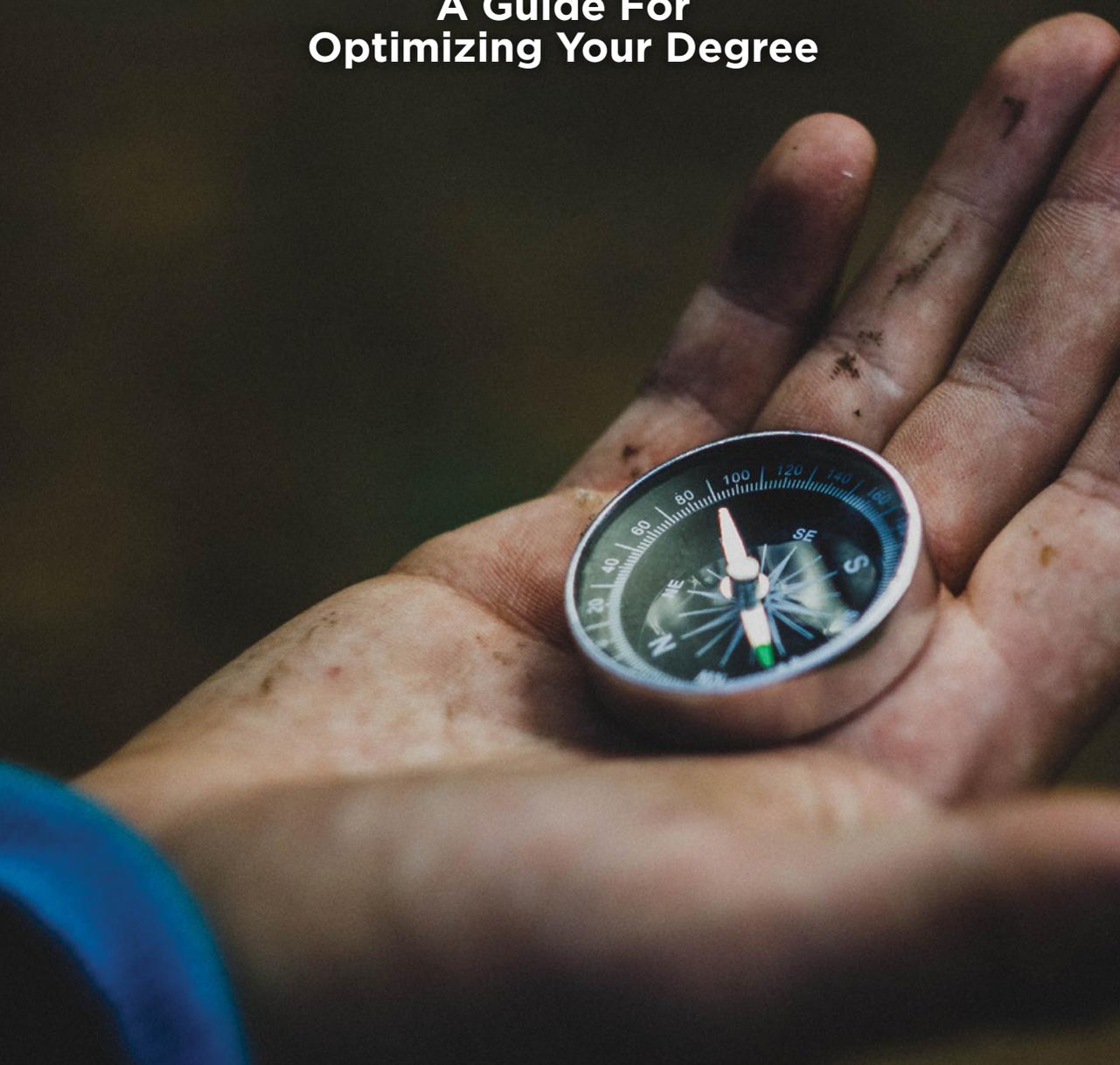


MAP THE FUTURE SOCIOLOGY

A Guide For
Optimizing Your Degree



This career map provides a general blueprint of how to navigate your under-graduate program. The map highlights quality experiences to supplement your coursework and identify academic milestones for years one through four.

Take advantage of the rich resources the university and Chattanooga community have to offer as you prepare for post-college years. During your time here, forge connections, participate in organizations and utilize exploratory learning options to gain real-world experiences outside of the classroom.

ABOUT THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Our mission is to provide an environment for intellectual curiosity and a foundation for life-long learning, thinking, reflection and growth. We do this by: equipping students with transferable skills, encouraging cultural and intellectual diversity and advancing knowledge through research and creative activities.

Small classes, careful advising and personal attention make our commitment work for students majoring in the fine arts, the humanities, the sciences and behavioral sciences, and for students preparing for professional study through a liberal education.

YOUR SOCIOLOGY DEGREE

At its core, sociology is the study of social life: the wide array of social systems and institutions—culture, the economy, the state, families, media, education—and the individuals who participate in these systems and institutions (which is all of us). Sociologists study a wide variety of topics, including social change, organized crime, racial and gender inequalities, tensions between work and family responsibilities, politics, international trade and diplomacy and a host of others in between.

The labor market today is rapidly changing and many good quality jobs require adaptability, critical thinking skills and an ability to communicate across diverse arenas. Sociology pushes you to think critically by asking questions like how and why to break past surface-level, taken-for-granted answers.

Our sociology program teaches students how to conduct research, emphasizing best practices for gathering and analyzing data. Graduates leave UTC with the ability to view the world through a lens of multicultural, global perspective and with the ability to apply theoretical contexts for a broader understanding.

Students and their futures are our first priority. Our programs prepare students for professional and personal success in the context of a strong liberal arts education. We are committed to coursework that is grounded in theory, research and community engagement to help students prepare for their careers.

utc.edu/sociology

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Jeffrey L. Brown Memorial Scholarship

Available to students of fields allied with anthropology. Recipients demonstrate academic merit and “advance the academic ideals of environmental conservation and preservation of man’s historical past.”

Recipients are generally juniors or beginning seniors and are recommended by the department’s faculty. Scholarship amounts vary each year; there is no application procedure.

INTERNSHIPS

Sociology students have previously interned with:

Jeffrey Brown Institute of Archaeology
Bessie Smith Cultural Center
Hunter Museum of American Art
Partnership for Families, Children and Adults
Urban League of Chattanooga

JEFFREY L. BROWN INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Students have the unique opportunity to gain field and lab experience by working with a research institute with deep ties to UTC that promotes scientific inquiry and outreach efforts in the areas of industrial, historical and prehistoric archaeology in Chattanooga and the Southeastern region.

Every year, the Institute sponsors an archaeological field school where students travel to locations beyond Chattanooga. Recent projects include uncovering plantation slaves' living quarters on Sapelo, Ossabaw and St. Simons Islands, Ga.

RESEARCH

All students complete a two-course capstone sequence where they commit to a research project from beginning to end.

Previous research conducted by students in our department include:

Understanding how age when entering college affects student performance.

Interviews with native Appalachian students on how negative stereotypes influence their overall educational and emotional well-being.

An exploration of how gay women face old age.

Understanding how peer mentorship impacts college success for students with autism.

An examination of environmental inequalities by race and class in the Chattanooga area.

CAREER POSSIBILITIES

Are you starting college with a specific career in mind? Sociology graduates excel in these fields and more.

Visit University Career Services at utc.edu/career-student-employment for a detailed list of career possibilities.

SOCIAL SERVICES/ PUBLIC SERVICES

Caseworker
Youth/Elderly Services
Rehabilitation
Federal or State Agencies
Nonprofit/Community Advocacy

SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCHER

Research Assistant
Statistician
Community Research Liaison
Data Analysis
Urban Planning

PROGRAM SUPPORT

Immigration Specialist

EDUCATION

Primary/Secondary Education
Childcare
ESL Instructor/Teaching English
Abroad
Museum/Science or Cultural
Center Educational Outreach
International Education Programs

SALES/MARKETING

Marketing Consultant
Market Research Analyst

MANAGEMENT

Human Resources Manager
Financial Analysis
Labor Relations Specialist

These options do not represent all of the occupations you might consider. Some of the options listed above might require additional training.

	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	PROF. DEVELOP.
EXPLORATION	Explore what interests you and identify your strengths with resources available through University Career Services.	Match your interests with future careers using mynextmove.org . Learn more about occupations with O*NET and University Career Services online.	Grow your professional network and knowledge base. Plan for internships and graduate school. Talk with faculty about professional associations and scientific literature to join or follow.	Identify your unique mix of abilities and experiences to launch your job search. Develop a datasheet with the job openings that interest you.	American Sociological Association(ASA): Careers in Sociology asanet.org
ACADEMIC MILESTONES	Complete Introduction to Sociology, Diversity in American Society and additional General Education courses where appropriate.	Complete Writing for the Social Sciences, statistics General Education requirement (we recommend Social Statistics) and 2000 or 3000 SOC elective. Continue to meet general education requirements.	Complete 3000-level SOC electives, Modern Social Theory and any outstanding General Education requirements. Establish and maintain a professional relationship with your academic advisor.	Complete General Education requirements, 3000-level SOC electives and two-course final capstone sequence. Complete Senior Exit Exam in February. Apply to graduate by Oct. 15.	ASA Navigating the Sociology Major, Sociology: A 21st Century Major, The Guide to Graduate Departments, The Student Sociologist asanet.org
CONNECTIONS	Consider joining a student club in your major. Check out student development opportunities. Schedule an appointment with a sociology faculty member to discuss your major and occupations.	Get involved with campus and community organizations. Quality is always better than quantity. Explore research opportunities and apply for a Provost Student Research Award.	Join an appropriate professional organization. Network with department and UTC alumni. Discuss internship and individual studies options with advisor or department head.	Submit a proposal for ReSEARCH Dialogues to showcase your research and presentation skills. Submit a proposal to present at a regional sociological conference.	Southern Sociological Society (SSS) southernsociologicalsociety.org
READINESS	Meet with University Career Services. Identify four skills employers want and begin cultivating them now. Attend a part-time job fair in fall or spring.	Write your first professional résumé. Save job search websites, and contact information on potential mentors or employers. Invest in an interview outfit.	Participate in MOC interview programs with University Career Services. Attend career fairs on campus. Develop communication skills.	Begin contacting organizations and associations for informational interviews, potential mentors and shadowing opportunities. Engage with resources through University Career Services.	Mid-South Sociological Association (MSSA) midsouthsoc.org
ACHIEVEMENT	Complete 30 credit hours. Meet with your advisor twice. Have your second year mapped out and a general plan for years three and four.	Complete 60 credit hours. Meet with your advisor at least three times. Have your third year mapped out and a general plan for year four.	Complete 90 credit hours. Begin your minor and/or internship planning. If you don't have an internship, consider a summer job in an area of interest.	Complete 120 credit hours. Share post-graduation successes with your department. Join the Alumni Association.	