

Sociology prepares
you to live in a
changing world and
change the world
you live in.

Sean Conner, BA in Sociology

21st Century Careers with an Undergraduate Degree in Sociology

2nd Edition

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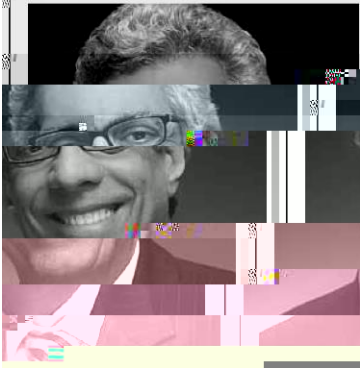
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What is a 21st Century Career?

CAREER PROFILE

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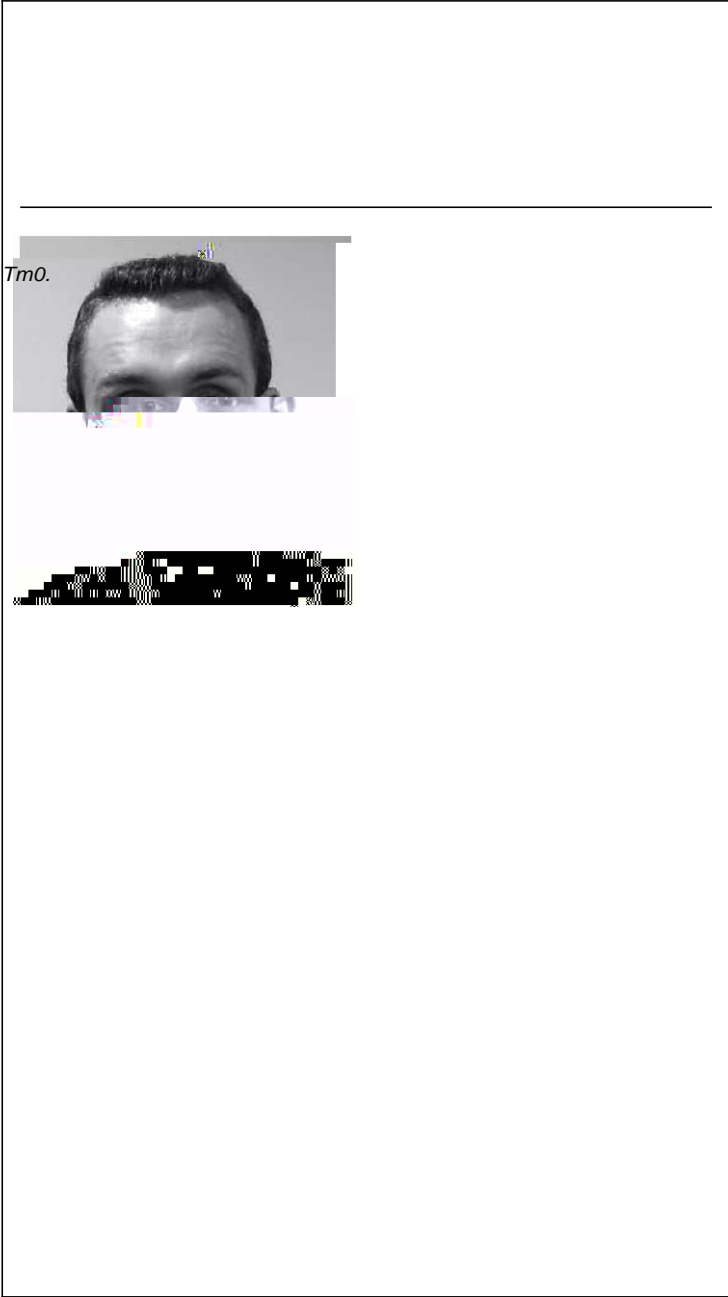


CAREER PROFILE

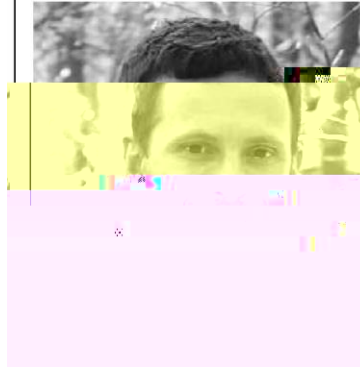


This small booklet is designed to help you start the process of building your own 21st century career. It focuses on sociology majors who are thinking about their first, entry-level jobs after graduation. It is organized around six central questions:

What is a 21st Century Career?



Understanding Different



What is Sociology?

Roberta Spalter-Roth -began a longitudinal study of seniors who were majoring in sociology. The study is often referred to as the *Bachelors and Beyond* study. Funded by the National Science Foundation, the goal of the study was to learn about sociology graduates and their career paths. The sociology majors in the sample were surveyed

TABLE

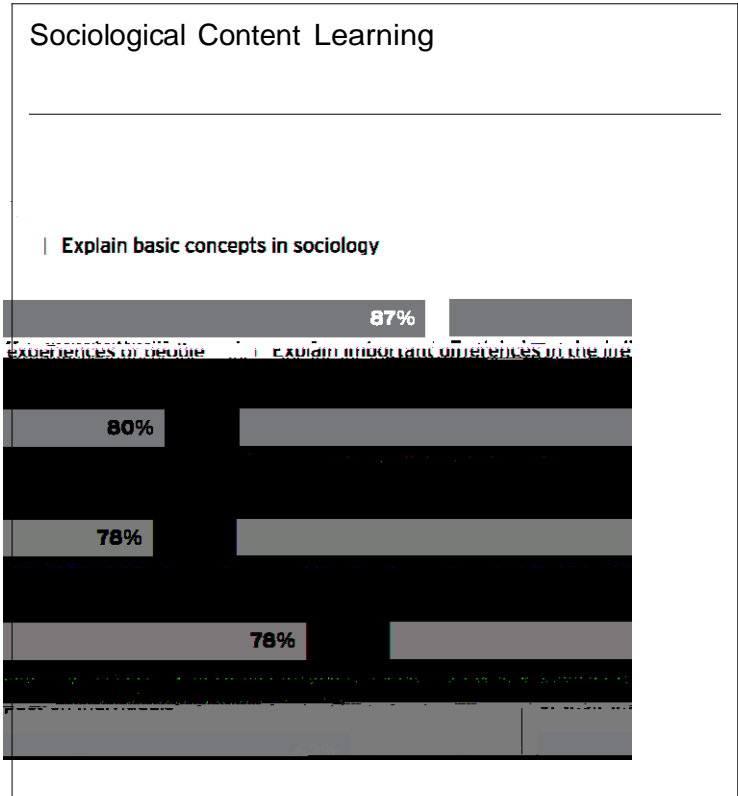
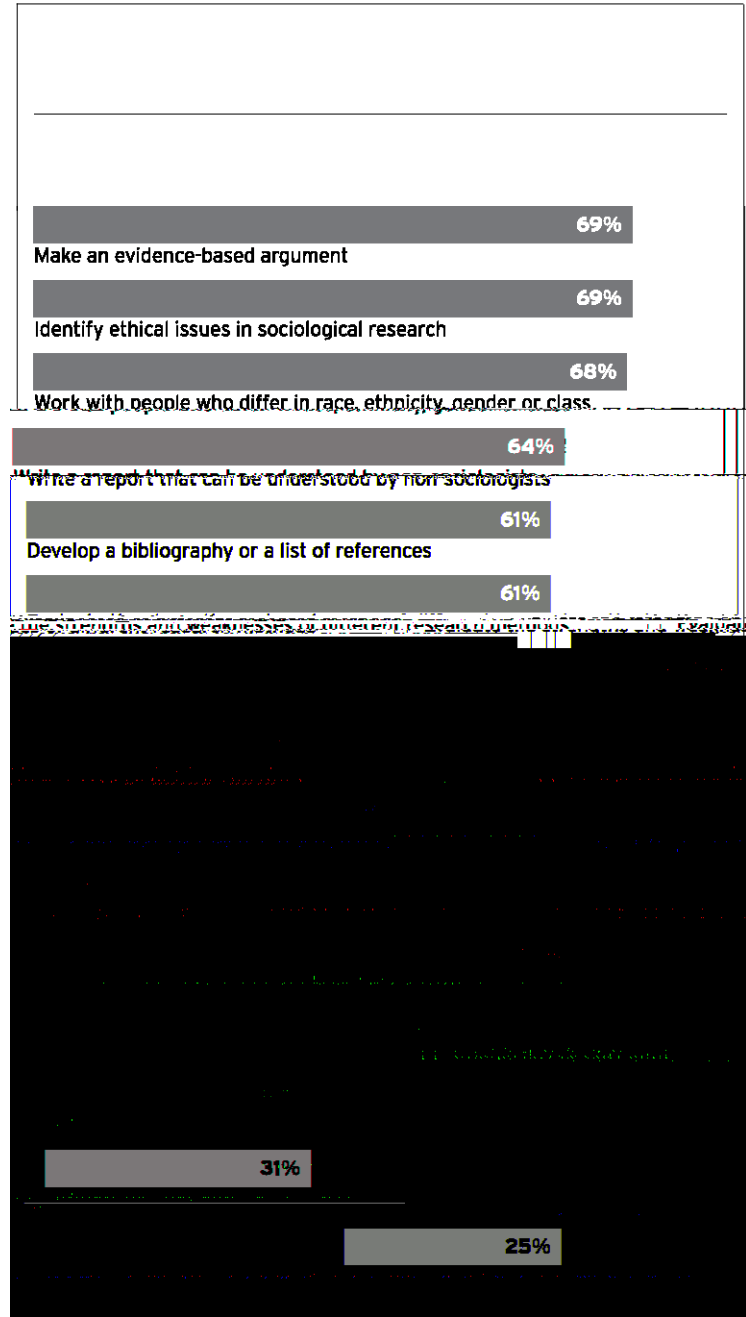
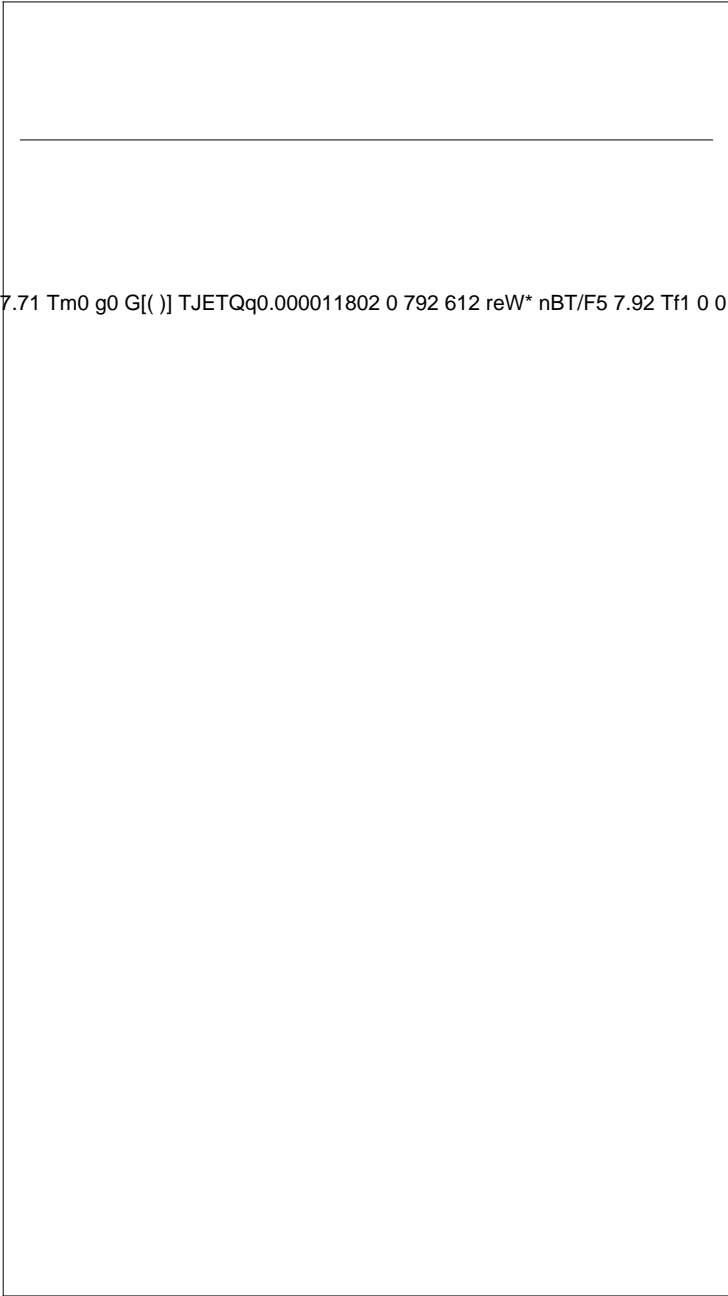


TABLE 2



Forty percent or less of the graduating seniors chose the highest response category, "a great deal," when describing the extent to which they learned how to analyze quantitative data, describe percentages and statistics in a bivariate table, graphically display data, write a resume, write a research or grant proposal, or use qualitative analysis packages.



Where Do Recent Sociology Graduates Work?

If you are like me, you will be looking for what kind of job you can get with an undergraduate degree in sociology? If you are a sociology major, you would like to see some data, not just reassuring statements, about the value of a broad liberal education in general, or a sociology major in particular. This

FIGURE 1

Occupational Categories for Sociology Graduates' First Jobs

23% SocialServices,Counselors



Trust Your Instincts; Learn to Market Your Skills

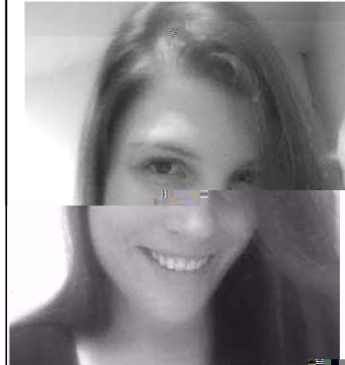


Karina Havrilla
BA in Sociology
Graduate Program Coordinator

In my current position as Graduate Coordinator I track the progress of doctoral students and oversee the application and admission process. I particularly enjoy interacting with the students. I also enjoy working to improve the department and program for future cohorts.

Research methodology, data analysis, and writing have been the most helpful skills in my current job. For example, during my first year I worked with the Graduate Director to re-design our

I Need to Understand the Culture Where a Crime Took Place

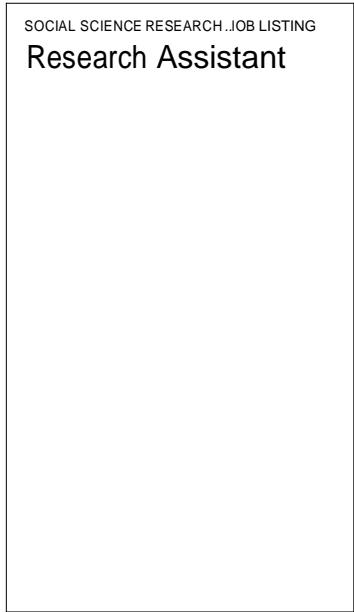


Jessica Lightfoot
BA in Sociology
Intelligence Research Specialist

working to advance that mission.
The stakeholders who need to

SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH .JOB LISTING

Research Assistant



What Can I Do to Start My Career Now?

The first thing you can do on your path to a successful 21st century career is simply recognize that you have to start preparing *now*.

Imagine it is May, and two students who majored in sociology are about to graduate.

time finding a job. Although the story of these two students is fictional, the lesson behind their story is supported by data. The results of the second wave of the "*What Can I Do with a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology*" study indicate that graduating seniors who included their research skills on their resume, and talked about those skills in job interviews, were far more likely to get jobs that related to their studies in sociology

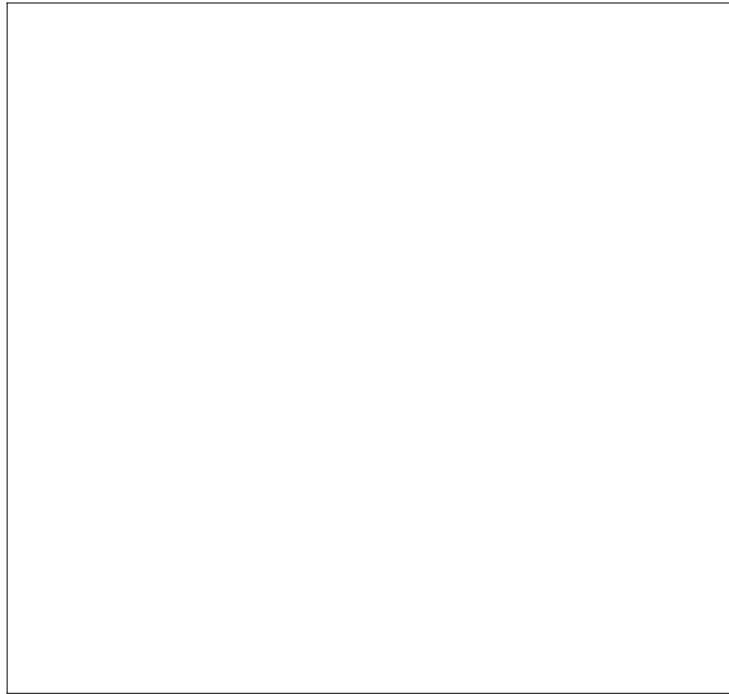
Another student's perfect job may be coordinating social services in a rural health clinic that serves a small farming community. If these two students participated in a reality TV program that made them switch places, those 'good jobs' instantly would be transformed into terrible jobs -without changing anything about the jobs themselves.

So spend some time thinking carefully about who you are, where



Action Box

Get the Sociology Club to organize a panel presentation of sociology alumni. Ask them to talk about their



How Can the American Sociological Association Help?

student member you will receive the Association newsletter, *Footnotes*, a monthly email alert called "Member News and Notes." You will also automatically become a member of the ASA Student Forum which provides resources for undergraduate and graduate

According to its mission statement, the American Sociological Association is a non-profit membership organization dedicated to advancing sociology as a scientific discipline and profession serving the common good. There are

numerous ways the ASA can help you as you compose your sociological career. Here are a few of the many resources that can be found on the Student Resources page of the ASA website. To get there, go to www.asanet.org, click on Teaching & Learning, and then click on Students: Undergraduate.

Even more

resources are available on the ASA website.

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