

SOCIAL SCIENCES

From Study to Skills

Social Science is the scientific study of human society and social relationships. Rutgers-Camden offers a variety of majors that explore many aspects of society including: Childhood Studies, Criminal Justice, Economics, Health Sciences, Political Science, Psychology, Social Work, Sociology, and Urban Studies. Childhood Studies majors will explore the theoretical study of children and childhood. Criminal Justice majors will learn the theory and methods used to understand crime. Economics majors will study economic systems and the role and distribution of wealth in society. Health Science majors will understand basics of health-related professions and of interactions with clientele of various ages through interdisciplinary study. Political Science majors will explore various aspects of political action and governance in historical context and in the modern world. Psychology majors will gain an understanding of theories, research, and application of psychology in society. Social Work majors will learn how to become a social worker and address domestic societal issues. Sociology and Anthropology majors will study society, culture, and crime. Urban Studies majors will learn how cities function, grow, prosper, and decline, and will analyze urban society and policy.

Skills and Abilities

Analytic Skills- Students will learn how social theories impact law and policy, explore the cultural diversity of contemporary societies, interpret complicated social problems, evaluate theories of diversity, sexual orientation, and differences in class or ability, understand the cause and effects of oppression, understand the social service healthcare system. Students will also develop reasoning skills, gain global perspective, perform statistical analysis, organize information, analyze research and scientific literature, understand the principles of bioethics, and learn the role of science in societal issues.

Communication Skills- Students will develop effective oral and written communication, utilize active listening skills, the ability to discuss concepts in groups, and the ability to express ideas and communicate information in a structured manner. Students will report results, present alternative explanations, and contribute to teams. Students will learn how to communicate an idea and understand its' impact, argue cogently, demonstrate professional demeanor, and articulate the interactions between people and their social environments.

Research Skills- Students will understand and manipulate quantitative information, develop problem solving skills, and learn research methods. Students will gather information, analyze components of complex problems recognize patterns and trends, evaluate evidence, analyze policy, produce social statistics, multi-task, and practice technical writing. Students will learn to define problems, design experiments, record observations, interpret results, and utilize statistical tests to predict outcomes, in addition to basic laboratory techniques and collaboration.

Critical Thinking- Students will learn decision-making skills, judgment, logic, and reasoning. Students will utilize an ethical framework and understand legal policies and constraints. Students will gain an understanding of cultures, identify problems, and create innovative solutions. Students will also utilize the ability to critically read and understand arguments.

Advocacy- Students will advocate for client access to relevant services, analyze and advocate for policies and services that advance well-being, understand the political and societal factors that can cause privilege or marginalization, and apply interventions to promote social and economic justice.

Self-Awareness Skills- Student will practice self-reflection and self-growth, understand the implication of personal biases and values, and manage personal values.

What Careers Are Available for Social Science Majors?

The following are samples of first jobs of Rutgers-Camden Social Science Majors:

Administrative Aide, Franklin Township	Medical Social Services, SJH Community Services
Adoption Recruitment Specialist, DYFS	Mental Health Social Worker, Gloucester City
Advocate, Prosecutor's Officer	Planner, City of Cherry Hill, NJ
Assistant Director, Housing & Community Development	Police Communications, Rutgers University Police Department
Case Manager, Volunteers of America	Police Office, Camden County Police Department
Community Renewal, Camden Empowerment Zone	Program Supervisor, Horizon BHC
Correction Officer Trainee, New Jersey Department of Corrections	Psychiatric Attendant, Camden County Health Services
Family Specialist, DYFS	Recordings Clerk, Somerset County Clerk
Family Support Worker, Center for Family Services	School Social Worker, Pennsgrove SD
Human Resources Coordinator, American Red Cross	Social Worker, Planned Parenthood
Human Resources Specialist, Bancroft Neurohealth	Substance Abuse Counselor, Sodat of NJ
Human Service Specialist, Camden County Board of Social Services	Therapeutic Staff Support, New Hope of PA
Investigator, US Department of Justice	Therapist, Robins Nest
Legal Administrative Specialist, Social Security Administration	Veteran Service Rep., U.S. Government

Graduate School Options

Rutgers-Camden Social Science majors have earned Master's and Doctorate level degrees in all fields of social science. These degrees include Business, Childhood Studies, Communications, Education, Human Resource Management, Law, Occupational Therapy, Psychology, Public Administration, Public Health, Public Policy, Social Work, Sociology, and Urban Studies.

Resources

Consider joining a student organization such as:

Biology Club
Criminal Justice Debate Team
Finance Society
International Honor Society in Economics
Pre-Law Society
Psi Chi
Psychology Club
Public Administration Student Association
Rutgers-Camden Urban Studies Student Association
Student Government Association
Student Health Advocates
The Undergraduate Social Work Organization

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