Coming in as a double major in Biology and Sociology, I thought at first I would have difficulty balancing the two disciplines. However, only after a few months I found myself using Sociological concepts in my Biology courses, particularly when looking at epidemiology, clinical trials and microbiology... Sociology is a discipline that overlaps into many other fields of knowledge, giving you a deeper understanding of the career path you have chosen, whether it is a neurosurgeon or an executive of a record label.”

Stacey Johnson
Sociology and Biology Double Major

“Majoring in Sociology has truly enriched my life. I have learned to view society through various lenses that expose structural, institutional, cultural, educational and personal factors that contribute to the realities that individual people and their greater people groups experience throughout their lives... Sociology is applicable to any and every discipline or major, and the Sociology Department at Belmont University is passionate and intentional about preparing its students to impact the world.”

Kelly Pence
Sociology and Christian Ethics Double Major

“Sociology is an attitude, a perspective, an attempt at explaining a world that is far more complex than we realize it to be... The Belmont faculty are knowledgeable and always available, the course offerings are interesting and intense, and the post-graduation opportunities for Sociology majors are constantly expanding. I highly recommend the experience.”

Mike Butera
Sociology and Philosophy Double Major/Honors

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Belmont University’s Sociology program gives students an excellent liberal arts foundation for embarking on a wide range of career paths, including international relations, marketing research, education, government, gerontology, social services, criminal justice and law. Undergraduates develop the analytical skills and the critical ability to understand how a society’s social arrangements—including race, class and gender—influence life at every level. Learning to think critically, gather and analyze data, and apply knowledge in support of an argument is vital in a fast-changing job market. As a Sociology major, you will have a competitive advantage in today’s information society.

The sociology department offers numerous rich and unique prospects for study and community action. Service-learning courses in sociology offer opportunities for students to take part in community work with the YMCA, drug and youth violence prevention programs, and numerous other organizations through which students may serve the Nashville community. Another hands-on class is Restorative Justice, which takes students on-site to learn with prison insiders about the criminal justice system. Belmont’s sociology department also takes an active role in Study Abroad with recent trips to India and London and in study away with a recent trip across the U.S., Forty States in Forty Days: (Re)Discovering America.

In addition to classroom and experiential learning, all sociology majors and minors gain insight from research and collaboration. Students learn the basic skills necessary for conducting research in the social sciences, learning the logic of science, literature reviews, design and measurement, ethical issues in research, and writing reports. In the Belmont University Research Symposium, sociology students present their research on a variety of topics that have included trends in Facebook use, the hippie movement, media coverage of women athletes, the media construction of racial trends in youth crime, and much more. Students are also challenged to present their research at a regional inter-university symposium as well as at national conferences.

**WHAT MAKES SOCIOLOGY AT BELMONT UNIQUE?**

**Self-designed:** Build your curriculum around three main areas—Institutions, Inequality and Culture & Social Change.

**Criminal Justice/Pre-law:** Classes include Crime and Deviance, Criminology and Sociology of Prisons.

**Cultural Studies:** Topics studied include music, film, photography and popular culture.