

Faculty Bio – Jess Notwell



Jess Notwell joined the King's Department of Sociology in 2022. A ᐃᐱᐤ (Cree) b' Úñz'g' (Métis) Mom, drum carrier, and ᒥñq'ba-s'ñq' (Two Spirit) citizen of the Métis Nation of Ontario, Jess loves teaching Decolonizing Social Sciences, Decolonization I: Care, (Un)learn, Act, Decolonize & Decolonization II: From Turtle Island to Palestine. They work with Elders, Knowledge Holders, students and community to co-create learning spaces that are brave, decolonizing, experiential, and action-oriented. Jess is also co-creating new teaching/learning opportunities with Dr. Lesley Bikos, imagining "Another World Is Possible."

Jess conducts ḡ'ñč'jāp' community-engaged research on Turtle Island and in Palestine grounded in respect and reciprocity for b'ñp'j' b'ñd'ñl'b' (All Our Relations). Currently, Jess is conducting decolonizing action research on co-creating the courses Decolonization I & Decolonization II. Jess is also researching the process of co-creating a Decolonization Baseline and Action Plan for King's University College. In community, Jess is ñ'ñb'ñΔ' to Elders Dan and Mary Lou Smoke, an apprentice with the Grandmothers' Lodge, and works with colleagues at the Canadian Association for the Study of International Development (CASID) on a Decolonizing International Development Studies Syllabus and Community of Praxis.



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KING'S

Sociology



Department of Sociology

A Place to Be. A Place to Become.



Why study Sociology at King's?

Students in Sociology at King's learn how to make connections between individual experiences and broader social structures and processes. This includes developing an understanding of the causes and effects of social inequality across multiple dimensions (such as gender, sexuality, ability, race, ethnicity, Indigenous identity, age, social class, geographies, and countries). You will develop a range of analytic, computer and communication skills that enhance your employability while simultaneously developing an enriched understanding of the social, cultural and historical forces that have helped shape the modern world. You will become a skilled communicator, researcher, and analyst who can enter the working world as an imaginative thinker with concrete technical abilities, writing expertise, and critical thinking skills that are vital to being a successful professional.

Students in their first year at King's will take Sociology 1020, 1020W/X, or 1021E to gain entry into a Sociology module in their second year.

Course offerings

King's offers an Honours Specialization, Major and Minor in Sociology to which students apply after completing first year.

King's offers a variety of methods, research and theory courses in Sociology and Criminology. Some of the many popular courses include

- Social Inequality
- Sociology of Youth
- Sociology of Mental Health
- Sociology of Education
- Food and Society
- Decolonization I & II
- Sociology of the Environment I & II
- Drugs and Society
- Global Health and Human Rights
- Medical Sociology
- Capitalism in Our Time
- Global Divide
- Sociology of Law
- Sociology of "Race" and Racism
- Sociology of Sport & Physical Fitness
- Surveillance, Security and Society
- The Experience of Health and Illness
- The Social Construction of Gender
- Violence in Cultural Perspective

What students have to say

"Sociology offers a unique opportunity for students to apply their knowledge within the community through experiential learning courses. These community-building opportunities are not only a chance to strengthen relationships in the program but also to network with community members and stakeholders, enabling students to bring about real change in London. Between programming and the various extracurricular activities available such as student council and the King's Sociology and Criminology Association, I was enriched with a well-rounded experience in my undergrad. Ultimately, these experiences helped prepare me for post-graduate studies and brought me closer to my desired career goals. I highly recommend King's to anyone seeking a career within the realm of Sociology."

--Daniel French '22 BA, Honours Specialization in Sociology

"During the first 20 minutes of my experiential learning course, my adrenaline started to pump with excitement. In those moments, I knew this would be a different type of learning that could be enjoyable and push my limits as a student. Criminology allows students to tackle real-world problems, engage in community work, and develop skills sought by employers. The skills I acquired prepared me for employment with Immigrant, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada. I recommend King's to prospective students because it will help direct your life on the right path."

-- Jalen Jackson '22 BA, Honors Specialization Criminology

Career Options

Few job titles say "sociologist" but graduates with this degree have many options. Here are just a few examples of the potential career paths available:



- Government
- Non-profit sector
- Research and data analysis
- Immigration
- Human rights
- Youth outreach
- Labour relations
- Public policy analysis
- Health policy analysis
- Policing, probation & parole
- Urban planner
- Community health
- Demographer
- Technical writing
- Teacher
- Communications
- Lawyer
- Human resource specialist