

Department of Sociology, Social Policy and Criminology

What can I do with my Social Policy Degree?

With a degree in Social Policy and you can up influencing the major decisions that affect us all.

Job options

Jobs directly related to your degree include...

- Charity officer
- Civil service administrator
- Government social research officer
- Health service manager
- Housing manager
- Local government officer
- Social researcher

Jobs where your degree would be useful include

- Business development manager
- Education administrator
- Human resources officer
- Paralegal
- International aid/development worker
- Probation officer
- Public affairs consultant
- Youth worker

Remember that many employers accept applications from graduates with any degree subject, so don't restrict your thinking to the jobs listed here.

Work experience

Practical skills and work experience are typically highly valued by employers in all careers. For some posts, a postgraduate qualification is also needed.

Part-time and voluntary opportunities can be combined with your course of job in order to gain experience, These include opportunities in schools, community education and social-work departments or with groups including young people, victims of crime or homeless people.

Think about the group or environment you are interested in. Narrowing down your preferences allows you to focus your approach to specific employers.

Securing work after your degree, with a relevant employer in a temporary or introductory role is worth considering in the short term, in order to gain experience and knowledge of the job. It could open up vacancies that are only advertised to existing staff.

Typical Employers

Social Policy graduates are employed in management positions in the public sector or for private organisations working with government.

Some go on to graduate management training schemes in health, housing, police, think tanks or specialist agencies. Opportunities also occur in social work or other personal social services work, as well as in social or political research.

Typical employers include:

- Local and central government
- Civil service
- NHS authorities and trusts
- Criminal justice system
- Police authorities

Skills for your CV

Skills gained as a Social Policy graduate include:

- Problem solving using a methodical and organised approach
- Research skills
- Evaluation and analytical skills
- Sensitivity to the values and interests of others
- Written and verbal communication
- Teamwork
- Ability to handle numerical data

Further Study

Social Policy graduates go on to further professional and vocational training in areas such as teaching, law, housing management, health and social care services, advocacy and volunteer work. Further study is also possible in areas such as marketing, finance, IT and business.

Some graduates choose to specialise in an area that they were interested in during their undergraduate degree, such as housing or urban regeneration. Other areas of study include social diversity, criminal justice, youth and community work and politics.

What do Social Policy graduates do?

Around two thirds of social policy graduates enter employment within six months of graduation. The top ten occupations include welfare and housing professionals, youth and community workers, police officers, HR and business associate professionals. Just under a fifth go on to further study or combine study and work, either to specialise in a particular subject or to undertake further training

6 months after graduating, UK first degree leavers from July 2019 were...

62% in work

18.6% in further study

6.8% working and studying

6% unemployed/due to start work

6.6% other