

## Sociology

**A degree in Sociology can lead to a number of new and exciting opportunities. Below you'll find lots of information about our graduates and their advice for you.**

### **Our courses include:**

Sociology

Business Studies & Sociology

Economics & Sociology

Politics & Sociology

Social Anthropology &  
Sociology

Sociology & Criminology

Sociology & Philosophy

### **How has your degree helped you in your career?**

“Studying Sociology gave me an insight into how people interact in society and how they are often shaped by others and their environments. Furthermore, the strong social research component of the degree gave me an advantage over my course mates with regards to the dissertation module”

- Rebecca Parr, Sociology (2011)

### **Name: Michael Taylor**

**Degree:** BSocSc(Hons) Sociology (1988)

**Job:** Chair

**Organisation:** Downtown Manchester in Business



Michael owns his own events and publishing company and is the chairman of a business lobbying group, Downtown Manchester. He is also the director of Liberty Pensions and is on the board of The University of Manchester Alumni Association. Michael has clients including Deloitte, the Prince's Trust and Seneca Investments.

After graduating, Michael worked in Australia as a Journalist writing about sport, music, culture, fashion and design. Michael then went on to have a more business focus, writing about IT and big business—gaining considerable success. From 2000, Michael moved to be the editorial director of Insider Media, a Manchester based publishing group where he was also a board director.

Michael believes that his time at Manchester gave him the skills he needed to successfully build his career, as well the opportunity to establish a network of friends and future colleagues that would last.

**“I have always maintained a rigorous approach to seeking the truth and rejecting dogma. Manchester gave me a first rate analytical education, the rejection of dogma and the formation of lasting friendships ”**

### **Top Tip**

“Get the necessary career experience - I started working weekends in a local lettings agency which confirmed my interest in property”

- Samantha Simpson, Sociology (2011)



## Some of the organisations our alumni are working in...

Amazon, Armstrong Craven, AstraZeneca, Barclays investment Bank, BBC, British Heart Foundation, British Red Cross, BT, Credit Suisse, Discovery Channel, Financial Times, KPMG, Microsoft, NHS, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Royal Bank of Scotland, Sky, Standard Chartered Bank, Teach First, The Co-operative Group, The Guardian, The Open University, UBS, United Nations, World Bank...



**Name:** Samantha Simpson  
**Degree:** BSocSc(Hons) Sociology (2002)  
**Job:** Head of Business and Operations  
**Organisation:** KSpace Serviced Apartments

Samantha is responsible for overseeing and defining the overall staff performance goals across the company in Sheffield and Leeds. Samantha also contributes to the development of the marketing strategy and liaises closely with corporate clients and agents.

Following graduation, Samantha secured a role on a graduate training program for a prominent estate agency. This was Samantha's first role in the property sector. She then became branch manager for Reed Rains Estate Agents before progressing into Property Management for a student lettings company. After 18 months, Samantha then moved to her current position at KSpace Serviced Apartments.

**"Going to a University such as Manchester raised the profile of my degree and excelled my success, as I was able to apply for a Graduate Training Programme."**

Samantha has achieved a number of successes, including becoming the first female head of operations for KSpace Serviced Apartments as well as turning a failing branch into one which achieved the highest profits in three years.

Samantha loved her time at Manchester. Not only did her degree give her the skills and knowledge she needed to excel throughout her career, but she also made friendships that will last a life-time.

**"Manchester is one of the best cities for students. The variety of the social scene in Manchester is something that really attracted me. I think the career opportunities in Manchester post graduation are also very good. I have made some lifelong friends and some great career contacts."**

COMMUNITY  
MANAGER  
DIRECTOR  
DEVELOPMENT  
SOCIOLGY  
COMMUNICATIONS  
INTERNATIONAL  
RESEARCH  
TEACHING  
EDUCATION  
MARKETING  
MEDIABUSINESS  
ANALYSIS  
FINANCE  
OPERATIONS  
LEGAL  
OWNER

## You're in good company...

"It is important to interact with others outside of the classroom and volunteering is an excellent way to do this. Showing a keen interest in people and gaining an understanding of what difficulties people face"

- Rebecca Parr, Sociology (2011)



**Name:** Dr Joanna Swabe  
**Degree:** Sociology (1990)  
**Job:** EU Director, *Humane Society International*

**Name:** Alexandra Scolding  
**Degree:** Sociology (1997)  
**Job:** Head of Buying, ASOS

