I decided to have sociology as part of my major because the study of people, societies, and the way our world changes because of human interactions and reactions fascinates me,” said Jenna Jorgensen, a 2014 UNK graduate from Hastings, Nebraska. “I remember sitting in the class, Sociology of the Holocaust and a discussion arose about how we truly have no idea how we would react in a situation until we were faced with that exact situation. This conversation has impacted many of my life experiences since, especially being a teacher. “The thing I liked most about the department was that every single professor I had was very willing to give knowledge, and they had a genuine want to see the people taking sociology classes be successful in the program,” she said.

Jorgensen said she chose UNK because it is small enough to feel like a community and it was close to home. She is now a special education teacher at Lexington Public Schools while working toward her master’s in special education from UNK. She plans to graduate in spring 2018.

Sociology is the study of the social life, social change and the social cause and consequences of human behavior. In this major, you will learn technical and analytic skills, gain a global perspective and explore the complexity of the causes and consequences of human behavior. Faculty members mentor and develop future teachers, preparing you to enter public and private school systems. You will be prepared to teach sociology in grades 7-12 after completing the program requirements. Education degrees are a cornerstone of UNK, therefore, it has always had an excellent reputation for producing Nebraska’s top teachers.

**Personal traits for success in this major**
- Expresses enthusiasm in subject
- Asks questions
- Uses logical reasoning
- Pays attention to details
- Solves problems
- Communicates well
- Applies classroom management skills
- Uses effective discipline skills
- Promotes positive behavior

**...and within a classroom setting**
- Loves being around others
- Thinks creatively
- Implements learning strategies
- Promotes positive behavior
- Applies classroom management skills
- Uses effective discipline skills
- Promotes positive behavior

**Advantages that UNK has to offer sociology students**
- Students can build relationships with faculty members through classes, research and projects.
- UNK’s Sociology department frees its students from the confines of the classroom.
- Majors are encouraged to work with a faculty member in “hands-on training” doing research.

Looking for something powerful to do with your life? At UNK, you can get the most out of your education, form lifelong friendships and uncover your capacity to make a meaningful difference in society.
## SOCIOLOGY 7-12 Teaching Subject Endorsement in Education

### FOUR YEAR CLASS SCHEDULE: BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

The schedule is a guideline for progress toward a degree. All students majoring in Teacher Education must apply for admission to all Teacher Education programs. Consult with your academic adviser.

**Ways to get involved:**

The UNK Sociology Club is a student organization open to anyone with an interest in sociology. Members network with other students and professionals, plan activities, and learn about sociology through hands-on experiences such as:

- Educational trips to reservations in South Dakota and urban subcultures in Omaha
- Community service activities like Campus Kitchen, a student-powered hunger relief program

**Scholarships:**

- Riley and Rodney Oestreicher Scholarship Fund
- Sociological Imagination Scholarship

### Compare sociology and psychology

Both are concerned with attitudes, beliefs, behavior, emotions and interpersonal relationships. However, a sociologist considers the individual within the context of social groups, where a psychologist focuses on the individual level of human behavior.

### For more information, contact:

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University of Nebraska at Kearney
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maughansl@unk.edu

### Department Chair – Suzanne Maughan

“My commitment to being an effective teacher, both in and out of the classroom, is based on my belief that a college education should provide access to at least two opportunities. First, the foundation to integrate and implement interdisciplinary knowledge, grounded in wisdom, to benefit oneself and the community; and second, the opportunity for academic learning to guide one’s future career and personal development. Given this perspective, I am committed to both teaching students and learning from students by providing a quality environment which engages class interaction, challenges student thought, respects diversity, promotes hands-on experience and inspires good character.”

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**“The first wisdom of Sociology is this: things are not what they seem.”**

(from *Invitation to Sociology*, Peter Berger, Sociologist)