

Carleton

Department of Sociology and Anthropology

507-222-4108

Hello Friend,

Congratulations on your acceptance to Carleton! I am delighted to hear that you would like to know more about the [Sociology & Anthropology](#) department.

Sociologists and Anthropologists study all facets of the human experience (past and present). We are interested in understanding the many and diverse ways in which societies work by examining a wide range of social phenomena including race, the family, law, art, religion, language, politics, health, environment, social movements, and gender relations. Our research focuses on urban and rural life, here and abroad, using quantitative and qualitative methods.

Students apply the theories and research methods of both disciplines to a wide range of social issues to explore socio-cultural dynamics and to understand and help solve real-world problems. Therefore, a [major](#) in sociology and anthropology is not only a fascinating course of study but, in a globalized world, also an increasingly practical major. We need professionals who know how to analyze, document, and help others understand the importance of these cultural values and organizational structures.

This combination of an applied and academic approach to contextualize the human experience is evident in the expertise of our current [faculty](#). Our department offers [courses](#) and guided study of themes that range from race and ethnicity to health and healthcare, sustainable development, religion, gender, crime, and human rights. Courses also explore anthropological and sociological theory (e.g., the nature of capitalism, the effects of globalization, and intersectionality). The department's faculty have particular expertise for studying societies in Africa, Latin America, Europe, Asia, and North America.

Many [new students](#) choose to begin with the *Introduction to Sociology* or the *Introduction to Anthropology* courses which provide broad overviews of the disciplines and establish a strong background for more advanced classes. Other students start successfully in a course with a topical emphasis such as *Modern Families* or *The Anthropology of Food*. We recommend that students begin with 100 or 200-level courses before they enroll in upper-level seminars to familiarize themselves with key concepts in our disciplines.

I hope this letter has answered some questions about our department. If you'd like more information, feel free to email me personally at wmarkofski@carleton.edu. Congratulations again on your acceptance to Carleton!

All My Best,



Wes Markofski
Associate Professor of Sociology
Chair of Sociology and Anthropology

