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King's Sociology course empowers students to generate real-world change

London, Ontario - Committing Sociology has empowered King's students to generate social change. This unique experiential learning opportunity took learning outside of the classroom and into the public sphere, spanning a range of contemporary topics including gender and sexual based violence on campus, Indigenous water crisis, youth experiencing homelessness, and affordable childcare. Many projects explored topics directly relevant to King's.

Topics that students researched for projects included:

- Not Asking For It (NAFI) research project, which investigated the existence of rape culture and gender-based violence at King's
- Student activism and policies regulating who can hang posters on campus
- Increasing representation of BIPOC head coaches in Ontario University Athletics (OUA) football
- Ontario and Canada's National Childcare Framework
- Causes and consequences of gambling disorders
- Preventing youth from experiencing homelessness
- The water crisis in Indigenous communities

Students produced original research that is of outstanding quality and rigor and they are available to discuss their findings.

The students' projects, as well as their research findings and recommendations, can be found on [the King's Sociology experiential learning webpage](#).

Soc4485F: Committing Sociology is a fourth-year Sociology course was developed by Dr. Jinette Comeau, Assistant Professor of Sociology and Dr. Tara Bruno, Associate Professor of Sociology.

Quotes

"We wanted to provide our upper-year students with the opportunity to apply what they have learned throughout their undergraduate degree in the real world and the results have been outstanding." - Dr. Jinette Comeau, Assistant Professor of Sociology

“I am very proud of these bright, talented, and passionate students. They acquired a range of skills that are marketable to employers while also advocating for social change.” - Dr. Jinette Comeau, Assistant Professor of Sociology

“We learned a lot through the design and execution of a project that addresses a current social problem with the goal of generating social and political change.” - Trista Montgomery and Mackenzie Sewell, Sociology students

About King’s University College

King’s is a public Catholic University College that provides general and honors degree programs in the liberal arts, social sciences, management, and a master degree in social work. It is positioned in the top rank of institutions of higher learning in Canada for the high quality of its teaching faculty and student experience. Institutionally autonomous, King’s is academically affiliated with Western University, and King’s graduates receive a Western University degree. King’s is open to students of all faith backgrounds, with its community centred on the values of social justice, equality and the education of the whole person.

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