What Sociology

Alumni are saying...

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"Throughout my undergraduate career in Sociology at SCU, I have been blessed and more than grateful to have been exposed to many successful professors and mentors. With a lifelong passion for social change and social justice, I am currently enrolled at USC's Bovard College masters program for Criminal Justice."

—Elvena Gevargiz '21

02

"The research opportunities, the research assistant opportunities and the close connections with the Sociology department professors more than prepped me for graduate school...professors made the classes fun, and I loved applying theories and concepts to the outside world. My experience as a sociology major continues to help me today, as I have started a nonprofit foundation."

—Gracelyn Bateman (Co-Founder, Luna

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Peak Foundation)

"The faculty in Santa Clara's department taught me how to use data to understand a range of social phenomena, showed me how to do independent research, and helped me connect what I learned in the classroom to real-world solutions to the most pressing issues of our time."

—Tomas Jimenez (Sociology Professor Stanford University)

Join our community!

"I have learned widely applicable skills in quantitative and qualitative research projects, report writing, and data analysis. I have used my sociological education in my current job as a vocational skills trainer for adults with disabilities...The Sociology Department at Santa Clara provided unwavering support for any academic and career decisions I made, and gave me a great sense of community throughout my time there. I met some of my best friends, research associates and mentors through the Sociology program at Santa Clara and I am eternally grateful for all that the program has given me." —Emma Hmelar (Certified Employment Professional)

"Throughout my career in hospitality management, I have been able to relate to my Sociology Degree by developing my own theories and understandings of what it takes to guarantee a successful event for any group. Whether that is listening to those involved with the planning process to fully understand their vision of the event to providing special attention to the individual guests that might need it to even ensuring that my own team is operating cohesively."—Jessica Tramp '16 (Director of Catering, Bon Appetit Management Co. at Santa Clara University)

More information on our website including student features, alumni news, and more! Check out our department website

https://www.scu.edu/cas/sociology/

Twitter: @SCU_Sociology Instagram: scu_sociology LinkedIn: SCU Sociology



Welcome to Sociology!

Your journey with us includes a professionalization internship, training in highly marketable research skills to launch your career, and plentiful opportunities to work closely with our faculty! A major or minor in Sociology will equip you to engage in positive social change to transform the world around you. Sociology at SCU capitalizes on the diversity of research methods and approaches that prepare you to pursue a range of professional opportunities and/or enter a number of fields of graduate study. SCU Sociology awakens the "sociological imagination" in each of us and our collective ability to play a role in shaping both our own lives and the society we share at home and in the world around us. Join us!

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About us

Anjali Rangaswami '21: Fulbright Fellow.

During her time as a student, Anjali was involved in the SCU Violence Prevention Program, Alpha Sigma Nu Honors Society, Study Abroad program, Bronco Urban Gardens, and the Peer Educator program for the Sociology and Modern Languages and Literatures departments.



Diego Ardila '22: UX Research Assistant @ Google (Via Pro Unlimited)

Diego Ardila was a sociology major and entrepreneurship minor who worked as an associate researcher at UEGroup, a UX design and research firm in San Jose. During his time at UEGroup, Ardila conducted both qualitative and quantitative research including surveys, interviews, usability studies, competitive analysis, and many other methods. He also gained experience analyzing survey data, analyzing interviews, generating study findings, creating recommendations for product development teams, and presenting study results directly to clients through presentations and research briefs.



Judith Li '23: Miller Center Fellow

Participating with the Miller Center Lewis Family Fellowship, Judith Li provided two deliverables to her team's enterprise partner to advance the mission of delivering solar-powered safe-water filtration systems to off-grid rural areas of East Africa, applying sociological insights to the real world.



Michele Canny '19: Fulbright Fellow

Michele Canny grew up in the East Bay, with family originally from El Salvador as well as the U.S. She has served as the communications associate for Northern California Innocence Project (NCIP).



Study with us!

We offer our students a highly successful research methods sequence in qualitative and quantitative methods that culminates in a capstone paper and professional intern experience. We also offer unique training in Applied Sociology. Students use applied research in a variety of settings (such as workplaces, non-profits, or other organizations) to learn to identify problems and generate solutions. In addition, majors take courses on topics including: criminology, digital sociology, family gender, health, inequality, immigration, race and ethnicity, social justice, sustainability etc. We also offer Certificates of Specialization that allow students to focus on areas of interest to them: Community and Social Justice Studies, Diversity and Inclusion, Global Sociology and Culture, and Tech4Good and Social Entrepreneurship.

Research Opportunities in Sociology: We love our transfer students!

Thanks to generous funding to the department from one of our munificent alumni, our faculty are able to work with student researchers on a number of projects. For example, we are continually improving the

experience of transfer students who join our Sociology community with student research teams to advance the important role that transfer students play in our departmental community.



Departmental

• Publication, Conference,

Honor Society, and Awards



Every year our majors and minors have the opportunity to work with faculty on a variety of projects including our annual publication the Silicon Valley Sociological Review and the Annual Western Departments of Anthropology and Sociology Undergraduate Research Conference. In addition, the Department recognizes students' achievements through our Alpha Mu chapter of Alpha Kappa Delta International Sociology Honor Society and awards. The Sociology Academic Excellence Award Recognizes academic excellence and is granted to the graduating senior(s) with the highest Sociology GPA. The Sociology Alumni Award for Excellence in Community-based Research is given in honor of our alumni to the graduating senior(s) who has an exemplary record of service or service-related research with the Sociology Alumni Service Award. The Witold Krassowski Sociology Award recognizes exemplary senior paper(s) in Sociology in honor of Professor Witold Krassowski, the first sociologist at Santa Clara University and the first chair of the department.