What Sociology Alumni are saying...

01

"Throughout my undergraduate career in Sociology at USC, 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."
—Eveana Geupag (21)

02

"The research opportunities, the research assistant opportunities and the close connections with the Sociology department professors more than prepared 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."
—Gretchen Belcher (Co-Founder, Luna Peak Foundation)

03

"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."
—Teresa Jimenez (Sociology Professor, Stanford University)

Join our community!

"I have learned widely applicable skills in qualitative and quantitative 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 assistants and mentors through the Sociology program at Santa Clara and I am eternally grateful for all that the program has given me."
—Emma Hinmiller (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 ensure 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/css/sociology/

Welcome to Sociology!

Your journey with us includes a professionalization internships, 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!

About us

Angeli Ragasaewati ’21: Fulbright Fellow

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

Diego Andilla ’22: UC Research Assistant at Google (Via Pro Unibus)

Diego Andilla was a sociology major and a research assistant when he worked as an associate researcher at UI/Group, a UK design and research firm in San Jose, CA. At UI/Group, Andilla conducted both qualitative and quantitative research including surveys, interviews, usability studies, comparative analysis, and many other methods. He also gained experience analyzing survey data, conducting 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 Fellowships, Judith Li provided two hours per week to a local non-profit. She also participated in various water filtration systems to afford rural areas of East Africa, supplying sociological insights to the real world.

Michele Canny '19: Fulbright Fellow

Michele grew up in the East Bay, migrated 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 internship 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 Tech/Good 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 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 Wladislaw Kraszewski Sociology Award recognizes exemplary senior paper(s) in Sociology in honor of Professor Wladislaw Kraszewski, the first sociologist at Santa Clara University and the first chair of the department.