Faculty
Shawn Ginwright, assistant professor, sociology. Ph.D. (education), University of California, Berkeley.
Margaret Graham, assistant professor, anthropology. Ph.D., Michigan State University, 1991.
Kichiro Iwamoto, assistant professor, sociology. Ph.D., Purdue University, 1970.
Charles Powers, professor, sociology. Ph.D., University of California, Riverside, 1981.

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Anthropology Program

This range of anthropological interests creates a discipline that spans the academic divide of the humanities and the sciences, giving it a critical role in integrating our knowledge of humankind and in helping to solve human problems.

Curriculum

The anthropology curriculum is designed to take our students developmentally from an introduction to the field to their own research projects. Lower-level courses introduce students to the major subfields of archaeology, biological anthropology, and cultural anthropology. Students learn by conducting research in the discipline through laboratory and field experiences.

Higher-level courses range across the subfields, introducing students to a variety of substantive areas of study in the discipline. Building on these substantive courses, majors take a sequence of courses in their senior year.

As they prepare to leave Santa Clara, majors are encouraged to gain further experience outside the University through supervised internships. Internships are sometimes combined with the three special emphasis programs offered in the major: archaeology, applied anthropology, and law and society.

Special Emphasis

The Archaeology Special Emphasis Program is intended to provide students with a strong background in anthropological concepts, their use in archaeological reasoning and analysis, and a firm grasp of the techniques and methods unique to archaeological practice.

The Applied Anthropology Emphasis prepares students to use anthropological knowledge to address pressing human problems in careers outside the University. Through course work and related internships, students will gain a better understanding of how anthropological knowledge and skills can be used practically in occupations relating to medicine.

Anthropology is a broad scientific field of study with interests in the full range of the human experience. Its work is divided among several closely relate subdisciplines:

Cultural anthropology focuses on understanding the way that people live, or have lived, in different societies or cultures around the world. Archaeology examines the cultures of recent and ancient peoples through the study of their material remains and relationship to the environment.

Biological anthropology deals with the interconnections between the culture and the biology of people. It concentrates on three primary areas: human evolution, primate behavior, and human biological diversity.

Applied anthropology focuses the knowledge and research of the other anthropological subdisciplines upon the issues of health, education, government, and development.

Program Highlights

- An understanding of how businesses, organizations, governments, and societies work
- Sensitivity to social change as it is experienced and adjusted to by people
- Knowledge and appreciation of social class, racial, cultural, gender, and age differences
- Social research skills, including techniques for gathering and analyzing data and for evaluating program and policy outcomes
- A well-defined set of personal values and ethical standards
- An awareness of the principal intellectual traditions in sociology

Special Emphasis

- Provides sociology majors with a conceptual framework to better understand structure, culture, and functional processes within public and private sector organizations
- Arms students with practical skills for assessing organizational effectiveness and implementing organizational change
- Enables students to integrate a perspective of client-centered responsibility
- Prepares students to work effectively as team players within organizations

A National Model

In 1998, Santa Clara’s Sociology program was the recipient of the Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award from the American Sociological Association. Our program was singled out as a national model of purposive, effective curriculum design. This is only the second time in the history of this award that it was won by a department that has no graduate program.