EXCELLENCE IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

Social Sciences faculty studying issues of human rights, food justice, and climate change have been recognized for their work by prestigious Carnegie and Guggenheim fellowships.

Psychologist Craig Haney and economist Robert Fairlie have provided testimonies to the U.S. Senate about social and economic problems in the United States.

Graduate students have been awarded Fulbrights.

Our faculty members have received grants from the National Science Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation, and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

International publications such as the New York Times, The Economist, the Financial Times, and the Washington Post turn to our faculty for their expertise.

Alumni Martha Mendoza (’88, journalism and education), Dana Priest (’81, politics), and Hector Tobar (’85, Latin American studies/sociology) have won Pulitzers.

The Latin American and Latino Studies Department offers the first Ph.D. program of its kind in the world.

THE DIVISION OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

"Social justice is the foundation of the Division of Social Sciences at UC Santa Cruz. Our faculty and students are connecting urgent issues of the day to important themes of equity, access, policy, and politics. This current political juncture presents critical opportunities for scholars in the social sciences committed to making a difference."

—KATHARYNE MITCHELL, DEAN OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Katharyne Mitchell’s academic interests include urban political geography, transnational migration, refugees and asylum policy, immigrant integration, citizenship, and education. Mitchell came to the campus in 2017 from the University of Washington, where she was a professor in the Department of Geography since 1993.


Chancellor George Blumenthal has called the Division of Social Sciences the heart and soul of UC Santa Cruz, and for good reason. The division is the largest academic unit on campus. It includes about 45 percent of undergraduate majors and nearly 30 percent of graduate students, and course enrollments are at an all-time high.

Across all disciplines in the Division of Social Sciences, students see clear relevance and purpose. There is a strong commitment to environmental and social responsibility, and many students want to give back to society when they graduate. All our majors and programs provide this opportunity.

Since its inception, the Division of Social Sciences has sought to achieve the highest possible distinction for scholarship. Faculty members have extended the boundaries of knowledge in both traditional and new fields. Research is conducted through disciplinary as well as interdisciplinary lines of inquiry, with a major focus on the study of human relationships in society.

UC Santa Cruz was established as a grand experiment in higher education. Although the campus has now grown, work by Social Sciences faculty and students incorporates many of the same basic values on which this trailblazing campus was founded. Research and publications by our faculty question mainstream assumptions and are frequently cited in academic and media outlets. The division is still a place where risk taking is not only encouraged but also rewarded.

THE DIVISION OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

NOW IS THE TIME. HERE IS THE PLACE.
FACTS AND FIGURES

FACULTY: 177
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS: 5,635
GRADUATE STUDENTS: 396

DEGREE PROGRAMS

ANTHROPOLOGY (B.A., PH.D.)
APPLIED ECONOMICS AND FINANCE (M.S.)
BUSINESS MANAGEMENT ECONOMICS (B.A., COMBINED B.A./M.S.)*
ECONOMICS (B.A., COMBINED B.A./M.S.,* PH.D.)
GLOBAL ECONOMICS (B.A., COMBINED B.A./M.S.)*
EDUCATION (M.A., PH.D., ED.D. IN COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP)
CHARTERED FINANCIAL ANALYST® (CFA) CREDENTIAL
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES (B.A., PH.D.)
LATIN AMERICAN AND LATINO STUDIES (B.A., PH.D.)
LEGAL STUDIES (B.A.)
POLITICS (B.A., PH.D.)
PSYCHOLOGY (B.A., PH.D.)
COGNITIVE SCIENCE (B.S.)
SOCIOLOGY (B.A., PH.D.)

* M.S. IS IN APPLIED ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

DIVISION-WIDE RESEARCH CENTERS

BLUM CENTER ON POVERTY, SOCIAL ENTERPRISE, AND PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE
CENTER FOR AGROECOLOGY AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS
CENTER FOR ANALYTICAL FINANCE
CENTER FOR INTEGRATED SPATIAL RESEARCH
CENTER FOR LABOR STUDIES
CENTER FOR RESEARCH ON EQUITY AND COLLABORATIVE EVALUATION
CENTER FOR STATISTICAL ANALYSIS IN SOCIAL SCIENCES
CHICANO/LATINO RESEARCH CENTER
EVERETT PROGRAM FOR TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL CHANGE
KENNETH S. NORRIS CENTER FOR NATURAL HISTORY
SCIENCE AND JUSTICE RESEARCH CENTER

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For more information about the Division of Social Sciences at UC Santa Cruz, visit socialsciences.ucsc.edu or call (831) 459-3212.
The Division of Social Sciences welcomes your support! To find out more about our programs and how you can get involved, contact the Social Sciences Development Office at (831) 459-3857 and socsci@ucsc.edu.

Follow the Division of Social Sciences on Twitter and Like us on Facebook: @UCSCSocSci