faculty

Victoria Bernal (Ph.D., Northwestern)
gender, war, cyberspace, transnationalism, africa

Tom Boellstorff (Ph.D., Stanford)
gay and lesbian studies, cyberspace, indonesia

Leo Chavez (Ph.D., Stanford)
immigration, media, medicine, chicano/latino studies

Susan Bibler Coutin (Ph.D., Stanford)
immigration, human rights, el salvador, central america

Julia Elyachar (Ph.D., Harvard)
markets, microcredit, neoliberalism, egypt

Robert Garfias (Ph.D., UCLA)
ethnomusicology, arts and expressive culture, turkey

Mizuko Ito (Ph.D., Stanford)
youth technology usage and media consumption

Karen Leonard* (Ph.D., University of Wisconsin)
south asians, muslim americans, migration, religion

Lilith Mahmud–Abdelwahab (Ph.D., Harvard)
secret societies, gender, nationalism, race, citizenship

George Marcus (Ph.D., Harvard)
elites, ethnography and cultural critique, pacific

Bill Maurer (Ph.D., Stanford)
money and finance, law and culture, caribbean

Michael Montoya** (Ph.D., Stanford)
diabetes, medical anthro, health, chicano/latino studies

Keith Murphy (Ph.D., UCLA)
linguistics, design, aesthetics and morality, sweden

Kristin Peterson (Ph.D., Rice)
science and tech, feminism, pharmaceuticals, west africa

Roxanne Varzi (Ph.D., Columbia)
youth, memories of war, religion, film, iran

Mei Zhan (Ph.D., Stanford)
medical anthro, chinese medicine, globalization, china

*department chair
**graduate director

graduate program in

ANTHROPOLOGY

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investigate

How does poverty literally make people sick? How do Internet technologies shape how we understand everything from space to the self? How has traditional Chinese medicine turned into a multibillion-dollar global industry?

UCI anthropologists can be found investigating these and other cutting-edge social issues around the world, linking emergent ways of thinking and living to histories of colonialism, economic interchange and mediated communication.

innovate

Innovative research has taken UCI anthropologists everywhere from markets in Egypt, design studios in Sweden, the borderlands of the U.S.-Mexico, and the transnational network of Hyderabadis, to virtual worlds in cyberspace to better understand global cultures and societal norms.

impact

UCI anthropological research has led to the discovery of a link between poverty and diabetes, answers to how and why identities that at first appear "Western" take on new forms around the world, and new ways in which communications technology remakes money. The department ranks at the top of the field nationally, and fourth in the world in publishing findings in the top three anthropological journals, one of which (American Anthropologist) is currently being hosted and edited at UCI.

Associate professor Mei Zhan studies the evolution of Chinese medicinal practice. Photo by Daniel Anderson, University Communications.

graduate program in
ANTHROPOLOGY

inspire

Alumni have gone on to pursue careers in academic and professional environments including:

– California State University, Long Beach
– Molina Healthcare
– Smith College
– Swiss Academy of Sciences
– Texas A&M
– Unesco
– University of California, Riverside
– University of Notre Dame
– University of Pittsburgh
– University of Wisconsin

interested?

Adjacent to Newport Beach's Back Bay, with its miles of scenic nature trails leading to the stunning Pacific Ocean, UC Irvine has been named one of the country's happiest campuses. Located in Irvine, California, a hub for arts, technology and innovation, the area boasts a beautiful and temperate climate year-round and is within an easy drive of both Los Angeles and San Diego. With up to five years of guaranteed financial support for its admitted graduate students, the School of Social Sciences offers an intellectually vibrant community in a sunny, Southern California setting.