

# School of Social Sciences



*Sociology majors study how conflict, cooperation and diversity shape our world.*

*As a sociology major at UC Irvine, I have the opportunity to take fascinating courses that cover an eclectic range of topics including business, networks, cultures, sexuality, violence, international issues and more. Being exposed to the many different perspectives of the passionate sociology faculty have helped me to become an independent, analytical thinker.*

*With a sociology degree from UC Irvine, I have gained the confidence and skills necessary to tackle any obstacles and challenges I encounter.*

*-Steven Wei*  
Sociology Major

## Sociology

### What is sociology?

Sociology studies patterns of relationships among people, how behavior is shaped by these patterns and how conflicts and cooperation among people and groups affect social structure and social change. As a sociology major, you will learn to look beyond conventional explanations to understand how social status, interactions, conflict, cooperation, inequality and diversity shape our social world. In our introductory courses, you will investigate the core ideas, methods and findings of sociology. Within our lower division courses, you will explore the basic subareas of sociology through topics ranging from social psychology and inequality to age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture and others. You will then have the opportunity to pursue advanced study in these areas through upper division coursework.

### What can I do with a sociology degree?

A major in sociology provides students with fundamental skills critical for analyzing and understanding social behavior and structural patterns. UC Irvine sociology majors have gone on to pursue professional careers in law, business, government service, advanced graduate studies, social work, urban planning, public health and teaching.

### Topics of research in sociology

Sociology faculty are noted worldwide for their cutting-edge research. As a sociology major, you will have the opportunity to work alongside faculty who explore and investigate issues including: global inequality and change; immigration; social networks; social movements; life course, family, and sexualities; organizations, occupations, and labor; political sociology; population; social inequality; race/ethnicity; religion, art, science, mass media; and gender and class.

### Opportunities in sociology at UC Irvine

Explore the opportunities available to students interested in studying sociology at UC Irvine.

#### **Honors Program**

Are you looking for a challenge? The honors program allows students to pursue exciting sociological research and write an honors thesis under the guidance of sociology faculty. Learn more about the program and application process at [www.sociology.uci.edu/html/honors](http://www.sociology.uci.edu/html/honors).

#### **Certificate Program**

In order to provide more focused training with real-world applications, the sociology department offers four certificate programs to undergraduate sociology majors. Topics include: **business, economy and society; diversity; international sociology; and planning and human services**. Each certificate is designed to complement a student's coursework for the major, while providing expertise in a specific area of sociology. Learn more online at [www.sociology.uci.edu/html/cert](http://www.sociology.uci.edu/html/cert).

#### **Sociology Minors**

Are you interested in sociology but don't feel that a major is right for you? Learn more about our minor in sociology and requirements online at [www.socsci.uci.edu/ugc/ssmajor](http://www.socsci.uci.edu/ugc/ssmajor).

#### **Sociology Club**

Connect with students who, like you, have a passion for sociology. Through community service projects, group study sessions and more, the Sociology Club provides an outlet through which sociology majors may network and interact.

**Come see what we're all about!**  
[www.socsci.uci.edu/sociology](http://www.socsci.uci.edu/sociology)

## Suggested four year curriculum

### Freshman<sup>1</sup> (12 to 16 units per quarter)

Sociology 1  
Sociology 2 or 3 (one course)  
Additional introductory social science course  
Lower Division Writing (two courses)  
General Education II or IV (three courses)  
Social Science 3A  
General Education VI<sup>2</sup>

### Sophomore<sup>3</sup> (16 units per quarter)

Sociology lower-division Core (two courses)  
Sociology 10A-B-C or another series for School math requirement  
General Education II or IV (three courses)  
General Education VII (one course)  
Social Sciences lower division course (one course)  
Elective (about two courses)

### Junior (16 units per quarter)

Upper-division Writing (one course)<sup>4</sup>  
Sociology 110  
Sociology 120-129 (one course)  
Sociology upper-division Core (three courses)  
General Education VIII (one course)  
Electives (about four or five courses)

### Senior (16 units per quarter)

Sociology 180A<sup>4</sup>  
Upper-division Sociology (one course)  
Upper-division Social Science (two courses)  
General Education IX (one course)  
Electives (about seven courses)

<sup>1</sup>Students should move from a 12 to 16 unit work load sometime in first year when comfortable with the change

<sup>2</sup>Language may be satisfied in high school prior to matriculation

<sup>3</sup>Considering that students need approximately 60 elective units beyond general education, school and major requirements, they should start thinking early about how to satisfy these, especially when potential minors or double majors have prerequisites

<sup>4</sup>Students completing an honors thesis will not need to complete Sociology 180A or UD Writing

## Suggested two year curriculum

This plan assumes that a student has completed Sociology 1, 2 or 3 (or equivalent) and most General Education requirements.

### Junior (16 units per quarter)<sup>1</sup>

Social Science 3A (one course)  
Additional introductory social science course (one course)  
Lower or upper-division Social Sciences course (one course)  
Sociology Core Requirement (take three of five)  
Sociology 10A-B-C or another series for School math requirement  
Sociology 110  
Sociology 120-129 (one course)

### Summer Session<sup>2</sup>

Students may take up to four courses during the UCI Summer Session

### Senior (16 units per quarter)

Upper-division Writing (one course)<sup>3</sup>  
Sociology Core Requirement (take last two)  
Upper-division Sociology (one courses)  
Upper-division Social Science (two courses)  
Sociology 180A<sup>3</sup>  
Unfinished elective units, General Education, minor, or double-major requirements. For honors: must take H188A and H188B. (about five courses)

<sup>1</sup>Students interested in the Sociology Honors Program should complete Sociology 10A-B-C, Sociology 110, Sociology 120 and two core classes by the end of junior year

<sup>2</sup>Summer is a good time to take Sociology 180A, 120 and 110 which fill up more quickly during the regular school year

<sup>3</sup>Students completing an honors thesis will not need to complete Sociology 180A or UD Writing; instead they take H188A and H188BW

## Undergraduate Counseling Office

The Social Sciences Undergraduate Counseling Office provides numerous services and special programs for undergraduate students including course planning, change of major request, financial aid appeals, course substitutions, and information concerning honors, graduate and professional school, and career and internships. Visit the Counseling Office online at [www.socsci.uci.edu/ugs](http://www.socsci.uci.edu/ugs) or call (949) 824-6803 today to set up an appointment.

## Academic Resource Center

A great starting point for information about academic-related endeavors is the School of Social Sciences Academic Resource Center (SSARC) where students may obtain information about internships, graduate school, and careers in a number of Social Sciences related fields. Visit them online at [www.socsci.uci.edu/ssarc](http://www.socsci.uci.edu/ssarc) or call (949) 824-8322 to set up an appointment.



*Pictured at right:*

Steven Wei, sociology undergraduate student  
Photo courtesy of Kristy Harris

**SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
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