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PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY, M.A.

Public Sociology applies sociological theory and research to address real-world issues and promote positive social change. Our graduate curriculum emphasizes social justice and environmental sustainability while providing advanced training in qualitative and quantitative research methods. Students gain practical and academic expertise through an emphasis in Practicing Sociology—applied community research—or Teaching Sociology, centered on pedagogy and inclusive teaching and learning.

Quick Facts

- **Program Length: 2 years**
- **Delivery Format: in person with possible 4th term remote work**
- **Cohort Size: ~12**
- **Culminating Experience: project or thesis**
- **Priority Application Deadline: Feb. 1**

Why Study Here?

Apply your knowledge and skills in collaboration with community partners and faculty.

Build just and inclusive communities through research, teaching, and community action projects.

Enjoy late afternoon and evening scheduling of core required seminars that support working professionals.

Financial Aid

Graduate students may qualify for grants, loans or work-study. To be considered, submit the FAFSA or California Dream Act Application each year, and apply before the priority deadline of March 2. Some aid is limited and awarded based on filing date. Many programs also offer scholarships and Graduate Assistant and Teaching Associate positions.

Contact the Financial Aid office for more information.

Research

We bridge connections supporting student work with campus and community partners who value advanced knowledge in:

- **Survey, focus group and interview research**
- **Statistical and narrative data analysis**
- **Evidence-based program development**
- **Grant writing and program evaluation design**

Students may work with campus research hubs including:

- **California Center for Rural Policy**
- **Cannabis Studies Lab**
- **Humboldt Journal of Social Relations**
- **Oliner Altruism Institute**

Office of Graduate Studies • humboldt.edu/graduate-studies • gradstudies@humboldt.edu • (707) 826-5194

Program Emphases

Public Sociology, M.A.

Practicing Sociology

Students learn research and applied sociology skills through coursework, a 240-hour placement with a community partner, and faculty support to secure paid opportunities. This is valued preparation for professional positions in research, business, government, and nonprofit organizations.

Teaching Sociology

Students learn cutting-edge pedagogies and teaching practices through coursework, as well as paid teaching experiences and mentorship. This is valued preparation for teaching at a community college or university, training and facilitating groups for organizations, and designing education materials.

Eligibility

- **3.0 Minimum GPA**
- **Capacity to be successful in reading, writing, and discussion-intensive seminars**
- **Completed Sociology theory and methods coursework or equivalents**

I was given multiple research, teaching and mentorship opportunities that translated well to my Ph.D. program. These experiences and support from faculty have been some of the most valuable education I have ever received."

Torisha Khonach, PhD., Assistant Professor of Sociology, Los Angeles Trade-Technical College (2018)

Career Outcomes

Our graduates have gone on to work and lead in the nonprofit sector, activist organizations, social service agencies, higher education, and community colleges, and to further study at PhD programs, and much more! Some alumni careers include:

- **College & University Faculty**
  American University, Cal Poly Humboldt, College of the Redwoods, Kansas City Kansas Community College, Missouri State University, Northern Essex Community College, Rutgers University, San Diego State University, Southern Methodist University, Tulane University, and more.
- **Community Organizer & Organizing Director, True North Organizing Network**
- **Director of Advising, Cal Poly Humboldt**
- **Deputy Director, California Association of Resource Conservation Districts**
- **Director of Library & Academic Support Center, EOPS & CARE, College of the Redwoods**
- **Executive Diversity Officer, South Puget Sound Community College**
- **Harm Reduction Research Analyst, RTI**
- **Program Director of School Based Wellness Center, Humboldt IPA**
- **Program Manager, Latino Network**
- **Senior Victim Advocate, County of Nevada**
- **Tribal Government Specialist, Bureau of Indian Affairs**

Combined B.A./M.A. Pathway

Our combined degree pathway allows you to get a B.A. in Criminology & Justice Studies or Sociology and get your Public Sociology, M.A. in as little as five years.