

Anthropology • Communication • East Asian Studies • Economics • History  
International Relations • Linguistics • Philosophy • Political Science  
Political Science—Public Service • Psychology • Science and Technology Studies  
Sociology • Sociology—Organizational Studies • Undeclared—Social Sciences

*Majors in the social sciences create a bridge between disciplines, drawing on both scientific research and liberal arts concepts to form a more complete perception of human nature. Communication, clarity and critical thinking are central to these programs, and students in the social sciences are well-equipped to understand contemporary politics, society, economy and thought in their historical and scientific contexts. Many of these majors will also give you the opportunity to develop useful quantitative skills and analysis.*

## **SOCIAL SCIENCES MAJORS**

### **Anthropology**

What makes humans human? Anthropologists seek to answer this question by considering four fields of study: human society and culture; linguistics; archaeology; and biological anthropology. At UC Davis, anthropologists in each of these fields make important contributions toward our understanding of what it means to be human. Whether reconstructing ancient societies from archaeological evidence or analyzing diverse language patterns, anthropology bridges social and natural science to provide a fascinating perspective on humanity's origins and current condition.

Questions? Contact an adviser at 330 Young Hall, (530) 752-0745, [www.anthro.ucdavis.edu](http://www.anthro.ucdavis.edu).

### **Communication**

What can we learn from a word, a gesture, a tone of voice? Methods of verbal and nonverbal communication vary from culture to culture and generation to generation; yet our fast-moving world demands that people of widely diverse backgrounds be able to express themselves clearly and understand each others' viewpoints. Communication majors analyze message delivery systems, cross-cultural communication, the role of the media and the effectiveness of public education campaigns from the interpersonal to societal levels.

Questions? Contact an adviser at 107 Sproul Hall, (530) 752-1221, [communication.ucdavis.edu](http://communication.ucdavis.edu).

### **East Asian Studies**

The countries of East Asia, especially China and Japan, are important actors in today's global culture and economy. Both societies maintain strong continuity with the past; yet both are also dynamic forces working to shape the future. As a major in East Asian studies, you'll gain an understanding of this fascinating region through interdisciplinary studies that combine intensive work in an East Asian language with courses on the history, politics and culture of East Asian countries.

Questions? Contact an adviser at 108 Sproul Hall, (530) 752-4001, [eastasian.ucdavis.edu](http://eastasian.ucdavis.edu).

### **Economics**

Economics is the study of choices. How should a society choose to allocate and distribute its resources? Which needs should have the highest priority, and which are less important? Economists study how people use limited resources in an attempt to satisfy unlimited wants. They create scientific models to explain why people behave the way they do, and use these models along with observations of the world to analyze and explain resource use. Economists work in all areas of government and industry, in fields ranging from stock market analysis to sports marketing and banking regulation.

Questions? Contact an adviser at 1113 Social Sciences and Humanities Bldg., (530) 752-0741, [www.econ.ucdavis.edu](http://www.econ.ucdavis.edu).

### **History**

What can we hope to understand by studying the past? What relevance could the lives of people in ancient Egypt,

medieval China or colonial India have to our modern world? The events, people, triumphs and mistakes of the past are the key to understanding the forces and factions at work today. As a history major at UC Davis, you will work with some of the country's foremost historical researchers and writers, whose areas of expertise span the ages and the globe.

Questions? Contact an adviser at 2261 Social Sciences and Humanities Bldg., (530) 752-0777, [history.ucdavis.edu](http://history.ucdavis.edu).

### **International Relations**

In our fast-paced, increasingly interdependent world, the problems and policies of each nation have repercussions that are felt far beyond its borders. Whether the issue is climatic change caused by carbon dioxide emissions or the rights of workers in factories owned by transnational corporations, decision makers in government and industry must now consider how their actions will affect people around the globe. As an international relations major, you will draw from a variety of academic disciplines to gain a more complete picture of the issues and traditions that shape regions and nations.

Questions? Contact an adviser at 1270 Social Sciences and Humanities Bldg., (530) 752-3063, [intlrel.ucdavis.edu](http://intlrel.ucdavis.edu).

### **Linguistics**

Language, whether spoken or written, both unites and divides human beings culturally, ethnically, socially and personally. Linguists study the origin, structure, variation, use and historical development of language among different cultural groups. Because language so

pervades our everyday lives, linguistics interacts with such diverse disciplines as neuroscience, psychology, computer science, literature, education and others.

Questions? Contact an adviser at 106 Sproul Hall, (530) 752-9933, [linguistics.ucdavis.edu](mailto:linguistics.ucdavis.edu).

### Philosophy

Philosophy seeks to address fundamental questions that recur in every culture, in every area of human thought. What is the nature of value, the good life, right conduct, knowledge, truth, language, mind, even reality? Many academic disciplines have sought to answer these questions, but through precise and systematic analysis, philosophers seek to uncover and respond to the underlying assumptions unrecognized in such answers.

Questions? Contact an adviser at 1238 Social Sciences and Humanities Bldg., (530) 752-0607, [philosophy.ucdavis.edu](mailto:philosophy.ucdavis.edu).

### Political Science

What is the proper role of government in a democratic society? What rights do citizens have and how should those rights be protected? Political scientists study the complex, intertwined forms of government and their effects on citizens, businesses and institutions. As a political science major at UC Davis, you'll enjoy the unique advantage of having California's state capital just a short drive away. Internships and study programs in Sacramento and at the UC Washington Center in Washington, D.C. give you the chance to enrich your studies with firsthand experience.

Questions? Contact an adviser at (530) 752-0966, [ps.ucdavis.edu](mailto:ps.ucdavis.edu).

### Political Science—Public Service

Are you interested in how laws and regulations get made? Who influences public policy? If you choose this major, your curriculum will help you focus specifically on how policy is formulated, implemented, evaluated and interpreted. Or focus on a specific area of policy, such as urban or environmental policy. You'll

also complete a required internship with a political, governmental or non-profit organization related to your interests.

Questions? Contact an adviser at (530) 752-0966, [ps.ucdavis.edu](mailto:ps.ucdavis.edu).

### Psychology

Ever wonder why you retain certain experiences, while others are lost to memory? How society influences our personality and behavior? Find out the answers as a psychology major at UC Davis. Psychology is an interdisciplinary program that examines both the social and scientific bases of behavior. You'll be able to choose between a Bachelor of Arts or a Bachelor of Science degree with an emphasis in biology or math, and study areas of psychology including personality/social psychology, psychobiology, perception/cognition and developmental psychology.

Questions? Contact an adviser at 141 Young Hall, (530) 752-1882, [psychology.ucdavis.edu](mailto:psychology.ucdavis.edu).

### Science and Technology Studies

Is there any part of your social, personal, medical, or political world that is not complicated and challenged by science and technology? Science and technology studies is a new major created to address the complex issues of how science, technology, medicine, and engineering have developed and continue to develop within societies and cultures. STS is a fully interdisciplinary program drawing from disciplines such as anthropology, economics, environmental science and policy, and sociology to understand, interpret, and intervene in our changing world. As an STS major, you can design your studies to follow your interests and prepare for a career in law, medicine and health care, environmental justice, bioethics and science or technical writing.

Questions? Contact or visit an adviser at 1238 Social Sciences and Humanities Bldg., (530) 752-9621, [sts.ucdavis.edu](mailto:sts.ucdavis.edu).

### Sociology

Cooperation and conflict are present in every human relationship, from the bond between married couples to the interactions of socioeconomic classes and ethnic groups. Sociologists study the patterns of group behavior that influence individual action. As a sociology major at UC Davis, you can tailor your major to suit your long-term personal goals, whether they include law school, a career in social services or in-depth work with business organizations.

Questions? Contact an adviser at 1282 Social Sciences and Humanities Bldg., (530) 752-0782, [sociology.ucdavis.edu](mailto:sociology.ucdavis.edu).

### Sociology—Organizational Studies

This major develops a broad understanding of the political, social and economic organizations that comprise modern society, using a sociological perspective to guide inquiry. As a multidisciplinary study, this major prepares students for a variety of career options, particularly in the field of management, and may also lead to graduate study.

Questions? Contact an adviser at 1282 Social Sciences and Humanities Bldg., (530) 752-0782, [sociology.ucdavis.edu](mailto:sociology.ucdavis.edu).

### Undeclared—Social Sciences

If you'll be entering UC Davis as a freshman and you're undecided on your major, consider the College of Letters and Science's undeclared—social sciences option. You'll benefit from professional guidance as you investigate possible majors and develop new personal strengths. Visit the Counseling Center for personal interest assessment testing, or use the Internship and Career Center's computerized career assessment tools to help you find majors that align with your interests.

Questions? Contact an adviser at (530) 752-0392, [advising.ucdavis.edu](mailto:advising.ucdavis.edu).

*Want to hear from students and faculty in these majors? Visit [admissions.ucdavis.edu/majors](mailto:admissions.ucdavis.edu/majors) for that and more.*

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