

SOCIOLOGY

Do you want to change the world? Get the tools you will need through the Sociology major at Mills College. Join a lively and welcoming community of scholars interested in learning about everything from public health issues to educational inequality to gentrification and urban change. Take courses such as Sociology of Hip-Hop, Social Control, or Gender and Society to learn more about how our society works and how we can change it. Rapid social change, powered in part by the information technology revolution, has transformed the world into a "global village." The sociological imagination offers a way to make sense of life in our age. Sociology at Mills teaches a clear set of marketable skills to our students including high quality writing, public speaking, social science research methods, professional networking, and quantitative and qualitative data analysis. Our graduates leave Mills with a strong combination of marketable skills and depth of sociological knowledge.

And, as a part of a liberal arts education, sociology courses offer exciting, insightful experiences for all students. Several of our courses engage the larger Bay Area community through internships, partnerships, and service learning.

The Sociology Program offers courses on many different topics that meet a wide range of student interests. By combining these courses and courses in related fields, students can create their own areas of concentration such as inequality in the criminal justice system, urban studies, race and educational inequality, contemporary immigration, or law and society.

While some majors choose to pursue a graduate degree in sociology, most recent graduates have gone on to fields such as law, public health, urban and regional planning, business, public policy, or social work. Regardless of one's career plans, the sociology major is an excellent foundation for lifelong learning and citizenship in the global village.

Please talk to an advisor in the Sociology department to learn more about Anthropology at Mills.

Program Goals

- Students will utilize multiple theoretical frameworks and sociological vocabulary to explain how historical forces, social structures, culture, and power relations shape human behavior on scales ranging from the individual to the global.
- Students will gain basic skills in both quantitative and qualitative research methods and data analysis and will have advanced skills in at least one method of research and one method of data analysis.
- Students will be effective communicators who can construct and present well-organized, coherent, sociological arguments in writing, speaking, and other media to a variety of audiences.
- Students will accumulate a stock of established and accepted research findings and be able to critically use these to understand their own lives and the world around them, and to contribute to public conversations about contemporary issues.

Majors & Minors

Major

Sociology Major—BA (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/sociology/sociology-ba>)

Minor

Sociology Minor (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/sociology/sociology-minor>)

Faculty & Staff

Faculty

Margaret Hunter

Fletcher Jones Professor of Sociology

Professor of Sociology

Vera Long 116, 510.430.3220, mhunter@mills.edu

Professional Interests: Skin tone stratification and skin bleaching in the Black and Latina/o communities, comparative racial and ethnic relations, sociology of gender and the body, contemporary racial attitudes, race and gender politics in hip-hop

Staff

Holly Robinson

Faculty Administrative Assistant

Vera Long reception, 510.430.2338, holly@mills.edu