

# SOCIO-PATHS

A Quarterly Undergraduate Newsletter from the Department of Sociology

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UCSD Department of Sociology

<http://sociology.ucsd.edu>

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## PLEASE MEET THE NEWEST FACULTY MEMBER IN THE SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT!

*A Letter of Introduction from Tomás Jiménez*

I am absolutely thrilled to join UCSD's sociology department. I grew up in Santa Clara (i.e., Silicon Valley) where I also attended Santa Clara University for my bachelor's degree. I did my graduate work at Harvard University, far away from the cozy confines of California. I finished my stint on the East Coast in Washington, DC, where I served as a Congressional Fellow in the office of U.S. Congressman Michael Honda. I am happy to be back in California and to be at such a wonderful school.

My research focuses primarily on the intersections of immigration, assimilation, ethnic identity, inequality, policy, and the Mexican-origin population. I have written about racial and ethnic intermarriage, the ethnic identity of the multiethnic individuals, and most recently I co-authored an article about the sociology of immigration. I am currently writing about how the large Mexican immigrant population influences the ethnic identity of Mexican Americans whose families have been in the United States for several generations. I conducted interviews and participant observations for this research in Garden City, Kansas and Santa Maria, California.

In addition to my affiliation with the sociology department, I am connected to the Center

for Comparative Immigration Studies. I look forward to meeting you in one of the three courses I teach this year: SOCG 290 - Chicanos in American Society; SOCB 127 - Immigration, Race, and Ethnicity; SOCC 151M - Chicanos in American Society. If I don't see you in one of these courses, I look forward to meeting you around the department.

*Please see the two new course descriptions on page 3.* □



### Winter Visitors

Ivan Major, a visiting professor from Budapest, Hungary, will offer SOCC168T Sociology of Technology.

Rai Wilson, a visiting lecturer, who taught for us last spring, returns in winter and spring. In winter he will teach SOCC159 Civil Rights, Civil Liberties and American Society. This is a special topics course and the description is available in the Sociology main office.



OOPS... In the fall issue of this newsletter, it was announced that Dr. Ivan Evans would be the Director of Undergraduate Studies this year. Because he will be on sabbatical during spring, he has stepped down. The Director of Undergraduate Studies for 2005-06 is Dr. David Phillips. He will be available during his office hours to answer your questions regarding transfer course credit, study abroad, the graduate school application process, career choices, and many other undergraduate matters. His office is located in the Social Science building (SSB), room 472. Please check in the main office (SSB401) for his office hours each quarter. You may contact him at (858) 534-0482 or by email at [dphillips@ucsd.edu](mailto:dphillips@ucsd.edu).

*Please see the interview with Dr. Phillips on page 6.* □



## Study Abroad

Many sociology majors participate in the Study Abroad program every year. One recent participant shares her thoughts regarding study abroad below. Visit the Programs Abroad Office today to find out how you can participate in this wonderful opportunity.

### A Sociology Major's Perspective

*At a powerful institution like UCSD we can get through our undergraduate studies comfortably. We can enjoy great access to resources, companionship of friends, the temperate San Diegan weather, familiar foods, and most of all, predictability of what tomorrow may bring. But four years, maybe five years, of the same faces, the same perspectives, the same politics, the same marine layer, rolling fog and occasional 'San Diego' beach weather, as it's called, seemed a little much for me, and I looked to the UCEAP program for a change.*



*To go to another country to study may seem daunting. It sure was for me. Luckily, the UCEAP program facilitates all the nitty-gritty work. The only decision I had to really make was Hong Kong or New Zealand, or both! Hong Kong emerged as my choice. Hong Kong prides itself as the gateway to China, delivering world-renowned culinary experiences, and home of the latest addition to world Disneyland's, Hong Kong Disneyland, but I wasn't fully aware of any of this until my return to San Diego. The little I knew was that Hong Kong was this small place, far far away, on the other side of the world with an English medium university.*

*The time came for me to leave. Above anything else, I was excited, eager, and anxious. The flight came. The flight went. I landed, and there I was, standing in the middle of this small place, far far away, on the other side of the world, amazed. Amazed at the collapse of space and time, the blurred boundaries between me and those around me – local Hong Kongers, other UCEAP students, international students, exchange students, Mainlanders, and expatriates – and by the very fact that I was actually doing something that seemed impossible a few months prior. But the most amazing thing was realizing, after eleven months of Cantonese, Chinese food, humidity, being a tourist, and having the status of an exchange student, that planes of standardization crisscross the world, how they do, how to recognize them, and how to learn to make sense of those phenomena. I had to be uncomfortable, nervous, and*

*constantly in reflection upon what I was doing, where I was, where I was going, and where I wanted to go to gain that insight. The opportunity to be away for awhile and honestly experience the intersections of biography and history, that's a reward of studying abroad.*

By Chilan Ta

Participant, UCEAP, The University of Hong Kong, HK S.A.R., 2004-2005  
B.A. Sociology, Thurgood Marshall College, UCSD, September 2005

Editor's note: Thank you Chilan for sharing your thoughts on study abroad. I hope you have inspired many sociology majors to explore the study abroad opportunities available to them.



## Law and Society 101

Sociology Professor John Skrentny will offer *LAWS 101* in winter on Tuesday & Thursday, 11:00 a.m. - 12:50 p.m. His sub topic is: **Law and The Workplace.**

*This course will examine how laws and courts have dealt with the continual conflict between employers' desires to hire, promote and fire who they please and employees' desires to be given equal opportunities for jobs and mobility.*

Sociology majors may use LAWS 101 as one elective for the major. The course must be taken for a letter grade, with a grade of C- or better earned. Remember that courses between the major and minor can not overlap. Sociology majors who are interested in a Law and Society minor, should contact Barbara Sanchez. Her office is room 3238 in the Literature Building; her phone number is (858) 534-1704. □

### Question and Answer Corner

**What should I do if I do not receive a grade in a course that I attended?**

**Contact the professor as soon as possible to see why you did not receive a grade. Most of the time it is a simple clerical error and the professor can fill out a grade change form to get your grade recorded.**

**You have only one quarter to clear up a blank grade. A grade of F will replace the blank grade unless the professor assigns a grade with the appropriate form.** □

## Faculty News

Dr. **John Evans** was recently a keynote speaker at the Genomics Policy and Research Forum launching conference at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland where he presented a paper about how ethical decisions about genomics should be structured in culturally pluralistic representative democracies like the U.S. and the U.K. While he told the editor of *Socio-paths* that he enjoyed visiting a new city, he was fed local food, like haggis. It was not until after he had given his talk that he was told that haggis was made from the various inside parts of a sheep boiled in its stomach lining. He enjoyed the new cross-cultural experience, but has sworn off haggis.

Dr. **Andrew Lakoff's** new book, *Pharmaceutical Reason: Knowledge and Value in Global Psychiatry*, was published by Cambridge University Press in October.

Dr. **Richard Madsen's** newest book, *Democracy's Dharma: The Asian Religious Renaissance and Political Progress in Taiwan* is forthcoming.

In September, he attended the Washington DC Center for Strategic and International Studies conference and in October he attended a conference at UC Santa Barbara. More travel in November will take him to a conference at the University of Michigan.

He recently testified before the Congressional-Executive Commission on China. He was a consultant for the US Commission on International Religious Freedom.

Dr. **Hugh (Bud) Mehan's** article discussing the cultural and political conflicts engendered by the Bersin-led reforms in San Diego will be published in the *Journal of Educational Change*. It is entitled: "When Reforms Travel Far Afield: A Sequel."

A book that extends that argument to classrooms, and other educational encounters within the district, entitled *Reform as Learning: When School Reform Collided with Organizational Culture and Community Politics in San Diego*, will be published by Routledge in April 2006. (His co-author is Lea Hubbard, who received her PhD from

UCSD in Sociology several years ago.)

Dr. Mehan also received the "Mentor of the Year" Award from UCSD's Academic Enrichment Programs for his work with McNair Scholars.

He has been reappointed director of CREATE for the next five years.

He co-authored a presentation at the ASA meetings in August with **Gordon Chang**. Gordon Chang received his BA in Sociology from UCSD a few years ago and is currently in our PhD program.

Two of Dr. **David Phillip's** recent papers, which were coauthored by an undergraduate from UCSD, have been covered very widely in the professional and popular media in the U.S., in several European countries, in South America, and in China and India. Among other media outlets: Congressional Quarterly, New York Times, Washington Post, L.A. Times, CBS Radio network, CNN Radio network, and a brief description in Time Magazine. □



**Spring 2006** brings two new and exciting courses.

### ***SOCB127 Immigration, Race, and Ethnicity***

Examination of the role that race and ethnicity play in immigrant group integration. Topics include: theories of integration; racial and ethnic identity formation; racial and ethnic change; immigration policy; public opinion; comparisons between contemporary and historical waves of immigration.

*instructor: Tomás Jiménez*

### ***SOC151M Chicanos in American Society***

Survey of contemporary sociological issues affecting Mexican-origin people in the United States. Lectures and reading will be oriented toward understanding the range of experiences within the Mexican-origin population. Focus will also be placed on evaluating theories and evidence used to understand this population.

*instructor: Tomás Jiménez*



## Honors Program

The Department of Sociology offers an Honors Program to students who have demonstrated excellence in the sociology major. Successful completion of the program allows participants to graduate ‘With Highest Distinction,’ ‘With High Distinction,’ or ‘With Distinction,’ depending upon their performance in the program. Candidates must have an overall GPA of 3.2 together with a 3.5 GPA in the major.

The honors program is available to majors in their junior or senior year. The two-seminar honors program is held consecutively every fall and winter. It provides participants an opportunity to receive guidance on research and writing techniques, to work on a thesis paper of their choosing, and to receive valuable feedback from their peers. Students will develop their own unique ideas and theories, as they research a topic of interest to them. The two-quarter sequence allows ample time to develop ideas in outline form, conduct research, and prepare the final thesis.

Graduating with honors provides some very important benefits. Perhaps most important is the fact that one has the opportunity to do in-depth research on a topic of special and personal interest—in effect, you are given the opportunity to become an *expert* on a particular topic. Beyond this, graduating with honors also provides some very practical career benefits, indicating to potential employers that one is highly motivated, shows initiative, and is capable of designing and executing a large-scale research project. Should your topic be specifically related to your career choice, the “extra edge” should seem even more obvious. Above all then, the completion of the honors thesis provides concrete evidence that you have PRACTICAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE—that you have applied the skills you have developed as an undergraduate. Indeed, the thesis itself often provides an excellent example of your academic writing abilities should you decide to apply to graduate school.

Applications for next years Honors Program (Fall 2006/Winter 2007) **must be turned in by May 5, 2006.** The application forms are now available in the main sociology office, SSB 401. If you need more information on this exceptional program, please see Dee-Dee Higgins during her office hours; Monday through Friday, 8:00-12:00 & 1:00-4:00. □



## RESOURCES

### **Academic Internship Program**

Information on Internship opportunities is available from the AIP office. They are located on Warren Campus, in the Literature Building, 2nd floor, room 3210. Check their website, <http://aip.ucsd.edu>, for deadlines and requirements.

Please Note: Sociology majors can petition the use of an AIP 197 for one elective credit. There are special conditions which must be met for the petition to be approved, please check with Dee-Dee Higgins in the Sociology Department for details.



## “WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE IN SOCIOLOGY?”

Sociology provides a broad liberal arts base from which to explore a world of job opportunities.

- ⇒ It provides knowledge and analytical skills needed to pursue a professional degree in **law, business, education, health & medicine, social work, or counseling.**
- ⇒ It offers preparation for fields that involve investigative skills and working with diverse people, such as **journalism, politics, public relations/marketing, business, or public administration.**
- ⇒ It provides the strong liberal arts preparation needed for entry-level positions in the **criminal justice system, business, social service, and government.**
- ⇒ It’s a first step for future graduate work in sociology in order to become a **professor or researcher.**

“Work and save.”

-Bernard Baruch

## Special Topic” Courses

Three special topic courses are being offered in **winter**. **Homelessness and Youth, Gangs & Crime** with Professor Lincoln and **Civil Rights, Civil Liberties and American Society** with Professor Wilson. Detailed course descriptions are available in the Department of Sociology main office.

**Looking ahead to spring**, the department will offer one special topic course, **Women & Crime**, listed as SOCC159.

**SOCC159 Women and Crime** offered by Stephen Lincoln.

Female criminality has long been overshadowed by male criminality in terms of incidence, magnitude, seriousness, research, and recognition. As a result, we know relatively little about the modern female criminal: her motivations, diversity, and her complexities. This is not to say that female crime has gone virtually unnoticed through the years. On the contrary, certain crimes have historically been considered largely female crimes, such as prostitution and shoplifting. However, these conclusions were often drawn from weak or sexist methodologies. Other crimes such as violent or white-collar crime that once seemed almost off-limits to female offenders may in fact be much more representative of female criminal behavior than previously believed. The reality is that women’s and girl’s crimes and delinquencies, similar to male criminality, are heterogeneous in nature. Equally, female offenders are neither easily nor singularly characterized, but in fact are varied in dimension, age, race, ethnicity, background, and their criminal behavior. Beyond these issues, this course will also seek to provide a clearer understanding of the relevance of gender for the criminal victimization of women, as well as the experiences of women working in the criminal justice system. □



### Life After Graduation

It’s never too early to begin planning for the day that you will leave UCSD. Some students will go on to graduate school and some will join the work force. Whatever your plans and goals, the Career Service Center is there to help you.

In the next few weeks, plan to take advantage of the many seminars and workshops that CSC provides.

A few that are well suited for Sociology majors are:

*Preparing for and Applying to Business School*  
November 1 2:00-3:00 p.m.

*Public Relations Today: A Career Exploration Panel*  
November 2 2:00-3:30 p.m.

*Graduate Study for Aspiring Psychologists and Counselors*  
November 3 12:30-1:30 p.m.

*Law School: Preparation and Application*  
November 7 3:00-4:00 p.m.

*Getting In: Law School Admissions Directors Panel*  
November 9 3:00-4:00 p.m.

*International Career Panel*  
November 16 2:00-3:30 p.m.

*Peace Corps Opportunities*  
November 16 5:00-6:30 p.m.  
November 29 11:30 a.m. –1:00 p.m.

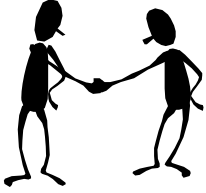
*Effective Job Search Strategies*  
November 17 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.



## A LITTLE OF THIS, A LITTLE OF THAT!

### *Miscellaneous information that’s good to know.*

- ◆ Course descriptions for winter courses are now available in the main office (SSB 401), as well as on line at: <http://sociology.ucsd.edu>
- ◆ Whenever you make any changes to your schedule in the Triton Link system, print out a confirmation of the action taken so that you can confirm that what was done is what you wanted done.
- ◆ The best way to get your papers/finals back from your instructor at the end of the quarter, is to turn in a self-addressed stamped manila envelope with your final work. If you do not choose this option, you can pick up your papers/finals directly from your professors during their office hours the following quarter. If you wait longer than one quarter, you’re out of luck, so be sure to take care of this as soon as you can. Papers and finals are not available in the Sociology Main Office unless your professor was a visiting professor who was in residence for only one quarter, or your professor is on leave the quarter following the course.
- ◆ Tips for better study habits for students of all ages can be found at [www.how-to-study.com](http://www.how-to-study.com). You’ll find strategies to improve reading, listening, note-taking and other study skills. □



## Getting to Know the Sociology Department's Director of Undergraduate Studies, Dr. David Phillips

Welcome to the post of Director of Undergraduate Studies in Sociology, Dr. Phillips. Can you tell us something of your own background and areas of interest?

I got my B.A. at Harvard and got my Ph.D. in sociology at Princeton (with a specialty in demography). I do research in epidemiology, which is, roughly speaking, the statistical study of diseases. I am interested in social and psychological factors affecting mortality. Almost all the papers I have published on this topic have been co-authored with UCSD undergraduates, in such journals as the New England Journal of Medicine, the Lancet, Journal of the American Medical Association, and the British Medical Journal. I am always looking for good students to work with.

*Why are "methods" courses important for sociology majors?*

Methods classes are important because they help students to understand how to think systematically and skeptically about their ideas and the ideas of others.

*Sociology/A 100, Classical Sociological Theory, is a required course for sociology majors. Why is it necessary?*

We all benefit from being exposed to the core works and events of our culture and our history. Similarly, sociology majors benefit by taking Classic Sociological Theory because it helps them to place modern sociological ideas, themes, and findings in a historical context.

*What do you consider to be a valuable way for sociology majors to spend their time while at UCSD?*

Take lots of courses, not only in Sociology, but in other areas as well. You will probably never have a better opportunity to educate yourself so broadly. Don't just swallow the information you are exposed to; digest it also. Remember not only

to read, but also to reflect.

*What practical skills do students acquire when their field of study is sociology?*

One way to answer this question is to ask your Undergraduate Advisor and Undergraduate Secretary what types of jobs Sociology Majors got after they graduated. Some of the skills you might acquire are in great demand in the world outside academia--e.g., the ability to conduct and evaluate social surveys and the ability to use statistical and computer techniques to analyze a broad range of social data.

*How beneficial is it for sociology majors to get to know the sociology department faculty?*

It is extremely important for you to get to know sociology department faculty. Just before you graduate almost all of you will need letters of recommendation from three faculty members who know you well. These letters will not be effective unless they are written by faculty who have come to know you, not merely as a student in a large class, but as an individual as well. □

### Tracking Your Sociology Major

With the exception of an independent study, which can only be taken pass/no pass, **all course work for the major must be taken for a letter grade.** Grades of C- or better are required in all courses in the major.

Four lower division courses are required for the sociology major. They are: **SOCL1A, SOCL1B, SOCL20, and SOCL60.** It is essential to plan ahead, so you don't come up missing a required course that won't be offered for several quarters. L1A, L1B, and L20 are offered only once each year, while L60 is generally offered twice a year.

A total of twelve upper division courses are required for the sociology major. **SOCA100** must be taken by all majors. This leaves eleven upper division courses, of which one must be from each of the clusters a-method, b, c, and d. The remaining seven courses, referred to as electives, may be chosen from any cluster.

**Winter's course offerings will include the following required courses for the major:** SOCL1B and SOCL60.

# SDSU & UCSD STUDENTS: NEW JOURNAL WANTS WRITERS

*Envision San Diego: The Creative Community* is a partnership between SDSU's International Center for Communications, KPBS, and SignOnSanDiego.com (The San Diego Union Tribune's leading local online news and information source.) The partnership is designed to enhance citizen awareness of, and commitment to solving, the major public policy issues affecting the development of the San Diego region.

*The Creative Community Journal* is a new online publication featuring the scholarly work, research and critical thinking of SDSU and UCSD **undergraduate** and graduate students. Paper topics might include the following:

- The Importance of Citizen Participation in Community Development
- The Scourge of Sprawl
- The City of San Diego's "City of Villages" Plan
- The Case for Public Art
- The Marriage of Music and Math: Art and Science in the Classroom
- Smart and Safe Schools
- Healthy and Sustainable Communities
- Renewing the Urban Core
- The New Role of Libraries in the Age of Information
- Civic Engagement and Civic Enterprise
- New Information Infrastructures
- Governance in the New Economy
- Creative Clusters

Authors must be registered as graduate or undergraduate students at SDSU and UCSD during the Fall 2005 semester/quarter (full or part-time status.) **Mini-grants of \$100 will be awarded to each student whose article is accepted for publication.**

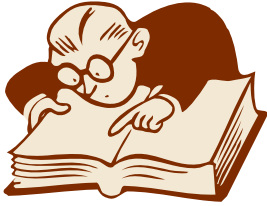
All accepted articles will be posted to the *The Creative Community Journal* website (click the link from [www.envisionsandiego.org](http://www.envisionsandiego.org)). Articles originally submitted as a class assignment are acceptable. Additional submission requirements include:

- Only one submission per student
- Scholarly, peer-reviewed research on the chosen topic
- 6-10 pages, typed, double-spaced (not including title and reference pages)
- Use of a common citation format (e.g., APA, MLA)
- Font: 12-point, Times New Roman
- Author's name located only on the article's title page
- Preference is given to articles that focus on the San Diego region and utilize local data, but articles that discuss other regions are also acceptable.

**SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLE BY EMAIL:** Visit [www.envisionsandiego.org](http://www.envisionsandiego.org), and click on "The Creative Community Journal" for information on how to submit your article.

**Deadline for submission: December 9, 2005, 4 p.m.**

Accepted articles will be announced by January 27, 2006, and grantees will be notified directly by mail. Please direct any questions to Andy Pendoley via email: [apendole@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:apendole@mail.sdsu.edu). Please visit [www.envisionsandiego.org](http://www.envisionsandiego.org) for more information about Envision San Diego.



**THE HANDBOOK FOR UNDERGRADUATE SOCIOLOGY MAJORS** is available on the department's web site. <http://sociology.ucsd.edu>; then click on Undergraduate Program. □

## Keep Information Current!

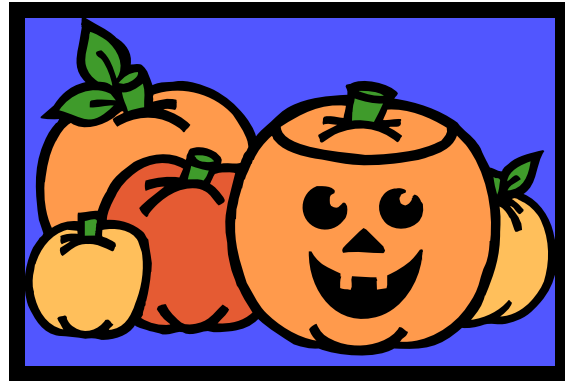
Please keep your directory information current on TritonLink. The department uses TritonLink to send email messages to all sociology majors and your instructors may use TritonLink to send messages to the students enrolled in their classes. Check your UCSD email account regularly so that



**Check triton link for the latest information on important dates and deadlines.**

### Upcoming Holidays

- November 11, 2005                      Veteran's Day
- November 24 -25, 2005              Thanksgiving
- January 16, 2006                      Martin Luther King Jr. holiday
- February 20, 2006                      President's Day
- March 31, 2006                         César Chavez Day



# Happy Halloween

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