



# SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, HUMANITIES AND ARTS



## PREPARING FOR ROLES AS INFORMED CITIZENS AND LEADERS

In the School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts, known on campus as SSHA, we develop analytical, critical, and creative thinkers, conscientious and active global citizens, and lifelong learners and leaders. With breadth and depth in degree programs, you'll receive a valuable liberal arts education, no matter what your career trajectory. Join us to explore and explain the past and present human condition as expressed through arts, culture, institutions, biology, and behaviors. SSHA develops and promotes student-faculty engagement, undergraduate research opportunities, honors programming, and community connections beyond what you might find anywhere else.



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

### ANAYA CAMBRIDGE

An Anthropology major with a minor in Community Research and Service, Anaya is an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation and is also a descendant of the Apache and Mexican people. She transferred from Merced Community College where she earned two Associate degrees. Anaya is thankful for the guidance that Anthropology professor, Dr. Robin DeLugan, has provided. She plans to attend graduate school where she can further her study of medicinal medicines within Native American communities and hopes to provide a Native American perspective of traditional healing practices within the field of anthropology.

### JOSE LOPEZ

UC Merced alumnus Jose Lopez is from Boyle Heights of Los Angeles and majored in both Political Science and Sociology. He served as the founder and president of the Political Science Honors Society, Pi Sigma Alpha, the External President of ASUCM (Associated Students of UC Merced), and the President of the Merced Pre-Law Society. Jose was Professor Kroeger's research assistant in collecting data on governmental ministers from Africa. He also assisted Professor Shaver in the Political Violence Lab by researching media bias about political violence. His two-year internship with a local attorney further cultivated Jose's passion to practice law and help those in need.

### KAREN ZAVALA-GUEVARA

Karen Zavala-Guevara is a Global Arts Studies major interested in filmmaking and photography. She is also a first-generation student from South America. She has assisted the GASP Department with social outreach and worked with the Digital Curation and Scholarship unit at the UC Merced Library. Upon graduating, she seeks to continue expanding her photography and aspires to work on set for film and television. Her goals are to enter the film scene as a female director, and contribute to a more inclusive and progressive cinema. She values the city of Merced and its art, eager to see the growth of the arts in the community and on campus.



Check out more student profiles:  
[ssha.ucmerced.edu/featured-students/archive](https://ssha.ucmerced.edu/featured-students/archive)

## FACULTY PROFILE

**Maria-Elena De Trinidad Young, Assistant Professor  
Public Health  
MPH, UC Berkeley; Ph.D., UCLA**

Prior to joining the faculty, Maria-Elena De Trinidad was a Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellow at UC Merced. She is a scholar of immigrant health and her research seeks to understand the impact of the US immigration system on the well-being of immigrants and their families. **Her studies look at the disparities in health and health care access between US citizens and noncitizens. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she has been conducting research on the health and economic impact of the pandemic on Latino families in rural regions of California.** She mentors and works with Public Health doctoral students who are also pursuing research on the various impacts of immigration policy on immigrant populations.



LEARN MORE

### RECENT INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- » Cedars Sinai Medical Center
- » JPMorgan Chase and Co.
- » Morgan Stanley Smith Barney
- » PayPal Holdings Inc.
- » U.S. Attorney's Office
- » U.S. House of Representatives

### STUDENT PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- » Alpha Delta Kappa
- » Alpha Kappa Psi
- » Anthropology Society
- » Bobcat Model United Nations
- » Business Society
- » Cognitive Science Student Association
- » Delta Sigma Pi
- » Economics Club
- » Marketing Club
- » Merced Pre-Law Society
- » Microfinance Project Student Association
- » Phi Alpha Delta
- » Pi Sigma Alpha
- » The Prodigy News
- » Public Health Society
- » Sociology Club
- » Young Artist Movement (YAM)

### WORLD LANGUAGES

UC Merced offers four world languages for students: Chinese, French, Japanese and Spanish. All lower-division courses strive to promote cultural awareness of the countries and communities where the languages are spoken.

### CENTERS AND INSTITUTES

SSHA is affiliated with many specialized centers and institutes. Interdisciplinary research and educational opportunities are provided through these groups, where faculty and students can collaborate on shared interests. [ucm.edu/more-centers](http://ucm.edu/more-centers)

### UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH IN THE HUMANITIES (UROC-H)

The goal of the UROC-H program is to engage promising undergraduate students each year in faculty-mentored research and prepare them for advanced education in the humanities and humanistic social sciences. [uroc.ucmerced.edu/uroc-h](http://uroc.ucmerced.edu/uroc-h)

### SSHA MAJORS

- » Anthropology, B.A.
- » Cognitive Science, B.A.
- » Cognitive Science, B.S.
- » Critical Race and Ethnic Studies, B.A.
- » Economics, B.A.
- » Economics, B.S.\*  
Emphases:
  - Economic Analysis and Policy
  - Quantitative Economics
- » **(NEW)** Environmental Humanities, B.A.◊
- » Global Arts Studies Program, B.A.  
Optional Emphases:
  - Performance Studies
  - Visual Studies
- » History, B.A.
- » Literatures in English, B.A.  
Optional Emphases:
  - Literature and Social Justice
  - Literature and the Environment
- » Management and Business Economics, B.S.
- » Philosophy, B.A.
- » Political Science, B.A.  
**(NEW)** Emphases:
  - American Politics‡
  - Comparative Politics‡
  - International Relations‡
  - Law and Policy‡
- » Psychology, B.A.
- » Public Health, B.A.
- » **(NEW)** Public Health, B.S.◊  
Optional Emphasis:
  - Pre-Med
- » Sociology, B.A.  
**(NEW)** Optimal Emphases:
  - Community Studies‡
  - Health, Medicine, and Society‡
  - Justice, Law, and Society‡
  - Race and Racial Justice‡
- » Spanish, B.A.
- » Writing Studies, B.A.

### RESEARCH CENTERS & INSTITUTES INCLUDE:



Center for the Humanities

**CAPE**

Center for Analytic Political Engagement



HSRI: Health Sciences Research Institute



Nicotine and Cannabis Policy Center

**SVJ CC-AIR**

San Joaquin Valley Center for Community Air Assessment and Injustice Reduction



Sierra Nevada Research Institute

**COMMUNITY AND LABOR CENTER UC MERCED**

UC Merced Community and Labor Center

**WAVE**

Wide-Area Visualization Environment (WAVE)

Were you admitted as Undeclared in the School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts? You'll have an opportunity to explore our programs to see which major sparks your interest.

- \* All applicants must choose an emphasis
- ‡ Open to first year/freshmen in Fall 2024; available to transfer students in Fall 2025.
- ◊ Open to first year/freshmen in Fall 2024; available to transfer students in Fall 2026

Read our digital publication



**SSHA.UCMERCED.EDU**



**ADMISSIONS**

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