Curricula Offered

Refer to the Courses and Curricula section of this catalog for a complete listing of program requirements and courses offered by departments within the College of Arts and Letters.

Doctoral Program

Geography

Master's Degrees

Anthropology (M.A.), Asian Studies (M.A.), Chicana and Chicano Studies (M.A.), Creative Writing (M.F.A.), Criminal Justice and Criminology (M.S.; jointly with the College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts), Economics (M.A.), English (M.A.), French (M.A.), Geography (M.A., M.S.), History (M.A.), Latin American Studies (M.A., M.B.A./M.A.; jointly with the Fowler College of Business, M.P.A./M.A.; jointly with the College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts, M.P.H./M.A.; jointly with the College of Health and Human Services), Liberal Arts and Sciences (M.A.), Linguistics (M.A.), Philosophy (M.A.), Political Science (M.A.), Rhetoric and Writing Studies (M.A.), Sociology (M.A.), Spanish (M.A.), Women's Studies (M.A.).

Bachelor's Degrees


Minors


Preprofessional Curriculum

Prelegal

Certificate Programs


Research Centers and Institutes

Bread and Roses Center

Doreen J. Mattingly and Kimala J. Price, Co-Directors

The Bread and Roses Center for the promotion of creativity, scholarship, and community action in support of the women's movement, is the first such center in the nation. The Bread and Roses Center plays a central role in promoting activism in close connection with research and teaching. Since its founding in 2002 by the Department of Women's Studies, the center has been home to interdisciplinary and intersectional projects that foster women's economic, social, and political empowerment; promote internationalization and transnational feminist collaborations; build a stronger local feminist community within the university and with other San Diego organizations; link feminist theory to practice; and train future feminist advocates and professionals.

The Bread and Roses Center is housed in the Department of Women's Studies and can be reached by contacting the department office at 619-594-2952 or on the website at http://breadandroses.sdsu.edu.

Center for Asian and Pacific Studies

Sandra A. Wawrytko, Director

The Center for Asian and Pacific Studies brings together interested students, faculty, and community members, to promote teaching, research, and contemporary dialogues on the cultures and societies of Asia and the Pacific Rim and their relationships to North America. To explore East Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, the Pacific Rim, and Asian American communities, the center draws on the academic resources of multiple departments and programs within and outside of the College of Arts and Letters, including: anthropology, art, Chinese, comparative literature, economics, geographic information science, Japanese, linguistics, philosophy, political science, religious studies, sociology, and women's studies. The center supports colloquia and symposia, curriculum development, student and faculty research, community research, international programs, and new college initiatives to educate students, community members, and working professionals about Asian and Pacific languages, cultures, politics, economies, histories, and societies. The center promotes faculty and student
exchanges with Asian universities as well as study abroad programs in
the Asia Pacific. The center houses the undergraduate major, the
emphasis in Chinese Studies and Language, a minor in Asian studies,
a minor in Chinese studies, as well as the graduate program. For more
information, please visit http://asiapacific.sdsu.edu.

Center for Earth Systems Research (CESAR)
Piotr L. Jankowski, Douglas A. Stow, Co-Directors

The Stephen and Mary Birch Foundation Center for Earth Systems
Research (CESAR) was founded in 1986 as a computer-based
facility for geographic information science research and instruction
that is administered by the Department of Geography. The purpose of the
center is to apply state-of-the-art, geo-spatial technology in geographic
information systems (GIS), global positioning systems (GPS), remote
sensing, image processing, automated cartography, spatial statistics,
and spatial modeling to problems with geographic dimensions. As
such, a number of Geography Department faculty are affiliated with the
center. Research conducted by CESAR is directed at both applied and
fundamental problems in fields ranging from urban and regional planning
to earth system science. This research includes computer-based map
and image data processing and spatial simulation modeling, as well as
field-based data collection. CESAR has extensive hardware, software,
imaging systems, and field equipment resources in its four laboratories:
(1) Richard Wright Spatial Analysis Laboratory, (2) Regional Analysis
Laboratory (REGAL), (3) William Finch Remote Sensing Laboratory, and
(4) Stephen and Mary Birch Foundation GIS Laboratory.

For more information about on-going research projects or services
provided by CESAR, or for a demonstration of its capabilities, call
619-594-8042 or 619-594-6437 or dave@geography.sdsu.edu.

Center for European Studies
Veronica Shapovalov, Director

The Center for European Studies, through its associated faculty
and students, is committed to the multidisciplinary study of Europe
and its dynamic and evolving calculus of nations, cultures, languages,
and perspectives. The center is a vehicle for fostering appreciation of
Europe and its dynamic and evolving calculus of nations, cultures, languages,
and perspectives. The center is to apply state-of-the-art, geo-spatial technology in geographic
information systems (GIS), global positioning systems (GPS), remote
sensing, image processing, automated cartography, spatial statistics,
and spatial modeling to problems with geographic dimensions. As
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619-594-8042 or 619-594-6437 or dave@geography.sdsu.edu.

Center for Human Dynamics in the Mobile Age (HDMA)
Ming-Hsiang Tsou, Director

The Center for Human Dynamics in the Mobile Age (HDMA) examines the transformation of innovative academic research into
technological and practical software solutions for solving real world
problems (such as disease outbreaks, disaster response and recovery,
health disparities in cancer and obesity, drug abuse, and urban crime
rates). Researchers integrate spatial science (GIS and GPS technol-
ogies), mobile applications and technologies, and big data sources to analyze real world problems in order to build transformative scien-
tific theories and computational models for understanding human
dynamics. For more information, please visit http://human dynamics.
sdsu.edu.

Center for Information Convergence and Strategy (CICS)
André Skupin and Akshay Pottathil, Co-Directors

The Center for Information Convergence and Strategy (CICS),
established in mid-2014, focuses on modern technology application in
diverse domains at local, state, federal, tribal, and international levels.
It supports research across related disciplines with an emphasis on data
acquisition and analytics, social media solutions, strategic mapping,
and systems integration and development. From visualization to
predictive analytics, CICS leverages various information technologies
to evaluate current trends and develop strategies based on dynamically
 evolving content.

To promote innovation through open collaboration, the center offers
transparent interaction among government, industry, and academia
by acting as a platform for transdisciplinary research and education
efforts, with a focus on data mining and advanced visual techniques,
as well as building strategies and solutions for government and private
industry. To organically incubate innovation, CICS aims to catalyze and
nurture partnerships and collaborations in strategic regions globally.
The center has a diverse group of faculty researchers and subject
matter experts that deploy a range of methodologies, from machine
learning and advanced visualization to rhetoric analysis, applied
to subjects as diverse as disaster response, global security, threat
reduction, business development, biomedicine, public health, and
digital humanities.

For further information or to schedule a visit, see the website at http://
cics.sdsu.edu. The CICS office is located in Storm Hall, Room 339.

Center for Interdisciplinary Studies of
Young People, Environments, Society, and Space (YESS)
Stuart C. Aitken, Director

Tom Herman, Managing Director
Fernando J. Bosch, Pascale J. Marcelli,
Ramona L. Perez, P.J.E. (Jenny) Quintana,
Shulamit N. Riblat, Co-Directors

YESS is an interdisciplinary collective of academic and community
integrated that integrates multiple approaches to foster child
and youth well-being. The mission of the center is to support research
on children, environments, families, society, and space. It includes
not only international scholarship and global perspectives on families
and young people but also local community research initiatives in San
Diego and Tijuana.

The geographical contexts within which young people live structure
individual lives and provide connections to social and political forma-
tions. It is important to get beyond the problematization of “children,”
“families,” and “communities” as categories so that we may find
ways to account for the unique processes of identity formation and the
relationships through which young people construct their lived
spaces. Consequently, YESS supports research that is intent on
raising new questions concerning the interdependence of children,
caregivers, their communities and social and spatial structures.
The center focuses on local and international research, workshops,
and conferences as funding allows. It is connected to international
child research centers in Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America.
YESS sponsors the international Routledge journal, Children’s
Geographies: Advancing interdisciplinary understanding of younger
people’s lives. In addition to this international, global focus, ISYS
supports research in San Diego and Tijuana that relates to children,
families and communities.

For information call 619-594-6498, or visit the website at
http://geog.sdsu.edu/Research/Projects/ISYS/.

Center for Islamic and Arabic Studies
Ahmet T. Kuru, Director

The Center for Islamic and Arabic Studies administers the minor in
Islamic and Arabic Studies, and the major in Social Science: Emphasis
on Islamic and Arabic Studies. It is committed to supporting teaching
and research on the lives of Muslim and Arabic-speaking peoples past
and present. The center’s study of the Islamic world focuses on the
global context in which Islam emerged historically, the cultures and
societies that it helped shape, most especially in Eurasia and Africa,
and the current global condition in which people in the Islamic world
situate themselves today. It sees the Arabic language as the cultural
medium for diverse ways of life that are of world historical significance.

The center is multi-disciplinary and includes in its scope of study
the Arabic and Persian languages and literatures; the history of
Islam and Arabic-speaking peoples; political, economic, and social
dynamics of contemporary societies; art and architecture; social,
political, religious, and philosophical thought; and the experience of
Muslim communities in the United States and around the world. For
more information, visit the website at http://www.cias.sdsu.edu.
Center for Latin American Studies
Ramona L. Pérez, Director

The Center for Latin American Studies supports teaching and research related to Latin America. It has primary responsibility for the administration of the Latin American studies undergraduate and graduate degrees. It also participates in joint degree programs in international business, business administration, and public health. The center administers programs that are interdisciplinary, drawing on the expertise of an outstanding Latin Americanist faculty from the following departments and schools: Anthropology; Art and Design; English and Comparative Literature; Economics; Geography; History; Political Science; Public Affairs; Public Health; Social Work; Sociology; Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures; Women's Studies; and the Fowler College of Business. In addition, the center is involved with the development of innovative methods of instruction in Mixtec, Spanish, and Zapotec; the provision of information and in-service training programs for elementary and secondary school teachers; and the provision of services for the general public through the sponsorship of conferences, workshops, lectures, and films. The center also assists in the development of the university library's Latin American holdings. The center has cooperative agreements for research, faculty, and student exchanges with several Latin American universities, particularly in Mexico, Chile, and Costa Rica.

For additional information, visit the website at http://latinamericanstudies.sdsu.edu.

Center for Qualitative Research
Norma Ojeda, Interim Director

The Center for Qualitative Research, located within the Department of Sociology at San Diego State University, promotes the use of qualitative methods in the quest to understand and explain important aspects of social organization. Qualitative researchers utilize a wide range of methods to gather data including participant observation, in-depth interviews, content analysis, focus groups, photography, film, and videography to accomplish a holistic study of social meanings, social relations, and social institutions. The primary objectives of the center are to:

- Create and sustain an interdisciplinary community of scholars whose principal research focus is qualitative;
- Organize and facilitate workshops and colloquia focusing on key issues facing qualitative researchers such as methodological, epistemological, and ethical issues;
- Provide a forum for the dissemination of the products of qualitative research across all disciplines.

For more information, contact the center at 619-594-4826.

Charles W. Hostler Institute on World Affairs
Farid Abdel-Nour, Honorary Director

The Charles W. Hostler Institute on World Affairs plays a critical role in the educational mission of SDSU. It was founded in 1942 as the Institute on World Affairs to inform students, faculty, and the wider public on global affairs. The institute has provided the SDSU and greater San Diego communities with high level and spirited intellectual engagement on a rich diversity of international issues and controversies. Recent topics have included drone warfare and targeted killings, international war crime courts, Iran’s stance on nuclear weapons and its evolving relationship with Israel, and new challenges in U.S. foreign policy. The institute includes an upper-division political science course every spring. Recent themes of this course have been international law and global justice, moral responsibility in world affairs, and critical Israeli voices.

The institute prides itself on encouraging robust critical debate, including the airing of highly controversial themes under the operating motto of audiatur et altera parle (let the other side be heard). Speakers are drawn from all areas of global affairs, including international diplomacy, academia, national security, and protest politics. The institute is honored to bear the name of Charles W. Hostler, former U.S. Ambassador to Bahrain. Ambassador Hostler served his country with distinction and provided generous support in time and money to the institute and many other worthy causes. More information can be found at http://hostler.iwa.sdsu.edu.

Chinese Studies Institute
Li-Rong Lilly Cheng, Director

The Chinese Studies Institute coordinates and supports on-campus teaching and research related to the Chinese speaking world. The institute develops and fosters faculty and student exchange programs with universities and institutions of higher learning. Various cultural programs on the Chinese speaking world and activities on campus and in the community promote cultural awareness and understanding. The development of Chinese language publications, audiovisual materials, periodicals, newspapers, and other resources on campus fosters relationships between San Diego State University and the Chinese community, as well as nurtures friendship between the Chinese and American peoples.

Collections Management Program (CMP)
Jaime Lennox, Interim Director

The Collections Management Program (CMP) works toward the following goals: preserving and curating historic and prehistoric anthropological, archaeological, and ethnological collections; encouraging professional and student research with the collections; promoting the preservation of these resources in partnership with Native Americans and other ethnic groups; and facilitating community involvement with the collections. It meets federal and state legislation regarding care of the collections, fosters an understanding of the value and importance of the collections, and provides advanced curation management and facilities for the care of over 900 collections and several hundred thousand artifacts. For more information on CMP and internship opportunities, visit the website at http://cmp.sdsu.edu.

Confucius Institute (CI)
Li-Rong Lilly Cheng, Managing Director

The Confucius Institute (CI) at San Diego State University (SDSU) was established in collaboration with the Confucius Institute Headquarters (Hanban), the executive body of the Chinese Language Council International, a non-governmental and non-profit organization affiliated with the Ministry of Education of China. Housed in the College of Arts and Letters, the purposes of the CI at SDSU are to strengthen educational cooperation between China and the United States and to promote development of Chinese language education at the primary, secondary, and tertiary levels as well as at the community colleges. The CI at SDSU focuses especially on teacher training by offering both on-site and online classes while utilizing the most advanced language teaching pedagogy and technology. The CI at SDSU has a partner institution in China – Xiamen University, a distinguished national research university. For more information, visit the website at http://confucius.sdsu.edu.

Institute for Ethics and Public Affairs
Mark R. Wheeler, Director

The Institute for Ethics and Public Affairs at San Diego State University seeks to promote critical thinking about moral issues that are often complex in nature. It aims both to be a resource to members of the campus community, the larger community of scholars, and the greater San Diego community who wish to pursue thoughtful discussion and research as a means of clarifying moral problems. It also aims to raise the profile of the moral dimensions of contemporary issues. The institute is housed in the Department of Philosophy, but seeks interdisciplinary discussion and collaboration since clarity on contemporary moral problems often involves both the application of normative theorizing and empirical investigation. The institute organizes and sponsors a variety of programs on applied and theoretical moral issues. Among these programs are colloquia, community outreach talks, lectures, and student essay contests. Visit the website at http://ethics.sdsu.edu for details.
Institute for Regional Studies of the Californias (IRSC)
Paul Ganster, Director

The Institute for Regional Studies of the Californias (IRSC) provides San Diego State University with a forum for the investigation, discussion, and dissemination of information about the United States-Mexico border region. Although the institute focuses on the border region of California, Baja California, the United States, and Mexico, it is also concerned with important issues of border regions elsewhere in the world.

Created in 1983, the institute has undertaken multidisciplinary applied research projects on important regional concerns including transborder environmental issues, policy perspectives of the California-Mexico relationship, quality of life, and sustainable development. IRSC also plays an active role in Mexico-related professional organizations and is frequently consulted on transborder issues by the media, nongovernmental organizations, the public sector, and other border stakeholders.

Other institute activities include conducting binational symposia; improving communication between public and private sector representatives on both sides of the border; serving as a clearinghouse for information on transborder events, issues, and institutions; and encouraging the effective use of educational resources among the region's universities. The institute serves as a major link between SDSU and Mexican universities and institutions.

IRSC has an ongoing publications program that includes books, monographs, and shorter items. Many titles are co-published with SDSU Press.

IRSC conducts applied research projects on border environmental issues and policy, regional economic issues, and transborder planning issues. For more information, visit the website at http://irsc.sdsu.edu.

International Population Center (IPC)
John R. Weeks, Director

The International Population Center (IPC) promotes applied demographic research and the provision of technical assistance and consulting, especially focusing on population issues and policy within the San Diego/Tijuana region, the U.S.-Mexico border, Africa, and the Middle East.

Although it is located in the Department of Geography, IPC is a multidisciplinary facility, linking center faculty from several departments on campus with center associates from other organizations and universities in the San Diego region. Contact the center at 619-594-8040 or visit the website at http://geography.sdsu.edu/Research/Projects/IPC/ipc2.html.

International Studies Education Project (ISTEP)
Gary Kroesch, Director

The International Studies Education Project (ISTEP) supports the twin SDSU priorities of community outreach and internationalization through the promotion of international studies education in our schools and community. Programs designed to improve teaching and learning at the pre-collegiate level are emphasized, with particular focus on the social sciences and humanities as they relate to international, cross-cultural and citizenship education within both the domestic American and wider global context.

ISTEP programs are multidisciplinary and collaborative in nature, involving partnerships with other SDSU academic departments, centers and institutes, as well as with other educational institutions and community groups. Programs include in-service teacher training and professional development workshops and institutes, curriculum development, student-focused programs, and partnerships with schools and districts. The ISTEP Instructional Resource Center is a "demonstration" collection of K-16 instructional materials in global issues, world areas and cultures, and cross-cultural education available to SDSU students and educators throughout San Diego County.

For more information, visit ISTEP's website at http://istep.sdsu.edu.
South Coastal Information Center (SCIC)
Seth W. Mallios, Director
Jaime Lennox, Coordinator

The South Coastal Information Center (SCIC) promotes and ensures the preservation of historic resources in San Diego County through archaeological research, archival maintenance, and education. As the state-sponsored archaeological archive for the region, SCIC is responsible for coordinating all written and spatial information for over 50,000 archaeological sites. SCIC specializes in digital conversion and analysis and has a fully integrated archaeological Geographic Information System (GIS). Student internships are available with emphasis on the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) and GIS. For more information, visit the website at http://scic.org.

Watershed Science Institute (WSI)
Trent W. Biggs, Director

The Watershed Science Institute (WSI) promotes collaboration among SDSU researchers and communities involved in the management and regulation of land and water resources. The objective of WSI is to improve the integration of science, policy, and management of watersheds by aligning research questions with critical management needs. The regional focus is on Southern California, including San Diego County, Imperial Valley, and the US-Mexico Border region, all of which face critical challenges related to water resources and water quality, drinking water supply shortages, climate change, water quality deterioration, impaired surface water bodies, soil erosion, and coastal contamination. WSI has collaborators across the university, including faculty in biology, civil and environmental engineering, geography, mathematics and statistics, and public health, and is therefore a university-wide institute housed in the Division of Research Affairs. Community collaborators include the City of San Diego Water Department, San Diego Coastkeeper, San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego River Conservancy, San Diego River Park Foundation, Southern California Coastal Water Research Project, and others. For more information, visit http://watershed.sdsu.edu.

Social Science Research Laboratory (SSRL)
Cathy Cirina-Chiu, Managing Director

Established in 1974, the Social Science Research Laboratory (SSRL) was founded to support social research at San Diego State University and in the San Diego community. SSRL currently provides survey research and program evaluation services to university faculty and administrators, local government agencies, and non-profit organizations. SSRL has completed program evaluations in a variety of program areas, including youth violence prevention, LGBT health, substance abuse, and HIV prevention. Services available to clients include program evaluation, focus groups, telephone, web, mail, intercept, multi-mode and multi-language surveys, research design, and data analysis.

SSRL also provides graduate-level training in survey research methodology and practices through its Internship in Applied Survey Research and Program Evaluation. The goal of the internship is to provide eligible graduate students with field experience in survey research and program evaluation and an opportunity to apply the information and skills learned in their graduate program curriculum in a real-world social research setting. SSRL is located in College of Arts and Letters, Room 374, 619-594-1363. More information can be found at http://ssrl.sdsu.edu.