



*major in*  
**SOCIAL POLICY  
& PUBLIC SERVICE**

researchers ask  
*questions like:*

- ✓ What are the challenges faced in our education system related to access, retention and quality?
- ✓ How does Obamacare and other health policies affect medical care for vulnerable populations?
- ✓ What is the mental health status of underrepresented communities and what policies are required to improve their current well-being?

their findings *impact*  
our communities

*the degree*

The major in social policy and public service (SPPS) is designed for students interested in social issues, social justice, equality and social policy. With three unique areas of focus (education, governance and health) students can explore educational access and progress, the impact of public policies, or America's current health and health care policies. The curriculum addresses current issues related to governance, community, public policy, public health and education, and creates a path to social change, social justice, fair political representation, quality education and health equality. Students in this major will take courses with faculty composed of respected UCI researchers and experts in fields ranging from education and psychology to public policy and sociology.

*careers*

Offering a comprehensive curriculum, SPPS is one of the few majors that requires students to complete a one-year field study and a one quarter community internship. Students become equipped with technical and analytical skills to become leaders and service providers at the local and national level. The service-oriented philosophy of the major facilitates a deep understanding of the three focus areas leading to a strong placement in the professional fields. Social policy and public service majors obtain careers in government, public policy, education, public health, social work, mental health, non-profit organizations, teaching, law, medicine, community leadership and public administration.



## suggested curriculum

Freshman<sup>1</sup> (12 to 16 units per quarter)

Social Science 1A  
Social Science 2A  
Social Science 3A  
Social Science 40  
Lower Division Writing (two courses)  
General Education II or IV (three courses)  
General Education VI<sup>2</sup>

Sophomore<sup>3</sup> (16 units per quarter)

Social Science 70C or SOC 63 (one course)  
Social Science 102A  
Social Science 170A  
Social Science 10A–B–C  
General Education II or IV (three courses)  
General Education VIII (one course)  
Elective (about two courses)

Junior (16 units per quarter)

Social Science 193A–B–C  
Social Science 181A  
SPPS functional focus course (total of three courses)  
Upper-Division Writing (one course)  
Electives

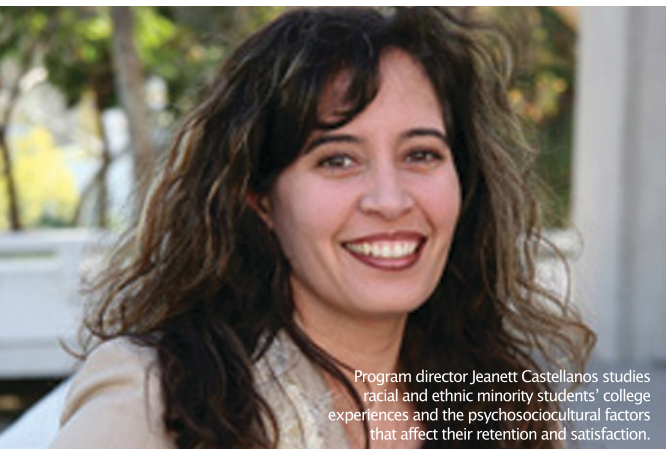
Senior (16 units per quarter)

Social Science 194A  
SPPS functional focus course (total of three courses)  
Electives

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<sup>1</sup>Students should move from a 12 to 16 unit work load in the second quarter of their first year.

<sup>2</sup>Language may be satisfied in high school prior to matriculation.



Program director Jeanett Castellanos studies racial and ethnic minority students' college experiences and the psychosociocultural factors that affect their retention and satisfaction.

Living isn't just about doing for yourself, but what you do for others as well.

–Nelson Mandela

## opportunities

### honors program

The social science honors program is an excellent opportunity for social policy and public service majors to complete an undergraduate thesis under the guidance of a faculty. This is a unique activity for junior scholars to develop their analytical and critical thinking skills in an area of interest that they can later pursue in graduate school. The key element to this program is one-on-one contact with a faculty advisor. The program provides a venue for students to dialogue about critical social science issues while sharing their results and interpretations.

### community service and leadership program

The UCI Community Service and Leadership Program (CSLP) transforms undergraduate students into positive change agents in the community by enabling student collaboration on collective service projects while encouraging an application of their undergraduate training through civic engagement and leadership development.

### social policy and public service advocates

Social Policy and Public Service Advocates is an organization provided for all SPPS majors invested in addressing public policy, educational reform, and health concerns. With an interest in social change, policy, methodological skills, and community leadership, the group works with non-profits to establish educational partnership for student to engage in civic learning and community internships.

## undergrad student affairs

The Social Sciences Undergraduate Student Affairs Office provides numerous services and special programs for undergraduate students including course planning, change of major requests, financial aid appeals, course substitutions, and information concerning honors, graduate and professional school, and careers and internships. Visit the Undergraduate Student Affairs Office online at [undergradstudies.ss.uci.edu/ugs\\_usa](http://undergradstudies.ss.uci.edu/ugs_usa) or call 949.824.6803 today to set up an appointment.

## academic resource center

A great starting point for information about academic-related endeavors is the School of Social Sciences Academic Resource Center (SSARC) where students may obtain information about internships, graduate school and prospective careers in a number of social sciences-related fields. Visit the Academic Resource Center online at [www.socsci.uci.edu/ssarc](http://www.socsci.uci.edu/ssarc) or call 949.824.8322 today to set up an appointment.

learn more: [spps.ss.uci.edu](http://spps.ss.uci.edu)