

Sociology and Anthropology



Study patterns of human behavior through courses in sociology, anthropology and social work.

Majors choose from three tracks: general sociology, human services and cross-cultural. Professors encourage you to be aware of ongoing social inequalities and engaged with local and global communities to work toward social justice and cultural redemption. You learn about the social nature of economic inequality, globalization, family, race, technology, gender, culture, religion and deviance from a Christian perspective. Earn academic credit for internships with agencies addressing social problems. Take advantage of off-campus programs, such as the Ecuador Mayterm studying environmental sociology. Conduct independent research and present your work at Westmont's Student Research Symposium. Professors work closely with you and get to know you personally.

SELECTED COURSES

- Introduction to Sociology
- Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
- Quantitative Research Methods
- Religion and Society
- Gender and Sex Roles in Cross-Cultural Perspective
- Human Services and Social Policy
- Sociology of Race and Ethnicity

CAREER PATHS

- Social Work
- Counseling
- Probation
- Law enforcement
- Youth Services
- International relief
- Development work
- Foreign Service
- International business
- Missionary outreach in developing countries
- Law
- Public administration
- Church ministry
- Community development
- Health industry
- Non-profit organizations
- Media



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SANTA BARBARA

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



JAMES DAVIDSON, PH.D.

Examines health, technology, religion, and race using quantitative research methods



KYRA DAVIDSON PH.D.

Explores rural sociology and criminology, with a focus on criminal courts and housing issues in college towns



SARAH JIREK, PH.D.

Explores trauma recovery, posttraumatic growth and resilience to help people make positive changes



BLAKE VICTOR KENT, PH.D.

Expertise in quantitative methods of research, specializing in population health, medicine, and religion

OPPORTUNITIES ABROAD



- Westmont in Asia
- Westmont's Europe Semester
- Westmont Downtown
- Westmont in Mexico
- Westmont in Northern Europe
- Westmont in Ecuador Mayterm

ALUMNI

Riley Potter '24 says, "In sociology, curiosity was cultivated and I grew in my ability to resist binary thinking. We tackled myriad complex issues without losing sight of the people involved. I now serve as a Peace Corps volunteer in Guatemala and this worldview, characterized by critical and conscientious thinking, serves me every day."

Sydney Azzarello '24 writes "Studying sociology at Westmont taught me to investigate deeply, think beyond binaries, and seek understanding for the good of all people. These skills now serve my work in human services administration, where I use a lens of curiosity to make data driven decisions which serve clients effectively and with dignity."



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