



Berkeley Social Welfare

DOCTORAL PROGRAM

PhD in SOCIAL WELFARE





explore.

Berkeley is the highest ranked public university in the world. Our social welfare faculty are the top scholars in the field. **Our social welfare graduate program consistently places among the top 5 of U.S. graduate school rankings.**

Established on the University of California's flagship campus in 1944, Berkeley Social Welfare has prepared over 11,000 social welfare scholars and social work professionals for leadership roles in social work education and social welfare policymaking and research.

The goal of graduate study at Berkeley is to inspire independence and originality in the pursuit of knowledge. Our doctoral program in Social Welfare develops scholars who make significant contributions to social work and social welfare teaching, research, policy development and analysis, and administration. In addition to providing the educational climate conducive to creating innovative research scholars, we also train future educators who can inspire the next generation of social work practitioners and researchers.



Dean Jeffrey Edleson



our faculty

Berkeley Social Welfare has more faculty fellows of the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare than any other school. Nationally and internationally recognized as leaders in their fields, Berkeley Social Welfare's pre-eminent faculty conducts cutting-edge research on major issues facing California, the U.S. and the world.

Senate faculty and their specialized research:

Adrian Aguilera, Assistant Professor

Utilizing digital health and mobile technologies to improve health and mental healthcare of low-income and ethnic minority populations, with a focus on Latino and Spanish speaking populations

Yu-Ling Chang, Assistant Professor

Relationships among poverty, inequality and social safety net programs; processes of policymaking and the consequences of public policies for economically disadvantaged populations

Julian Chun-chung Chow, Professor

Community practice and service delivery in urban poverty and ethnic and immigrant neighborhoods; community analysis and needs assessment; program planning and development; cultural competency services

Jill Duerr Berrick, Professor

Child welfare system and efforts to improve the experiences of foster care children and families; intersect of poverty, early childhood development, parenting and service systems; impacts of social problems and social service solutions on family life

Jeffrey Edleson, Dean and Professor

Impact of adult violence on children and social systems' responses to these children; international parental abduction in cases of domestic violence; evaluation of interventions and policies on family violence

Neil Gilbert, Professor

Comparative welfare state analysis; child welfare; evaluation research; family policy; social security

Anu Manchikanti Gómez, Assistant Professor

Reproduction and sexuality throughout the life course; measurement and meaning of pregnancy planning; understanding contraceptive decision-making within social, relational and structural contexts; evaluating the impact of and evidence base for policies related to reproductive health

Erin Kerrison, Assistant Professor

Law and legal institutions as social determinants of health; impact of compounded structural disadvantage, concentrated poverty and state supervision on service delivery; substance abuse, violence and other health outcomes for individuals/communities marked by criminal justice intervention

Kurt Organista, Professor

Psychosocial problems within the Chicano and Latino communities; acculturation and adjustment of ethnic minorities to American societies; minority mental health; depression in Latinos; HIV prevention with Mexican migrant laborers/Latinos

Tina Sacks, Assistant Professor

Racial disparities in health; social determinants of health; race, class and gender; poverty and inequality

Valerie Shapiro, Assistant Professor

Prevention of mental, emotional and behavioral problems in children and youth through the adoption, implementation and sustainability of effective prevention practices

Jennifer Skeem, Professor

Intersection between behavioral science and the justice system, with the goal of informing effective decision-making about people at risk for emotional and behavioral problems

Paul Sterzing, Assistant Professor

Social problems of bullying involvement roles and polyvictimization among sexual and gender minority youth and other vulnerable adolescent populations

Susan Stone, Associate Professor

Understanding family and school influences on adolescent school performance, especially urban and at-risk youth; linking families, schools and communities; school-based social work practice

doctoral studies in Social Welfare

Our students are trained and equipped with the knowledge of professional practices, policies and programs required to address a wide range of contemporary societal problems. They use empirical evidence to inform practice and transform lives.

Berkeley Social Welfare doctoral students pursue knowledge in three select fields of study:

- A social welfare problem area and related policies and institutions
- A field of social science theory and research containing theories, concepts, empirical data and methodology appropriate for guiding research within the problem area
- A field of social welfare intervention pertinent to the problem area

A customized curriculum is tailored to individual research interests. Doctoral students design their academic pursuits in collaboration with individual faculty from Berkeley Social Welfare and additional distinguished departments across the Berkeley campus.

Expert Training in Social Research and Statistical Methods

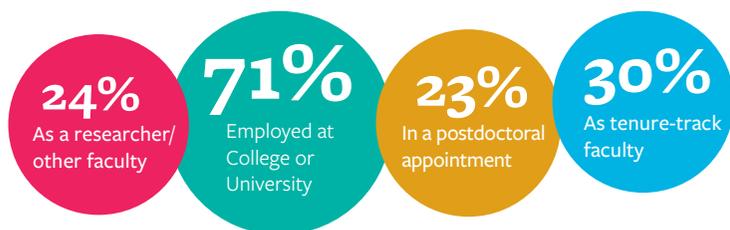
Doctoral course work includes seminars in research methods, statistics, theory and other related courses, with required courses focusing primarily on research methodology.

Training in Pedagogy

Berkeley Social Welfare provides doctoral students opportunities to prepare for a career teaching and to practice their developing skills. Students complete a pedagogy course on Teaching in Social Welfare and then may serve as a Graduate Student Instructor (GSI) under the guidance and mentoring of a Berkeley Social Welfare faculty member.

why Berkeley?

With over **200 graduates of our doctoral program**, Berkeley Social Welfare produces distinguished professors and researchers for some of the best social work schools and policy centers throughout the country and around the globe.



Did you know...?

Doctoral students at Berkeley are required to include faculty from outside their major discipline on qualifying and dissertation committees. Social Welfare PhD students have access to world-class Berkeley faculty in top-ranked programs. National rankings are as follows:



research & instructional opportunities

Berkeley Social Welfare faculty and students conduct award-winning research informing solutions to pressing social problems in interrelated areas such as **child, family and aging services; behavioral health and prevention; social determinants of health violence; and victimization and social conflict.**

Berkeley doctoral students also have a rich variety of research resources available around campus.

SOCIAL WELFARE RESEARCH UNITS

The California Child Welfare Indicators Project

This collaborative venture between Berkeley and the California Department of Social Services is engaged in ongoing research projects and initiatives that use state child welfare administrative data to inform policymakers and practitioners on key child welfare issues.

The California Social Work Education Center (CaSWEC)

The CaSWEC collaborative – the nation’s largest state coalition of social work educators and practitioners – provides opportunities for workforce evaluation and research directed toward developing effective, culturally competent public service delivery to the people of California.

Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services (CASAS)

CASAS supports research and development regarding innovative programs and services designed to improve the lives of older persons.

Center for Prevention Research in Social Welfare

An intellectual home for researchers intending to intersect the aims of prevention science with the mission and opportunities of the social work profession.

Digital Health Equity Research (DHER)

DHER, affiliated with the Latino Mental Health Research Program at UCSF and San Francisco General Hospital, focuses on the development, evaluation and implementation of digital health interventions to improve the reach of evidence-based interventions for improving health and mental health in low-income and underserved communities.

Risk-Resilience Research

The Risk-Resilience Research team uses multi-method, interdisciplinary, longitudinal study designs to focus on understanding why some people with mental disorder become involved in self-harm, violence and/or criminal behavior.

CAMPUS RESOURCES

D-Lab: Social Sciences Data Laboratory

D-Lab provides one-on-one consulting, personalized training, working groups and space for social science projects to promote networking with social scientists across campus.

Social Research Library

This newly remodeled library is located in Haviland Hall, home to Berkeley Social Welfare. A completely rebuilt collection focuses on research that addresses social and individual problems from a variety of disciplines including psychology, education, social welfare and public policy.

Social Science Matrix

Matrix brings relevant scientists together to generate effective solutions to global challenges including behavior change, social resilience and governance. Matrix provides faculty and PhD students with opportunities to network, submit grant proposals together and disseminate findings.

X-Lab

Berkeley’s Experimental Social Science Laboratory offers PhD students attractive laboratory facilities, development of infrastructure for mobile field experiments and administrative support for conducting computer-based experiments of interest to social scientists.

CONTACT US

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& Advising Appointments:

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