

**INTRODUCING SUA'S SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE
CONCENTRATION FACULTY
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The mission of Soka University of America is to foster a steady stream of global citizens committed to living a contributive life. The faculty of the Social and Behavioral Sciences concentration is committed to helping students understand the depth and beauty of cultures and human behavior as one of its primary teaching goals.

The curriculum further embraces an interdisciplinary approach by examining cultural diversity, social problems and human behavior incorporating perspectives from sociology, economics, psychology, anthropology, linguistics and political science.

“The curriculum provides students with tools to examine and address global issues and concerns,” says Kathleen Adams, Cultural Anthropology professor. “In addition, as a group, our faculty are extremely well-suited to offer students global perspectives. Social and Behavioral Sciences faculty have personal and professional interest and experience in many parts of the world, including China, Japan, Indonesia, Singapore, France, Cuba and Panama.”

Students completing courses in SBS will have a better understanding of the major issues and questions posed by the different SBS disciplinary approaches and of how groups, institutions, societies and/or cultures shape and are shaped by human behavior. Students will be able to articulate an awareness of the interplay between genetic, social and cultural influences on human behavior. They will also be able to understand social science methods of inquiry.

“I hope that the SBS curriculum prepares our students who are interested in graduate school by instilling in them the ability to think critically and use the tools with which to examine questions about human behavior,” mentions Jeff Green, Psychology professor. “Our goal for students who choose SBS as a concentration is that they learn to ask questions about human behavior, have the tools to attempt to answer those questions, and apply those tools to social problems wherever they may find them.”

The SBS faculty don't want students to stop simply at knowing how to research social problems, but to take what they have learned into the real world to attempt to solve many of these pressing problems and concerns.

“Probably, the most important goal of the SBS curriculum is to help students understand the complexity of culture and of human behavior,” notes Green. “Behavior has a multitude of causes, so there are rarely easy explanations for why people do what they do.”