

**Social Networks**  
**Department of Sociology**  
**University of California, Irvine**

## **Overview and History**

The University of California at Irvine is home to one of the premier research groups in the expanding field of social networks. With faculty in Sociology, Anthropology, Economics, Criminology, Law, and Society, Information and Computer Sciences, and the Graduate School of Management, UCI maintains a large and diverse community of network researchers with a wide range of substantive interests. The School of Social Sciences has had a Graduate Program in Social Networks for 20 years (it has granted 46 Ph.D.s since the mid 1980s). With an active community and numerous opportunities for research collaborations, UCI is an ideal place to study social networks.

The Sociology Department is the hub of social network activity at UCI. We offer coherent graduate training in social networks, with a field specialization in social networks, and a core curriculum covering theoretical foundations, methodological approaches, and substantive applications. We also host a regular colloquium series and weekly network research meetings where graduate students and faculty discuss their on-going research projects. Graduate training in the field is supported by faculty in several departments and the Institute for Mathematical Behavioral Sciences. The social network program also participates in a graduate student exchange program with the ICS in the Netherlands.

Current social network research by faculty and graduate students covers a wide array of substantive topics, including: networks of responders to disasters; socio-spatial features of networks in high crime neighborhoods; effects of economic and social transformations on kinship and support networks in rural villages; social networks of immigrants; global city networks; on-line social networks; international trade networks; residential segregation; and homophily in professional networks, to name a few. UCI was founding home to the flagship journal in the field, *Social Networks*. In recent years the social network group has hosted a number of events including the annual one-day Workshop on Social Network Analysis for UCI graduate students. UCI was co-sponsor for the XXV International Sunbelt Social Network Conference held in February 2005 and hosted a conference on Space, Networks, and Social Influence in February 2006.

## **Social Network Cluster Members in Sociology**

Nina Bandelj - economic sociology, organizations, culture, social networks, comparative sociology, central and eastern Europe

Susan Brown - immigration, inequality, urban sociology

Carter Butts - mathematical sociology, social networks, quantitative methodology, human judgment and decision making, economic sociology

Yen-Sheng Chaing (starting fall 2009) - mathematical sociology, game theory

Katherine Faust - social networks, comparative structural analysis, research methods

Lin Freeman - social networks, social structure and cognition, methodology

Matt Huffman - race/gender inequality, labor markets, organizations

Calvin Morrill - organizations, law & society, culture, youth, qualitative field methods

Andrew Noymer\* - population, social networks, mathematical models, demography of health & mortality, historical demography

David Smith - world systems analysis, urbanization, development, comparative-historical sociology, dependent development in East Asia

Judy Stepan-Norris - labor unions, sociology of work, political sociology, American society, research methods

(\* Cluster coordinator)

## **Other Sociology Faculty with Interests in Social Networks**

Joy Pixley - life course, work and family, sex stratification, gender roles, research design

David Snow - collective behavior and social movements, social psychology, urban, social problems, culture and qualitative methods

## Other UCI Faculty with Interests in Social Networks

Victoria Basolo, Urban and Regional Planning  
William Batchelder, Cognitive Science  
John P. Boyd, Mathematical Behavioral Sciences  
Jan Brueckner, Economics  
Michael Burton, Anthropology  
John Hipp, Criminology, Law, and Society  
Michael McBride, Economics  
Bonnie Nardi, Information and Computer Science  
David Obstfeld, Merage School of Business  
A. Kimball Romney, Mathematical Behavioral Sciences  
Karen Rook, Psychology and Social Behavior  
Padhraic Smyth, Information and Computer Science  
Brian Skyrms, Logic and Philosophy of Science  
Mark Steyvers, Cognitive Science  
George Tita, Criminology, Law, and Society  
Denis Trapido, Merage School of Business  
Douglas White, Anthropology

## Field Exams & Graduate Courses

The Department of Sociology offers a field specialization in social networks, including a core curriculum leading to the field exam. Core courses are taught annually or biannually, with additional electives available both inside and outside the department.

### Core courses:

Soc 281 - Introduction to Social Network Analysis (Fall Quarter)  
Soc 212 - Social Network Theory (Winter Quarter)  
Soc 280 - Analysis of Social Network Data or Analysis of Relational Data (Spring Quarter)

### Recently Taught Graduate Courses in Social Networks

#### Winter 2007

- Soc 289 - Networks and Information Transmission (Butts)
- Anthro 289 - Global Networks (White)

#### Spring 2007

- Soc 270 - Networks and Organizations (Butts)
- Soc 280 - Analysis of Social Network Data (Faust)

#### Fall 2007

- Soc 229 - Introduction to Social Network Analysis (Freeman)
- Soc 289 - Informant Accuracy (Butts)
- Anthro 289 - Network Theory and Social Complexity (White)
- Soc Sci 240A - Seminar in Social Networks (White)

#### Winter 2008

- Soc 212 - Social Network Theory (Butts)

#### Fall 2008

- Soc 229 - Introduction to Social Network Analysis (Freeman)

#### Spring 2009

- Soc 280 - Analysis of Social Network Data (Butts)