Breaking boundaries, creating social change

Many of our academic programs grew out of the intellectual and activist roots of the civil rights and social movements of the 1960s, and our individual and collective work activates the very conversations we are broaching today as a society.

In the School of Social Transformation at Arizona State University, we strive to create social change that is democratic, inclusive and just. We offer the opportunity to study diversity and justice while learning about the historical, cultural and social forces that shape our society. Our diverse faculty and researchers break from the traditional academic mold. We aim to find innovative ways to engage with students and the community to positively transform the world.

Our academic programs

African and African American Studies (BA, online)
American Studies (MA)
Asian Pacific American Studies (BA)
Indigenous Education (MA, online)
Justice Studies (BA, online) (BS, online) (MS) (PhD)
Social and Cultural Pedagogy (MA)
Women and Gender Studies (BA, online) (MA) (PhD)

Centers

Center for Gender Equity in Science and Technology
Center for Indian Education
Center for Work and Democracy

Help make the world a better place

When you give to the School of Social Transformation you become a partner in the academic success of our students, the communities that surround us, the research discoveries of our faculty and the continued effort to break the boundaries of intersectionality, making the world a better place.

Social transformation cannot happen without partnerships and bridge-building. Your generous donation and partnership can help us empower student and faculty success. Together, we can build bridges and change the world.

— Pardis Mahdavi,
Dean of Social Sciences at The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and professor in the School of Social Transformation

School of Social Transformation
Fact sheet

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Leading global impact and innovative solutions

The School of Social Transformation is driven by its values of intentionality, intersectionality, interdisciplinarity and inclusion. Our degrees, certificates, programs, centers and initiatives help to create impact and innovation in communities at a local, national and international level. Our graduates include U.S. Senator Kyrsten Sinema, one Pulitzer Prize winner, nine Fulbright American Scholars and many more top scholars who are committed to driving change across the world.

Preparing students to thrive in any pursuit

The School of Social Transformation focuses on transformational knowledge, including creative research approaches to themes and questions embedded in broader historical, social and cultural contexts. We prepare our students to be informed members of society who are interdisciplinary, team-oriented, real-world problem-solvers that can thrive in any environment, career or pursuit.

Cultivating an inclusive, welcoming environment

Our school is driven by inclusion and intersectionality. We pursue social justice by studying gender, race and class and encouraging our students and faculty to find solutions to complex social problems. Students in justice studies, women and gender studies, American studies, African and African American studies, Asian Pacific American studies, and social and cultural pedagogy will get hands-on experience with diverse faculty dedicated to social justice research and engaging with others in changing the world.

Leaders in racial justice and community service

Home of African and African American studies, American studies, Asian Pacific American studies, Indigenous education, justice and social inquiry, social and cultural pedagogy, and women and gender studies; our school has long worked toward interrogating racial justice in research, teaching, and community-engaged scholarship and service.

Committed to social justice

Every fall semester the Seeking Justice in Arizona lecture series brings in experts from local communities to discuss critical national issues in an Arizona context. Our speakers, including alumna and founder of Aliento, Reyna Montoya, share with the ASU community their personal stories of what led them to activism and why they chose their particular pathway to justice.

Bringing new opportunities

New certificates and degree programs, such as our certificates in disability studies, and the American studies master’s degree, promote a new understanding of contemporary culture, giving students the opportunity to think critically and discuss through local and global contexts.