

## WHAT SORT OF JOB CAN I GET AFTER GRADUATE SCHOOL?

Most graduate students in the social sciences become professors at teaching or research institutions and teach their own courses as well as research, write, and publish books and articles in their field of study. If teaching is not for you, the possibilities for employment with a Ph.D. are endless, including professional research, writing, or consulting, becoming a museum curator or university or college administrator, and working for a government or non-profit organization, or working for industry such as in legal offices, pharmaceutical companies, or marketing research firms.



*As a first generation Mexican immigrant woman, engaging and learning from underrepresented graduate and undergraduate students confronting the challenges of also being the first in their families to pursue an undergraduate or doctoral degree has invigorated my commitment to the research and writing of History.*

— Ana Rosas, Ph.D.

Dr. Ana Rosas is an Assistant Professor in Chicano/Latino Studies and History at the University of California Irvine. She is also a USC undergraduate and graduate alumna.

*From here you can go anywhere...*

## WHAT CAN I DO NOW TO PREPARE?

Your academic career at USC will be crucial for both preparing you and for making you a competitive candidate for graduate school. It is a good idea to consider the various honors' programs available in the College of Letters, Arts and Sciences.

Freshmen can participate in the Thematic Honors Program ([www.usc.edu/dept/LAS/general\\_studies/TO/#program](http://www.usc.edu/dept/LAS/general_studies/TO/#program) for details), and upperclassmen can participate in the Honors Programs offered by their individual departments, most of which require the completion of a senior thesis or independent project; students can inquire into their prospective departments for more information.

Once you decide you would like to pursue a Ph.D., there are some steps to take in your junior and senior years; these include conducting research and working with professors, applying for undergraduate research and fellowship programs, preparing for the GRE, writing a personal statement, researching schools, deciding if you want to take time off before graduate school, beginning the application process, and applying for outside graduate fellowships. This may sound overwhelming, but there are many people who are willing to help you. For more details on the steps to take, visit [www.usc.edu/pregrad](http://www.usc.edu/pregrad).

If you are a current undergraduate from an underrepresented group interested in pursuing graduate education in the social sciences, here are some opportunities to take advantage of at USC:

**Student Opportunities for Academic Research (SOAR):**  
[www.usc.edu/dept/LAS/general\\_studies/inds/soar](http://www.usc.edu/dept/LAS/general_studies/inds/soar)

**Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program (MMUF):**  
[www.usc.edu/student-affairs/MMUF](http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/MMUF)

**Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program:**  
[www.usc.edu/programs/mcnair](http://www.usc.edu/programs/mcnair)

**Summer Undergraduate Research Funds (SURF):**  
[www.usc.edu/dept/LAS/general\\_studies/inds/soar/surf.html](http://www.usc.edu/dept/LAS/general_studies/inds/soar/surf.html)

**The Discovery Scholars Program**  
[www.usc.edu/programs/ugprograms/discovery/index.html](http://www.usc.edu/programs/ugprograms/discovery/index.html)

For additional research opportunities for undergraduates at and outside of USC, visit:  
[www.usc.edu/programs/ugprograms/ugresearch](http://www.usc.edu/programs/ugprograms/ugresearch)

# Graduate Education *in the* Social Sciences



*Think about the possibilities...*