



## Letter from the Dean

by Jeff Crane

In a new move, Cal Poly Humboldt's College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences (CAHSS) has a new role in the Dean's office: the College Graduate Programs & Recruitment Coordinator! A graduate of CAHSS, Shiloh Soto (Environmental Studies, '16) supports Faculty Graduate Program Coordinators with the full range of recruitment and retention activities from admissions and enrollment management to commencement and alumni relationships. She additionally supports graduate students through cohort-building activities and grant writing. Given her own recent experience working on her PhD, Shiloh is well positioned for this work.

Due to a need to more actively support and promote our graduate programs, this new position liaises between the College's four graduate programs: **Applied Anthropology**, **Applied English**, **Environment & Community**, and **Public Sociology**. A position like this—which is solely dedicated to graduate support at the college level—has not previously existed at Humboldt.

In an effort to build interconnectedness between the four graduate programs, Shiloh is particularly excited about the opportunity to support and build community by developing interest-specific writing groups, elevator pitch workshops, and local volunteer activities. As a member of the Grad Slam planning committee, Shiloh hopes to increase CAHSS participation in the annual competition

.In addition to English and Sociology, two M.A. programs are back this coming Fall. The first—Applied Anthropology—was previously a pilot project through CEEGE, and the second—Environment & Community—was on a two-year hiatus for curriculum updates.

Though the four programs are housed in distinct disciplines, they each emphasize hands-on experience communicating complex concepts to public audiences, advocating for communities in decision-making circles, building more equitable systems, and celebrating the wide diversity of humans and other living beings. CAHSS graduate students, above all else, develop strong, process-oriented, interpersonal skills in communication and writing to solve problems with creative solutions.

**Let us know what you're up to**  
[Send us an update here!](#)



The Environment & Community, M.A. program visits Arcata's Jardín Santuario for EC 610, Fall 2023. Photo Credit: Iván González-Soto.

Alumni in CAHSS graduate programs find fulfilling professional careers in nonprofits, tribal and state government, and educational organizations as analysts, community service specialists, environmental consultants, educators, organizers, outreach coordinators, writers, and more. CAHSS graduate programs also lay the intellectual foundation for alumni to go on to PhD programs to become professors and researchers. CAHSS graduate students have the opportunity to explore electives in any of the four programs putting them in the driver's seat of their own education.

Undergraduates looking to gain hands-on skills in a chosen field or people already in the workforce working to advance in their professional career are encouraged to explore CAHSS as the home for their graduate studies. Several of our graduate programs can be completed entirely online, and either full or part-time to support working professionals. We believe that advanced learning is for everyone. Marissa Formosa (Planner at Redwood Community Action Agency and Environment & Community M.A. graduate '18) says "[t]he program challenged dominant narratives surrounding natural resource management and conservation, and required me to think creatively and outside the box about the human-nature relationship."

Located in the beautiful redwoods of the rural Northern California coast, we are committed to collaborative engagement with local communities. We work together to develop creative solutions to everyday problems, and many of our graduate students find opportunities to gain hands-on experience in support of local organizations. In the Department of Sociology, graduate students complete service learning requirements in support of local nonprofits. Hanna Menefee (Public Sociology, M.A. '15) explained, "[t]he Humboldt Sociology department puts a strong emphasis on real-world connections and contributions. The required 240-hour placement was also a big attraction for me - not only am I learning the facts in the classroom but getting the experience in the job field at the same time!" Like Public Sociology, each CAHSS graduate program emphasizes intentional collaboration with our local community.



Caption: The Environment & Community, M.A. program visits Arcata's Jardín Santuario for EC 610, Fall 2023. Photo Credit: Iván González-Soto.



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## Application Deadlines

### [Applied Anthropology, M.A.\\*](#)

Fall: Oct 1- Feb 1

Spring: N/A

### [Applied English, M.A.\\*](#)

Fall: Oct 1 - July 1

Spring: Aug 1 - Dec 1

### [Environment & Community, M.A.\\*](#)

Fall: Aug 1 - Feb 28

Spring: N/A

### [Public Sociology, M.A.\\*](#)

Fall: Oct 1 - July 1

Spring: N/A

**\*Priority deadline is Feb. 1**

Interested in pursuing graduate studies in Cal Poly Humboldt's College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences? Applications are now open! Explore our graduate programs at [cahss.humboldt.edu/programs/graduate](https://cahss.humboldt.edu/programs/graduate).

Once you've decided on a program, head over to [calstate.edu/apply/graduate](https://calstate.edu/apply/graduate) to begin your application! Should you need support in the application process, reach out to [cahss.grad@humboldt.edu](mailto:cahss.grad@humboldt.edu).

**Are you a graduate alum of Humboldt's College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences?** Consider participating in our Alumni Interview Project! Indicate your interest [here](#) and a Journalism undergraduate student will get in contact.

## Help Support our Students & Programs

The College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences is dedicated to providing students with a rich and well-rounded liberal arts education. Donors play a powerful role in ensuring that students continue to thrive. [Use this link](#) to make your gift to the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.