



Social Issues & Social Change (SISC) Graduate Certificate

**Department of Psychology
Florida International University**

How important is it that your research has a real world impact?

Are you interested in gaining skills applicable across various career contexts?

Do you value interdisciplinary and intersectional work?

The Graduate Certificate in Social Issues and Social Change (SISC) may be for you!

The Florida International University (FIU) Graduate Certificate in Social Issues and Social Change (SISC) is designed to train advanced Ph.D. students in becoming action scientists prepared to work in a variety of settings in order to understand, transform, and improve the social and cultural contexts and systems in which humans develop across the lifespan. This is a research-intensive certificate with mixed-methods, hands-on, translational training components. Students will learn how to engage with local, state, and national organizations and institutions, and how to communicate with various stakeholders, including law makers, corporate boards, community leaders and activists, members of the non-profit sector, and the general public. They will also conduct research examining and influencing urgent social issues facing the global community (e.g., social mobility, health inequities, immigration). Students will benefit from our faculty's diverse areas of expertise that converge to provide well-rounded training in applied social and cultural psychology.

CERTIFICATE LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Appreciate importance of cultural humility in community engagement and research partnerships, designs and procedures
2. Become familiar with culturally-appropriate tools and methods for socio-cultural research and interventions
3. Engage in community-partnered and participatory-action research for public benefit
4. Develop the ability to communicate your research purpose, methods, and findings to multiple stakeholder audiences
5. Provide a vehicle through which students can pursue and strengthen their individual career interests relevant to social and cultural issues and change.

Certificate Components & Requirements Summary

SISC Core Faculty

Dr. Asia Eaton (Associate Professor; Developmental Science/ I-O Psychology)
 Dr. Stacy Frazier (Professor; Clinical Science, Psychology)
 Dr. Maureen Kenny (Professor; Education/ Affiliated Faculty, Psychology)
 Dr. Dionne Stephens (Associate Professor; Developmental Science, Psychology)

Number of classes required: 5

Students must select five (5) from the following:

1. CLP 6530: Dissemination & Implementation of Research (Frazier)
2. CYP 6766: Psych Cross-cultural Sensitization in Multicultural Contexts (Stephens)
3. CYP 6936: Current Issues in Community Psychology (Stephens)
4. DEP 5325: Proseminar in Identity Development (Stephens)
5. SOP 5058: Proseminar in Social Psychology (Eaton)
6. SOP 5316: Theories & Methods in Cross Cultural Research (Eaton)
7. CLP 5007: Psych & Clinical Science- Historical Perspectives & Current Controversies (Frazier)
8. PSY 5930: Qualitative Methods in Psychology (Stephens)
9. PSYXXXX: Supervised Research (Supervised by SISC Faculty)

** Additional classes approved on case by case basis; approval memo must be signed by two Core SISC Faculty members*

Additional Certificate Requirements

Required:

- 1) Diversity Statement
- 2) Reflective Essay demonstrating Leadership Role in a community-based participatory action research project

Select one public engagement with research finding activity:

- public workshop
- white paper
- policy brief
- Op-Ed

** Additional public engagement with research finding activities approved on case by case basis; approval memo must be signed by minimum of two Core SISC Faculty members*

Must be completed at least one semesters prior to graduation

Admission Requirements

Required:

- 1) Admission into the Department of Psychology Doctoral Program
- 2) Online application to program & interview with two Core SISC Faculty members; minimum of three semesters/ 1 year prior to graduation
- 3) Certificate requirements must be completed at least three semesters/ 1 year prior to graduation

