SOC offers a variety of courses that aim to broaden understanding about issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion in communications.

**FILM & MEDIA ARTS**
- Cross-Cultural Cinema
- Gay and Lesbian Documentary
- Community Documentary

**JOURNALISM**
- Identity, Power, and Misrepresentation
- Race, Gender, and Sexuality in the Media
- Backpack Journalism in Español
- Foreign Policy and the Press
- Global Journalism in the 21st Century
- Advanced Data-Driven Journalism: The Data of Divides
- Censorship and Media
- Race, Ethnicity, & Community Reporting

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATION**
- Multicultural Strategic Communication Campaigns
- International Strategic Communication
- Communication and Social Change
- The Sixties in America
- Documentary Storytelling & Social Change

**COMMUNICATION STUDIES**
- Musical Cultures and Industries
- Digital Media and Culture

**IN-CLASS OPPORTUNITIES**

**COMM 588 RACE, ETHNICITY AND COMMUNITY REPORTING** class taught by Professor Sherri Williams produces stories for a national publication each year. In 2021 students produced “Racial Reckoning: A Year After a Movement Rocked the Nation” a series of five stories published in Teen Vogue that prioritize racial and social justice reporting on the one-year anniversary of the killing of George Floyd.

**COMM 700 INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM PRACTICUM** class taught by Professor and Washington Post Investigative Reporter-in-Residence John Sullivan provides graduate students with opportunities to work with Washington Post on an investigative story. In 2021, six graduate journalism students built a database to track each federal case related to the Capitol riot suspects.

**DEMOGRAPHICS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNDERGRADUATE</th>
<th>GRADUATE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International Students</td>
<td>Students of Color</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students of Color</td>
<td>International Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>11%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Source: SOC Undergraduate and Graduate Academic Services

**STUDENT GROUPS**

SOC is home to student chapters and media organizations aimed at broadening access, expertise, and career development in communication such as:

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK JOURNALISTS** is an organization that serves to ensure the advancement of journalists of color in newsroom diversity.

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HISPANIC JOURNALISTS** is an organization that is dedicated to the recognition and professional advancement of Hispanics in the news industry.

**THE BLACKPRINT** is a student-run publication that serves as a platform for raising minority issues and an amplifier of marginalized voices.

**VISIBLE** is a student-run publication that seeks to amplify queer voices by providing a platform as unique and dynamic as the community itself.

**THE PUBLIC RELATIONS STUDENT SOCIETY OF AMERICA (PRSSA)** is the foremost organization for students interested in public relations and communications.

**CONTACT US**

**SOC DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE** is composed of faculty, staff, and students works to provide meaningful discussions about issues related to race/ethnicity, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, and more, both in the classroom and in the workplace.

Contact SOCinclusion@american.edu for inquiries, suggestions, or funding requests related to DEI at SOC.

Priya Doshi
SOC Inclusion Officer | doshi@american.edu
Leads & coordinates SOC’s diversity, equity, and inclusion work
**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS**

**RIDDHI SETTY** was a recipient of the AU SOC White House Correspondents’ Investigative Journalism scholarship. The award is given to a student in journalism at SOC who shows promise in the field of investigative journalism. As part of her investigative broadcast journalism class, Setty chose to look into the improper disposal of biomedical waste in New Delhi.

**STEPHANIE MIRAH** was selected for the Streitmatter Journalism Award for Excellence for her dedication to the field of communication. This award acknowledges and inspires students pursuing journalism careers. In addition, 11 students have been invited to be inducted into the Kappa Tau Alpha (KTA) national honor society.

**CARMENLUCIA ACOSTA** received the American News Women’s Club Award. This award is given to students who exemplify merit and professional commitment to journalism. Carmenlucia plans to work in fashion journalism and better represent Mexican Americans and other underrepresented groups in the fashion and editorial industries.

**ZACHARY GRADISHAR** was selected for the Television Academy Foundation’s prestigious 2021 Summer Fellows Program. This fellowship is dedicated to educate and encourage individuals who seek to preserve the legacy of television.

**SOPHIE AUSTIN** served as the first Black woman Editor-In-Chief of The Eagle, AU’s award-winning student-run newspaper. Austin diversified staff and ensured that the organization’s coverage became more reflective of people of color and the LGBTQ+ community on campus. She also launched a Spanish-language version of the publication. After graduating in spring 2021, Austin was named as the AU SOC Fellow at the Center for Public Integrity for Fall 2021.

**AMRUTHA CHATTY** served as the first woman of South Asian descent to be director of the Kennedy Political Union, the student-run and -funded speakers bureau committed to bringing the most politically relevant and impactful speakers to AU. She focused on bringing a greater diversity of voices to the AU community including a series on Black Lives Matter, to ensure representation of speakers reflected the needs of students.

**MAYA SMITH** was selected for a Report for America job covering health in Black Communities for The Washington Informer. She also contributed to Washington Post stories through the Investigative Practicum on topics such as election-related litigation and the January 6 Capitol riot.

**STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**POLITICO JOURNALISM INSTITUTE** is a partnership with the Maynard Institute and POLITICO to focus on “training the next generation of journalists and supporting diversity in Washington newsrooms.” Undergraduate students can apply to take part in this intensive mentoring and professional development program.

**SOC DEAN’S INTERNSHIPS** offer exceptional SOC students significant opportunities to earn bylines, production credits, and professional recognition for their work through internships at news organizations and media companies.

**AU-PULITZER CENTER INTERNATIONAL REPORTING FELLOWSHIP**
This fellowship program is open to all SOC students. Students are selected for international reporting projects involving underreported systemic issues.

**MWWPR Z SUITE PARTNERSHIP WITH SOC**

For a full list of [graduate](soc.american.edu) and [undergraduate](soc.american.edu) fellowships and scholarships visit soc.american.edu.