

Life After SCA

Graduates Share their Experiences...

K-12 Education
Higher Education
Nonprofit Organizations
PhD Programs
Education Research

Maria T. Campos

Peace Officer

Heman G. Stark Correctional Facility

"I currently work for the state as a Peace Officer. I am a correctional counselor at Heman G. Stark Correctional Facility. I monitor offenders' progress within programs and help to rehabilitate them so when they parole they do not end up back in prison. It is a very demanding job and at times very dangerous...The [SCA] Program guided me into this very challenging position. I really miss the professors and curriculum that the [SCA] Program offered. I always knew I wanted to do something challenging and so far, this is doing the job."

Chau Dao

Associate Director, Student Financial Aid Services and Programs

Office of the Chancellor, California State University

"I am currently overseeing the student financial aid data for all 23 CSU campuses at the Chancellor's office. My team provides statistical data and analysis to upper management as well as outside agencies such as the state legislation...[SCA] helped me gain 'thinking perspectives' to help me problem solve in my daily work. I find that I challenge my colleagues and myself to analyze situations and solutions in various perspectives to ensure that the work we put in place will not only help one group of students, but will help every single student on campus."

Vrisa Dominguez

Program Director

Volunteers of America: Upward Bound

"I work with low-income first generation students in the East Los Angeles community (Boyle Heights) and I help them in pursuing a postsecondary education. The program consists of an after school tutoring component, a summer residential (staying at a university campus) component and a Saturday school component. Working with Upward Bound is a very rewarding career because I am contributing in the diversification of universities, Our goal and mission of Upward Bound is to have our students graduate with a bachelor's degree. Having gone through [SCA] it better prepared me to pursue the work that I do...[SCA] was a great program and it helped me view things through a different perspective. I believe every educator needs to take courses in social and multicultural foundations."

Emily Gehrman

Instructional Specialist

Multidisciplinary Student Success Center, Long Beach City College

"I work as an Instructional Specialist in the Multidisciplinary Student Success Center at Long Beach City College. It is a new position created by the college in relation to the Basic Skills Initiative as a way to address the needs of the growing number of under prepared students entering the college...I would say that my perspective on education has been completely altered from my experience in the [SCA] program in the sense that I tend to look at everything critically and from different angles. This comes up almost daily in talking to students about their experiences with teachers and schooling."

Emiko Kawashima

Director of International Admissions
Center for International Education, CSULB

“My job oversees international recruitment and admission for the university. I used to work at the American Language Institute, in the University College and Extension Services (UCES), CSULB, recruiting students for the English language program, as well as CSULB. When the position of the Director of International Admissions became available, I was encouraged to apply. I strongly believe that having a master's degree definitely helped to show my academic qualifications.”

Annie Mais

Director of Education
RoadtripNation.org

“Currently, I am the Director of Education for RoadtripNation.org - a non-profit which empowers students to define their own roads in life by encouraging them to seek out members of their communities who have built meaningful lives by following their passions.” “Within the next two years, Roadtrip Nation will be providing a 25-lesson curriculum to 100,000 students nation-wide encouraging them to reach out to members of the community so that they gain exposure to various career paths and life stories. I have been able to incorporate what I learned in the SCA program about diversity, cultural capital, and educational theory in creating this curriculum so that all students have the opportunity to learn and grow. I was more than prepared to put the theory into practice, and it truly is making a difference in students' lives.”

Ujjaini Sahasrabudhe

Education Research
International Education Research Foundation

“I work as an evaluator for a credential evaluation agency...I really appreciated the fact that the [SCA] program had a flexible structure which allowed me to select classes that suited my academic and research interests. Since I was educated in India and this was my first exposure to American education I particularly enjoyed the fact that many of the courses used a comparative lens to examine educational issues. Doing the thesis was probably the most rewarding experience for me, because I got to see all my learning throughout the program sort of come together.”

Timothy Titus

K-12 Teacher/SCA Lecturer
Santa Ana School District/Cal State Long Beach

“[I am] employed by Santa Ana Unified teaching 11th grade English, psychology, and AP Psychology. I am also employed as a part-time lecturer at CSULB teaching EDP 432. “[The SCA program helped me gain] a deep understanding of the challenges faced by the non-privileged and helped to improve my teaching.”

Rebecca Vosburgh

Elementary Education
Los Angeles Unified School District

“I'm a fourth grade teacher in LAUSD. This is my seventh year, so I was teaching while I was working on my degree. I work in a low-income area that is predominantly Latino...My studies in [SCA] have made me much more aware of social and political issues. They have also influenced me to take a more active role on many different levels. I have realized that my job is much more than just teaching the state standards. I have to empower my students to be all that they can, and I must encourage them to think beyond themselves—on a local, national, and global level.”