

SOCIAL STUDIES CONCENTRATION LEARNING GOALS
Department of Social Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences
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Social Studies is an interdisciplinary major housed in the Department of Social Sciences that requires courses from the History, Political Science, Economics, and Geography disciplines.

Learning Goals:

1. Explain, analyze, and interpret the major political, economic, social and cultural movements in United States and World history. Assess the impact of the past on the present.
2. Analyze and evaluate historical periods and contemporary societies from multiple perspectives, inclusive of race, ethnicity, religion, social class, and gender.
3. Analyze spatial patterns on earth to understand processes that shape human environments and contribute to societal decision-making.
4. Explain how people make choices considering scarce resources and how markets coordinate the choices of many decision makers; and analyze how these factors affect national and global changes in production, consumption, employment, and economic prosperity.
5. Analyze and explain the conceptual foundations of civic and political life across various political systems.
6. Explain the functioning of key government institutions and political organizations as they operate in the United States and other countries. Describe examples of conflict and cooperation between national governments.

Assessment Matrix:

NA = not applicable 1 = low 2= moderate 3 = high

Course	Goal 1 (history)	Goal 2 (diversity)	Goal 3 (geography)	Goal 4 (econ)	Goal 5 (civic val.)	Goal 6 (gov't)
HIST 101	3	3	2	1	3	2
HIST 103	3	3	2	1	3	3
HIST 111	3	3	2	1	3	3
HIST 112	3	3	1	1	3	3
HIST 3601	3	3	2	1	2	2
POL 101	2	2	NA	1	3	3
POL 371	2	3	NA	2	2	3
GEOG 206	1	1	3	1	NA	1
GEOG 302	NA	NA	3	NA	NA	NA
ECON 201	2	2	NA	3	NA	2
ECON 202	1	2	NA	3	NA	1

*Note: the curriculum requirements for this CASL major allow students to choose from a wide menu of classes in the four social sciences disciplines – at least one hundred courses. To make the assessment manageable, and because almost all CASL Social Studies majors are simultaneously School of Education Social Studies teaching majors, I have included only those social sciences courses that the School of Education requires in its program.