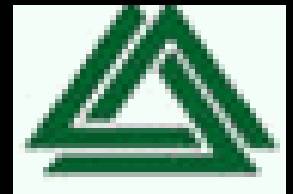


Engaging the Social Sciences SSC 101

**Social Science Degree
Program**

October 17, 2007



Purpose of this Presentation

1. Provide a brief description of the goals and course requirements for the Bachelor of Science degree in Social Science

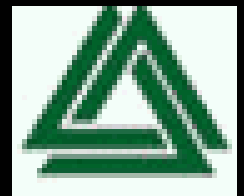
2. Graduate Education and Career Options for Social Science Majors



Bachelor of Science in Social Science (B.S.)

Four Options:

- 1. Applied Development Studies**
- 2. Geography**
- 3. Social Science**
- 4. Sociology**



Program of Study

General Education Requirements

Communication Studies

COM 101	3
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English Composition

ENG 101	3
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ENG 102 or 103	3
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History

2 history courses (e.g. HIS 101, 102, 201, 202, 203, 204)	6
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Literature & Fine Arts

2 literature courses (e.g. ENG 203, 204, 206, 309, 310, 312, 313, 411, 415)	6
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1 of the following: MUS 114, 115, ART 101, 212, 401, 402, THE 225	3
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Mathematics

1 of the following: MAT 103, 104, 106	3
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Laboratory Science

2 science courses, with lab (BIO, PHY or CHE)	6
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Perspectives on Society

PSY 101	3
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2 of the following: ANT 101, PHI 103, ECO 210, 211, GEO 303	6
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Personal Development

1 of the following: SHS 360, CEL 300, FCS 215, 270, 325, 343, COM 202, SWO 101, 300, LIB 101 OR	3
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PER 101 and PER 100 level	2
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Program of Study Special Degree & Core Requirements

Special Degree Requirements:

<u>Languages</u>	
2 foreign language courses (e.g. SPA 101 & 102, FRE 101 & 102, GER 101 & 102) OR	6
CIS 205 and CIS 235	6
<u>Research Methods</u>	
SSC 469 or MAT 300	3
SSC 470	3
<u>Writing Proficiency</u>	
ENG 300 or 301	1 or 3
<u>Science</u>	
2 science courses, no lab required (BIO, PHY or CHE) (PHY 123 is not accepted)	6

Social Science Core Requirements:

GEO 201	3
GEO elective	3
PSC 103	3
PSC 201	3
SOC 101	3
SOC elective	3



Program of Study Concentration Requirements

All students should complete one of the following concentrations:

Social Science:

7 courses, 300 or 400 level in GEO, SOC, SSC, ANT, CRJ or PSC	21
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Applied Development Studies:

5 of the following: GEO 404, 416, 441, 442, PSC 324, 325, 463, 478, SOC 403, 421, 422, 424, 425, 426, 467, 474, 475, 480, 485, RRS 432, 442	15
SOC 490 (6 credits per semester over 2 semesters)	12

Sociology:

SOC 440	3
6 courses, 300 or 400 level in SOC	18

Geography:

7 courses, 300 or 400 level, in GEO	21
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Social Science! - What do we study?

- A wide range of social problems
- Society's institutions - their structures, and how they affect human behavior and how they are affected by human behavior.



Social Science! - What do we study?

- Social scientists uncover fascinating insights and diverse theoretical perspectives to help to interpret, explain, and understand a wide range of:
 - social issues
 - political matters
 - environmental concerns

Also,

- The criminal justice system and
- Community and economic development.



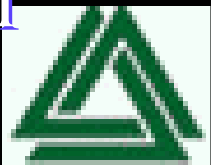
Social Science! - What do we study?

- Political science students study governments, public policies and political processes, systems, and political behavior.
- Geographers in particular, are concerned with the physical earth and its features and patterns as well as spatio-social relationships.
- In general, social science students gain an appreciation for the intellectual, historical, and political accomplishments of humankind.



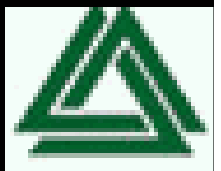
Social Science! + Other Disciplines

- In the workplace and in academe social scientists work in cooperation with:
 - Statisticians
 - Mathematicians
 - and Computer scientists
- Also, we collaborate with the different disciplines within the social sciences (geography, political science, criminal justice, and sociology).



Practical Question for the Social Science Discipline

- How to use the findings of social science research in efforts to cope with various social problems.



What can I do with a Social Science Degree- (Practical Value)

- 1. Professional Degrees and Graduate School Prospects.**
- 2. Career Options and Prospects**

Professional Degrees and Graduate School -

A degree in the social sciences provides a good foundation for professional degree programs in :

1. Community Development
2. Law (the perspectives gained can help one to be a better lawyer).
3. Business
4. Politics
5. Public Administration
6. Counseling
7. Teaching
8. Law
9. Management
10. Public Affairs
11. Human Resources
12. Communication
13. Public Policy
14. Urban Planning
15. Criminal Justice
16. Public Relations
17. Private Sector - research; statistical analysis; program development, management, analysis, and evaluation - consulting in business and industry.

Political Science Major (Practical Value)

- Political Science is a public service degree (Dr. Garry Jennings).
- **But also**, prepares students for private sector employment (consider the relationship between government and business).
- Government or major political party organization (political management).
- Teaching
- Graduate work and law degree.
- **But also**, non-teaching and non-law professional

Political Science Major (Career Options)

Administration, Corporate,
Government, Non-Profit, etc.
Archivist, Online Political Data
Budget Examiner or Analyst
Attorney
Banking Analyst or Executive
Campaign Operative
Career Counselor
CIA Analyst or Agent
City Planner
City Housing Administrator
Congressional Office/Committee
Staffer
Coordinator of Federal or State Aid
Communications Director
Corporate Analyst
Corporate Public Affairs Advisor

Corporate Economist
Corporate Manager
Corporate Information Analyst
Corporate Adviser for Gov't'l. Relations
Corporate Executive
Corporation Legislative Issues
Manager
Customs Officer
Editor, Online Political Journal
Entrepreneur
Federal Government Analyst
Financial Consultant
Foreign Service Officer
Foundation President
Free-lance writer
High School Government Teacher
Immigration Officer

Political Science Major (Career Options)

Information Manager Intelligence Officer International Agency Officer International Research Specialist Issues Analyst, Corporate Social Policy Div. Journalist Juvenile Justice Specialist Labor Relations Specialist Legislative Analyst / Coordinator	
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Source: American Political Science Association

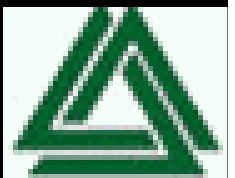
http://www.apsanet.org/section_516.cfm

General Views - Social Sciences

- A good grasp of a range of **social science perspectives** is key to **developing a scientific and humanistic interpretation of the social world**; thus, by engaging in discussions and critical thinking, social science students have a distinct advantage in viewing the world in an interpretive way.
- Students are given opportunities to apply **concepts and theories learned in solving practical problems**.
- Social science students use facts and ideas learned to think differently **about their own lives, social behaviors, and the society in which they live**; and, to begin to critically interpret and **explain some of the differences that they observe around them**.
- Social science majors develop critical thinking skills that can positively impact graduate and professional programs in any of the above fields of studies!

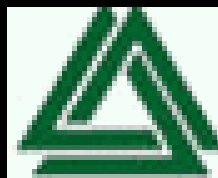
Social Sciences and Globalization

- Globalization describes a process **by which the world is being integrated into a worldwide diffusion of practices, the expansion of relations across continents, and the idea of organization of social life on a global scale.**
- Globalization is the increased **international mobility of goods, people, contracts (including financial claims and thoughts (facts, ideas, and beliefs).**
- A good grasp of the social science perspectives is important for working in today's multiethnic and multinational business environment



Career Options -- (Education-Portal.com).

- A degree in social science requires being **trained in math, computers, and statistics.**
- It is a valuable degree because graduates develop many skills employers consider to be important such as **writing, critical thinking, researching, analysis of data and problem solving techniques.**
- It is a flexible degree program that a student can tailor to suit his or her own interests or it can be combined with a second major or minor in many different subject areas. (Education-Portal.com).
- (Education-Portal.com is a comprehensive directory of colleges, universities, career schools, trade schools, vocational training, and online degree programs).



Career Options - Sociology

- Sociological research influences the way we think about work and organizational life, and enables us to discover new knowledge.
- American Sociological Association : “A sociology degree provides valuable preparation for careers in modern organizational settings .”
- Many careers draw on different aspects of sociology.
- While it is true that only those with graduate degrees hold the official title of Sociologist, - those with Bachelor degrees will find employment in a wide variety of related careers .

Career Options – Higher Degrees

Masters and PhDs

1. Professors
2. Research positions in academic environments.
3. Development careers in business, industry, and governmental and non-governmental organizations (applied settings).

Example: Community Development Research Methods?

- Community change is an inevitable phenomenon.
- In the age of globalization communities are becoming more complex as they integrate with the global economy
- As communities change we need information to initiate, conduct, and sustain efforts to improve their situation and their social and economic well-being. – there is a need to understanding the internal context as well as the external or macro-reality.
- The bottom line is research supports the various stages of community development.



Connection between Sociology and Community Development- My Experience

- In my work as a rural sociologist in Jamaica, I worked for several international funding agencies doing sociological analyses of issues such as rural poverty, and the role of microenterprise in family and community welfare.
- I therefore come from a tradition where social research was a natural part of community development efforts. I have a strong conviction that more effective programs can be initiated at the household and community levels when we engage local populace in every stage of the development effort, through participatory research and participatory planning.
- (Graduate students receive instruction in research methods, statistics, and theory that broadens their employment opportunities- In applied settings where they apply knowledge to everyday problems).



Connection between Social Research and Community Development- My Experience

- My professional life as a rural sociologist began in 1994 when I worked with a Dutch sponsored Integrated Rural Development Project in Portland, Jamaica. There, I interacted with beneficiaries, collecting and analyzing socio-economic data and advising the Project Management Unit on development progress and people's views and responses to the Project.
- Since 1994, I have worked for a number of other Rural Development Projects in Jamaica in a similar capacity .
- Thus, I have extensive experience in participatory fieldwork, focus groups and ethnographic type research. In addition, I developed micro-project profiles for rural communities and have experience in participatory planning in numerous communities in Jamaica.



Considering a Career in Sociology with a B.S. Useful Book

- ***Embarking upon a Career with an Undergraduate Degree in Sociology*** ~ By Janet Mancini Billson and Bettina J. Huber.
- Designed for undergraduate sociology majors seeking employment.
- Discusses how to identify your interests and skills, the advantages of informational interviewing, how to design a resume, and how to conduct an employment interview. \$6.00 for ASA members students/\$10.00 for non-members and institutions.



Considering a Career in Political Science

- ***Careers and the Study of Political Science: A Guide for Undergraduates (APSA)*** (Revised and expanded 6th ed., 2003).
- A crucial resource for today's undergraduate. This updated career guide explores the many career options available to political science students and emphasizes the value of political science training.
- In addition to providing specific information about various career sectors, **this guide will help students examine their own career preferences in the context of new technologies and global networks.**

