Social Studies

College of Social & Behavioral Sciences
Social Studies Program
114 Armstrong Hall • 507-389-5718
Website: sbs.mnsu.edu/socialstudies

Coordinator: Clark Johnson

The social studies program is designed to prepare students to teach social studies in secondary schools. This challenging program draws upon faculty from nine areas (anthropology, economics, ethnic studies, gender and women’s studies, geography, history, political science, psychology, and sociology) and works with the College of Education to promote effective teaching practice for future and in-service teachers.

A non-teaching major in social studies is also offered, and provides the student an opportunity to create a program to meet her or his personal academic needs.

Admission to Major is granted by the program. Minimum university admission requirements are:

- a minimum of 32 earned semester credit hours.
- a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 ("C").

Contact the social studies coordinator for application procedures.

Admission to the Social Studies Program. Students enrolling in SOST 450 must be admitted to the social studies program, a process in addition to admission to the major. Admission to the social studies (teaching) program is limited. Preference for admission to the program is given to students who have a 3.0 GPA and who have had significant global, multicultural, civic, and community service experience. Students are encouraged to work closely with their advisor to prepare for admission to the social studies program.

POLICIES/INFORMATION

GPA Policy. A grade of “C” or better is required in all courses in the major.

P/N Grading Policy. No more than 12 credits may be taken P/N.

SOCIAL STUDIES BS TEACHING

ANTHROPOLOGY OPTION

Required General Education
ANTH 101 Introduction to Anthropology (4)
GEOG 100 Elements of Geography (3)
POL 111 United States Government (3)
PSYC 101 Introduction to Psychological Science (4)

U.S. History to 1877
HIST 190 United States to 1877 (4)
HIST 190W United States to 1877 (4)

HIST 191 United States Since 1877 (4)
HIST 191W United States Since 1877 (4)

Major Common Core
ECON 201 Principles of Macroeconomics (3)
ECON 429 Economic Education (3)
GEOG 340 United States (3)
HIST 302 World History: An Overview (4)
POL 321 Democracy and Citizenship (2)
POL 322 In-Service: Public Achievement (2)
SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology (3)
SOST 200 Introduction to Social Studies Teaching (2)
SOST 450 Teaching Social Studies Secondary School (4)

Major Restricted Electives
(Choose 3 credits)

Expansion Course
ETHN 410 Foundations of Oppression (3)
GWS 220 Global Perspectives on Women and Change (4)
GWS 220W Global Perspectives on Women and Change (4)

Major Emphasis: Anthropology (15 credits)
(Choose 4 credits)
ANTH 220 Human Origins (4)
ANTH 230 Peoples and Cultures of the World (4)
ANTH 240 Languages and Cultures (4)

(Choose 11 credits of 300-400 level anthropology courses)
ANTH 300 - ANTH 400

ECONOMICS OPTION

Required General Education
ANTH 101 Introduction to Anthropology (4)
GEOG 100 Elements of Geography (3)
POL 111 United States Government (3)
PSYC 101 Introduction to Psychological Science (4)

U.S. History to 1877
HIST 190 United States to 1877 (4)
HIST 190W United States to 1877 (4)

U.S. History Since 1877
HIST 191 United States Since 1877 (4)
HIST 191W United States Since 1877 (4)

Major Common Core
ECON 201 Principles of Macroeconomics (3)
ECON 429 Economic Education (3)
GEOG 340 United States (3)
HIST 302 World History: An Overview (4)
POL 321 Democracy and Citizenship (2)
POL 322 In-Service: Public Achievement (2)
SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology (3)
SOST 200 Introduction to Social Studies Teaching (2)
SOST 450 Teaching Social Studies Secondary School (4)

Major Restricted Electives
(Choose 3 credits)

Expansion Course
ETHN 410 Foundations of Oppression (3)
GWS 220 Global Perspectives on Women and Change (4)
GWS 220W Global Perspectives on Women and Change (4)

Major Emphasis: Economics (15 credits)
(Select one of the following options)
ECON 202 Principles of Microeconomics (3)
ECON 406 Economics of Unions (3)
ECON 412 Resources and Environmental Economics (3)
ECON 420 International Economics (3)

(Choose 3 credits from the following)
ECON 314W Current Economic Issues (3)

Other Graduation Requirements
Professional Education, 30 credits
See the SECONDARY EDUCATION section for admission requirements to Professional Education and a list of required professional education courses. NOTE:
Students must also meet a drug and alcohol education requirement (1-3 credits)

KSP 200-499

GEOGRAPHY OPTION

Required General Education
ANTH 101 Introduction to Anthropology (4)
GEOG 100 Elements of Geography (3)
POL 111 United States Government (3)
PSYC 101 Introduction to Psychological Science (4)

U.S. History to 1877
(Choose 4 credits from the following)
HIST 190 United States to 1877 (4)
HIST 190W United States to 1877 (4)

U.S. History Since 1877
(Choose 4 credits from the following)
HIST 191 United States Since 1877 (4)
HIST 191W United States Since 1877 (4)

Major Common Core
ECON 201 Principles of Macroeconomics (3)
ECON 429 Economic Education (3)
GEOG 340 United States (3)
HIST 302 World History: An Overview (4)
POL 321 Democracy and Citizenship (2)
POL 322 In-Service: Public Achievement (2)
SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology (3)
SOST 200 Introduction to Social Studies Teaching (2)
SOST 450 Teaching Social Studies Secondary School (4)

Major Restricted Electives
Expansion Course
(Choose 3 credits of the following)
ETHN 410 Foundations of Oppression (3)
GWS 220 Global Perspectives on Women and Change (4)
GWS 220W Global Perspectives on Women and Change (4)

Major Emphasis: Geography (15 credits)
GEOG 101 Introductory to Physical Geography (3)
GEOG 103 Introductory Cultural Geography (3)

Physical Geography
(Choose 3 credits from the following)
GEOG 313 Natural Disasters (3)
GEOG 315 Geomorphology (3)
GEOG 410 Climatic Environments (3)
GEOG 420 Conservation of Natural Resources (3)

Regional Geography Course
(Choose 3 credits)
GEOG 445 Latin America (3)
GEOG 450 Europe (3)
GEOG 454 Russian Realm (3)
GEOG 456 Africa (3)
GEOG 458 Geography of East Asia (3)

Culture Geography
(Choose 3 credits)
GEOG 425 Economic Geography (3)
GEOG 435 Urban Geography (3)
GEOG 436 Rural Geography (3)
GEOG 438 Social Geography (3)

HISTORY OPTION

Required General Education
ANTH 101 Introduction to Anthropology (4)
GEOG 100 Elements of Geography (3)
POL 111 United States Government (3)
PSYC 101 Introduction to Psychological Science (4)

U.S. History to 1877
(Choose 4 credits from the following)
HIST 190 United States to 1877 (4)
HIST 190W United States to 1877 (4)

U.S. History Since 1877
(Choose 4 credits from the following)
HIST 191 United States Since 1877 (4)
HIST 191W United States Since 1877 (4)

Major Common Core
ECON 201 Principles of Macroeconomics (3)
ECON 429 Economic Education (3)
GEOG 340 United States (3)
HIST 302 World History: An Overview (4)
POL 321 Democracy and Citizenship (2)
POL 322 In-Service: Public Achievement (2)
SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology (3)

Major Emphasis: History (15 credits)
Select (15 credits) of 300-400 level courses, including at least one 400 level course from each of the following areas: Europe, Third World, and the U.S.

HIST 300-499

Other Graduation Requirements
See the SECONDARY EDUCATION section for admission requirements to Professional Education and a list of required professional education courses.

POLITICAL SCIENCE OPTION

Required General Education
ANTH 101 Introduction to Anthropology (4)
GEOG 100 Elements of Geography (3)
POL 111 United States Government (3)
PSYC 101 Introduction to Psychological Science (4)

U.S. History to 1877
(Choose 4 credits from the following)
HIST 190 United States to 1877 (4)
HIST 190W United States to 1877 (4)

U.S. History Since 1877
(Choose 4 credits from the following)
HIST 191 United States Since 1877 (4)
HIST 191W United States Since 1877 (4)

Major Common Core
ECON 201 Principles of Macroeconomics (3)
ECON 429 Economic Education (3)
GEOG 340 United States (3)
HIST 302 World History: An Overview (4)
POL 321 Democracy and Citizenship (2)
POL 322 In-Service: Public Achievement (2)
SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology (3)
**SOCIAL STUDIES**

SOST 200 Introduction to Social Studies Teaching (2)  
SOST 450 Teaching Social Studies Secondary School (4)

**Major Restricted Electives**

*Expansion Course*

(Choose 3 credits of the following)
- ETHN 410 Foundations of Oppression (3)
- GWS 220 Global Perspectives on Women and Change (4)
- GWS 220W Global Perspectives on Women and Change (4)

**Major Emphasis: Political Science** (15 credits)

- POL 371 State & Local Government (3)
- POL 414 Early United States Political Thought (3)
- POL 431 International Relations (3)
- POL 473 Legislative Process (3)

(Choose one course of independent study (3 credits) or choose one of the following)
- POL 433 International Organization (3)
- POL 441 Russia & Neighboring States Politics (3)
- POL 442 South Asia: Politics & Policy (3)
- POL 443 Middle East Politics (3)
- POL 445 Asian Pacific Rim: Politics & Policy (3)

**Other Graduation Requirements**

Professional Education, 30 credits

See the SECONDARY EDUCATION section for admission requirements to Professional Education and a list of required professional education courses. NOTE: Students must also meet a drug and alcohol education requirement (1-3 credits)
- KSP 200-499

**PSYCHOLOGY OPTION**

**Required General Education**

- ANTH 101 Introduction to Anthropology (4)
- GEOG 100 Elements of Geography (3)
- POL 111 United States Government (3)
- PSYC 101 Introduction to Psychological Science (4)

*U.S. History to 1877*

(Choose 4 credits from the following)
- HIST 190 United States to 1877 (4)
- HIST 190W United States to 1877 (4)

*U.S. History Since 1877*

(Choose 4 credits from the following)
- HIST 191 United States Since 1877 (4)
- HIST 191W United States Since 1877 (4)

**Major Common Core**

- ECON 201 Principles of Macroeconomics (3)
- ECON 429 Economic Education (3)
- GEOG 340 United States (3)
- HIST 302 World History: An Overview (4)
- POL 321 Democracy and Citizenship (2)
- POL 322 In-Service: Public Achievement (2)
- SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology (3)
- SOST 200 Introduction to Social Studies Teaching (2)
- SOST 450 Teaching Social Studies Secondary School (4)

**Major Restricted Electives**

*Expansion Course*

(Choose 3 credits of the following)
- ETHN 410 Foundations of Oppression (3)
- GWS 220 Global Perspectives on Women and Change (4)
- GWS 220W Global Perspectives on Women and Change (4)

**Major Emphasis: Psychology**

- PSYC 201 Statistics for Psychology (4)
- PSYC 211 Research Methods and Design (4)

(Choose 4 credits from the following)
- PSYC 407 Advanced Behavior Analysis (4)
- PSYC 413 Sensation & Perception (4)
- PSYC 421 Biopsychology (4)

(Choose 3 credits from the following)
- PSYC 340 Social Psychology (4)
- PSYC 433 Child Psychology (4)
- PSYC 436 Adolescent Psychology (4)
- PSYC 455 Abnormal Psychology (4)
- PSYC 456 Personality Theories (3)

**Sociology Option**

**Required General Education**

- ANTH 101 Introduction to Anthropology (4)
- GEOG 100 Elements of Geography (3)
- POL 111 United States Government (3)
- PSYC 101 Introduction to Psychological Science (4)

*U.S. History to 1877*

(Choose 4 credits from the following)
- HIST 190 United States to 1877 (4)
- HIST 190W United States to 1877 (4)

*U.S. History Since 1877*

(Choose 4 credits from the following)
- HIST 191 United States Since 1877 (4)
- HIST 191W United States Since 1877 (4)

**Major Common Core**

- ECON 201 Principles of Macroeconomics (3)
- ECON 429 Economic Education (3)
- GEOG 340 United States (3)
- HIST 302 World History: An Overview (4)
- POL 321 Democracy and Citizenship (2)
- POL 322 In-Service: Public Achievement (2)
- SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology (3)
- SOST 200 Introduction to Social Studies Teaching (2)
- SOST 450 Teaching Social Studies Secondary School (4)

**Major Restricted Electives**

*Expansion Course*

(Choose 3 credits of the following)
- ETHN 410 Foundations of Oppression (3)
- GWS 220 Global Perspectives on Women and Change (4)
- GWS 220W Global Perspectives on Women and Change (4)

**Major Emphasis: Sociology** (15 credits)

*Theory*

- SOC 458 Sociological Theory (3)

*Issues*

(Choose 3 credits from the following)
- SOC 255 Juvenile Delinquency (3)
- SOC 307 Sex & Gender in Contemporary Society (3)
- SOC 425 Social Movements (3)
- SOC 441 Social Deviance (3)
- SOC 446 Race, Culture & Ethnicity (3)
- SOC 463 Social Stratification (3)
- SOC 482 Social Change (3)

*Methods*

(Choose 3 credits from the following)
- SOC 201 Social Research I (3)
- SOC 469 Survey Research (3)
SOC 479 Sociological Ethnography (3)
SOC 480 Qualitative Methods (3)

Macro
SOC 351 Social Psychology (3)
SOC 407 Population Dynamics (3)
SOC 423 Complex Organizations (3)
SOC 461 Urban Sociology (3)

Family
SOC 408 Family Life Dynamics (3)
SOC 409 Family Violence (3)
SOC 483 The Family and Society (3)

Other Graduation Requirements
Professional Education, 30 credits
See the SECONDARY EDUCATION section for admission requirements to Professional Education and a list of required professional education courses. NOTE: Students must also meet a drug and alcohol education requirement (1-3 credits)

KSP 200-499

SOCIAL STUDIES BS

Major Restricted Electives
A minimum of 27 credits (of which 17 need to be upper division) must be taken on a widely distributed basis from the social sciences and history OUTSIDE the area of concentration and/or from the interdisciplinary programs of: Ethnic Studies, Gender & Women Studies and Urban Studies. (Choose 26 credits)

Students are encouraged to take a mixture of courses that reflect a global and multicultural understanding.
ANTH 100 - ANTH 499
ECON 100 - ECON 499
ETHN 100 - ETHN 499
GEOG 100 - GEOG 499
GWS 100 - GWS 499
HIST 100 - HIST 499
POL 100 - POL 499
PSYC 100 - PSYC 499
SOC 100 - SOC 499
URBS 100 - URBS 499

Students should enroll in SOST 299, Individual Study in the subsequent semester to declaring the social studies non-teaching major. Students will work with the social studies coordinator to define personal learning goals and objectives and begin the development of a personal learning portfolio. In the senior year, the student will take SOST 499, Individual Study. (Choose 1-14 credits)
SOST 299 Individual Study (1-6)
SOST 499 Individual Study (1-8)

Major Emphasis: Area of Concentration
A minimum of 24 credits must be taken in ONE of the following areas (15 credits of the 24 credits must be upper division courses). Areas include: Anthropology, Economics, Ethnic Studies, Gender & Women Studies, Geography, History, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology. (Choose 24 credits)
Students taking the history option are required to take at least six credits from each of the following areas: Europe, Third World (i.e. Latin America, Middle East, Asia, and Africa) and United States
ANTH 100 - ANTH 499
ECON 100 - ECON 499
ETHN 100 - ETHN 499
GEOG 100 - GEOG 499
GWS 100 - GWS 499
HIST 100 - HIST 499
POL 100 - POL 499
PSYC 100 - PSYC 499
SOC 100 - SOC 499

Required Minor: None.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

SOST 200 (2) Introduction to Social Studies Teaching
Acquaints students majoring in social studies (teaching) with the social studies major and fundamental ideas that will help students integrate what they are learning in social sciences and history within the context of secondary social studies classroom.
Fall, Spring

SOST 222 (1-4) Selected Topics
Designed to provide students the opportunity to explore a variety of topics related to social studies.
Fall, Spring

SOST 299 (1-6) Individual Study

SOST 450 (4) Teaching Social Studies Secondary School
Organization and presentation of social studies in secondary schools. Preparation of units for teaching purposes, examination of materials useful to the social studies teacher. Application of national and state standards to teaching social studies.
Pre: Concurrently with KSP 440
Fall, Spring

SOST 485 (1-6) Topics
Designed to provide students the opportunity to explore a variety of topics related to social studies.

SOST 491 (1-6) In-Service
Designed to provide students the opportunity to integrate academic learning with professional practice.

SOST 499 (1-8) Individual Study