

# SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATION

## Field endorsement to teach grades 6-12

Social sciences is a broad field that covers several subject areas – all important to a student’s education and development. These are the courses you would choose to become a social studies teacher. Courses in the Social Studies Education degree program at Wayne State are designed to help you understand the history and nature of human beings in a social context, and to pass that knowledge and understanding on to the next generation. In the Social Studies Education program at Wayne State, you’ll study the five areas of social sciences (economics, geography, history, political science, psychology, and sociology) to give you the foundation you need to successfully teach social sciences courses in grades 6-12.

*If you choose the Social Studies field endorsement, you are not required to choose any other endorsements to receive your B.A. or B.S.*

## fast facts

### Credit hours: 99

*Students must also take 30 credit hours of General Studies courses. A total of 120 credit hours are needed to graduate from WSC. Additional majors or minors can be added to help meet graduation requirements.*

### Degree options: B.A. or B.S.

**Departments:** History, Politics, and Geography; Educational Foundations and Leadership

**Schools:** Arts and Humanities; Education and Behavioral Sciences

**Popular pairings:** Coaching

## focus on results

### What You’ll Learn

- World cultures and civilizations
- American history, cultural groups, and government
- World regional geography
- Political processes of the national government
- General psychology, sociology, and anthropology
- Principles of microeconomics and macroeconomics
- Classroom management and curriculum development
- Public speaking and presentation
- Research and writing techniques
- Critical thinking

### Possible Careers

- Social studies teacher
- Social sciences teacher
- History teacher
- Political science teacher
- Geography teacher
- Research specialist
- Public historian

### Types of Employers

- Middle schools
- High schools
- Education and learning centers
- Museums and exhibitions
- Historical societies
- Conservation societies
- National parks
- Travel agencies
- Foreign service agencies
- Non-profit organizations

## outside the classroom



Visit [www.wsc.edu/clubs](http://www.wsc.edu/clubs) to learn more about clubs and organizations on campus.

### Activities / Opportunities

- Conferences and symposiums
- Constitution Day
- Multicultural events
- Northeast Nebraska Teacher Academy
- Research projects and presentations
- Service-Learning
- Study Abroad

### Clubs / Organizations

- Active Minds
- Gamma Theta Upsilon (Geography Honorary)
- Nebraska State Education Association (NSEA) Aspiring Educators
- Phi Alpha Theta (History Honorary)
- Pi Gamma Mu (Social Sciences Honorary)
- Psychology/Sociology Club

# Courses and outcomes

2026-27 Academic Year

The following courses are required for the program of study described on this sheet. Every effort is made to ensure this information is current, but please be aware that some content may have changed. To develop a plan for registering and taking these courses, please consult the current academic catalog and your advisor.

## Program courses

Take BUS 122 Personal Finance in Modern Society for CAT 3. The endorsement includes 9 hours of the General Studies history and social studies requirements.

### Social Sciences Core Courses

GEO 120 World Regional Geography .....	3
HIS 385 America, 1945 to the Present.....	3
Select one of the following political science courses.....	3
POS 350 The American Presidency (3)	
POS 355 Politics of the Supreme Court (3)	
POS 365 Comparative Government and Politics (3)	
POS 420 American Constitutional Law (3)	
POS 425 Rights and Liberties (3)	
POS 445 Public Administration and Management (3)	
Select one of the following courses.....	3
SSC 490 Social Sciences Research Seminar (3)	
Appropriate Honors Course 395 or 499 (3)	

### Social Sciences Content Courses (History, Economics, Geography, Political Science, Psychology, and Sociology)

HIS 170 World Civilizations I.....	3
HIS 171 World Civilizations II.....	3
HIS 280 America, 15000 BC to 1845.....	3
HIS 281 America, 1845-1945.....	3
U.S. upper-level history elective.....	3
Non-U.S. upper-level history electives.....	6
*Upper-level history electives.....	6
ECO 202 Principles of Macroeconomics.....	3
ECO 203 Principles of Microeconomics.....	3
*Upper-level geography electives.....	6
POS 100 American National Government.....	3
Upper-level political science elective.....	3
PSY 101 General Psychology.....	3
Upper-level psychology elective.....	3
SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology.....	3

### Professional Education Courses

EDU 150 Introduction to Professional Education .....	3
EDU 245 Preparing for Level 2: Teacher Candidacy.....	0
EDU 250 Human Development and Cognition.....	3
EDU 275 PK-12 Instructional Design.....	3
EDU 310 Reading, Writing, and Assessment in Content Areas.....	2
EDU 409 Content Area Methods and Assessment (Social Sciences).....	3
EDU 414 Content Area Practicum Experience .....	1
EDU 445 Preparing for Level 3: Clinical Practice .....	0
EDU 456 Clinical Practice and Seminar for the Secondary School.....	12
SPD 302 Inclusion and Co-teaching in General Education.....	3
SPD 436 Classroom Management through Social Emotional Learning 7-12.....	3

\*GEO 490 Geography and History of Nebraska or HIS 490 Geography and History of Nebraska must be taken in fulfillment of the upper-level history or geography requirements.

## Student learning outcomes

### Social sciences programs

1. Apply essential knowledge of the seven social science disciplines (economics, criminal justice, geography, history, political science, psychology, and sociology)
2. Identify the key theories and methods of inquiry of each of the seven social science disciplines
3. Explain four sub-topics of the seven social science disciplines
4. Analyze student's primary area of emphasis compared, and contrasted, with two other social sciences

### Education programs

- Teacher candidates who successfully complete an education preparation program at Wayne State will be able to:
1. Create environments that support individual and collaborative learning using knowledge of how students grow and develop, along with individual differences and diverse cultures. (InTASC Standards 1-3)
  2. Plan for instruction by applying content knowledge, a variety of instructional strategies, and multiple methods of

- assessment to connect concepts for learners in real-world applications. (InTASC Standards 4-8)
3. Engage in ongoing professional learning and use evidence to reflect on and adapt practice to meet the needs of each learner. (InTASC Standard 9)
  4. Seek leadership roles and opportunities to take responsibility for student learning, to collaborate with stakeholders, and to advance the profession. (InTASC Standard 10)

## social studies education faculty



Visit [www.wsc.edu/history-politics-geography-department](http://www.wsc.edu/history-politics-geography-department) to learn more about the Department of History, Politics, and Geography.

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