



Social Science

at Benedictine University

Why study social science at Benedictine?

The Social Science major for teachers is an interdisciplinary major drawing on the resources of several departments to prepare students to teach social science subjects in high school. The subjects available include history, economics, political science and sociology. This variety allows students to shape their own individual course of study in consultation with an advisor. The program's flexibility allows students to meet the state's teaching requirements in other subjects (geography and anthropology) by taking only a few additional courses. These additional options are open to students even after graduation.

What careers are available with a degree in Social Science?

This program is primarily directed at students desiring to teach high school social studies since it provides a broad introduction to the social sciences with opportunities for some in-depth study. It is also a sound major for students seeking a comprehensive program of study, even if they decide not to become teachers. It prepares students for careers in law, foreign service, local or state government positions, social work or business.

How does the program work?

Students who wish to teach high school in the subjects of history, political science/civics, economics and sociology should major in Social Science. This major requires that students take 24 hours in History and be qualified to teach both U.S. and world history courses. Students will also take nine hours from Political Science and nine hours from either Economics or Sociology, which will qualify them to teach in these areas. The attached model assumes that the two, nine-hour areas are in Political Science and Sociology.

"Benedictine University offers cutting-edge educational classes that challenge future teachers to implement new ideas while retaining the best of what works in the classroom. While it is hard work, I love teaching, especially interacting with students, learning new information and organizing materials for class. Teaching social studies today requires innovation, creativity and a sense of commitment to students."

Tracey Cook, C99, Teacher, Neuqua Valley High School

Recommended Program

Bachelor of Arts in Social Science with Teaching Licensure

FRESHMAN

Writing Colloquium	3
Artistic and Creative (QCA) course	3
Mathematics (105, 108 or 110)	3
American History To 1865	3
Literary and Rhetorical (QLR) course	3
	15
Research Writing	3
American History Since 1865	3
Basic Speech	3
Principles of Sociology	3
Biology	3
	15

JUNIOR

Education elective*	3
300-level U.S. History course	3
Geography and Cartography	3
Converging Hemispheres (HIST 240)	3
Religions/Theological (QRT) course	3
Professional Seminar	1
	16
Survey of Exceptional Children*	3
European History course	3
State and Local Government	3
Cultural Anthropology	3
Methods and Principles of Middle School Education*	3
Major Research Paper	3
	18

SOPHOMORE

Introduction to Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry	3
Introduction to Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry Lab	1
Historiography	3
Catholic and Benedictine Intellectual Traditions (IDS 201)	3
Global Affairs	3
Educational Psychology	3
	16
Preclinical experience*	1
History and Philosophy of Education*	3
Technology for Teachers*	2
Non-Western History course	3
American Government	3
American History course (200-level)	3
Physical Scientific (QPS) course	3
	18

SENIOR

Human Dignity and the Common Good (IDS 301)	3
Philosophical (QPL) course	3
Measurement and Evaluation*	3
Methods of Teaching History, Political Science and Economics - Middle/Junior and High School*	3
Social Scientific II: Political, Global and Economic Systems (QPE)	3
Computational, Mathematical and Analytical (QCM)	3
	18
Student Teaching*	12

*Students who decide not to continue toward a teaching certificate may replace these education courses with additional electives, perhaps leading to a minor.

Changes in state licensure requirements must be met at the time they go into effect. This could change the program requirements. See your academic advisor with questions.

A cumulative 2.75 GPA and a 3.0 GPA in the major are needed for teacher education programs.