

# MAJOR DESCRIPTION & FLOWCHART

AS OF DECEMBER, 2022

# Fulbright

## SOCIAL STUDIES

### Description

The Social Studies major provides a liberal arts approach to the empirical study of Society. This major provides training that is thematically broad, methodologically mixed, and analytically rigorous approaches. Students in this interdisciplinary major work across a variety of disciplines including anthropology, sociology, criminology, and political science, to address big problems across modern societies. Graduates will be well prepared to pursue graduate study in the social sciences as well as diverse careers such as NGO work, entrepreneurship, research, consulting, leadership, and work in international organizations.

### Learning Outcomes

Students in the Social Studies Major will be able to:

1. Frame research and questions within the context of the field's historic foundations
2. Conduct social scientific research from proposal to implementation.
3. Communicate the results of research in written form
4. Apply and explain texts and concepts in social science theory.
5. Conduct and reflect upon the ethics of human-centered research.
6. Empirically analyze pressing industrial, governmental, and societal needs in Vietnam and abroad.

	LO1	LO2	LO3	LO4	LO5	LO6
Social Inquiry (100-level)	I			I		I
Methods (100-level)		I	I		I	
Theory (200-Level)	R		R	R		
Intermediate (200-Level)	R*	R*	R*	R*	R*	R

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Advanced (300-Level)	M*	M*	M*	M*	M*	M*
Capstone		M			M	

I - Introduced; R – Revised; M – Mastery

\* Intermediate and Advanced courses allow students to focus studies to the direction of their choice. 200-Level electives all contain a focus on pressing societal issues.

## Degree Requirements

A Bachelor of Arts in Social Studies is awarded following successful completion of:

1. 5 Core courses (20 credits) and 8 Exploratory courses (32 credits), of which up to two Exploratory courses (8 credits) can be counted towards the major
2. Fulbright Seminar (4 credits, optional) and Experiential Learning (4 – 12 credits)
3. 1 Foundational survey course – Social Inquiry (4 Credits)
4. 1 Foundational methods course (4 Credits)
5. 1 Foundational theory course (4 credits)
2. 6 Courses offered by the Social Studies Major, at least 2 of which must be at an advanced (300) level. (24 Credits)
3. 2 Additional Courses in the Major (either regular major, or major with honors) (8 credits)

### Regular Major Requirements

3. 2 Additional courses offered by the Social Studies Major, at least 1 of which must be advanced (300) level. This can be taken in lieu of the major with capstone requirements. (8 credits)

### Major with Honors Requirements

4. Minimum GPA Threshold by Summer of a Student's Third Year
5. 1 Capstone I (4 credits)
6. 1 Capstone II (4 credits)

### *Sample Student Journey*

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Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Core Courses	Core Courses	Fulbright Seminars	Advanced Course s
Exploratory courses	Exploratory Courses	Experiential Learning	Capstone I
Foundation (Survey)	Intermediate Courses	Intermediate Courses	Capstone II
Foundation (Methods)	Foundation (Theory)	Advanced Course s	Electives
	Electives	Electives	

## Major Outline

Foundational courses dive deeply into the empirical, methodological, and theoretical pillars of social scientific research. In doing so, we embody the spirit of the liberal arts through targeted investigation of fundamental issues facing society while providing flexibility for students to employ their skills to focal areas of their choice in later years. While students can complete foundational courses in any sequence, it is recommended that they complete their theory requirement in year 2.

Foundational Survey Course – Social Inquiry (SOCI 102): This course provides a survey of topics studied across the social sciences through an investigation of major challenges we face today. Themes include social issues related to governance, equality, health, gender and sexuality, race, environment, development, family, everyday life, and technology. This course will discuss the different branches of the social sciences in order to give students insights into how to orient their future program of study.

Foundational Methods Course: In addition to Social Inquiry, students are required to take one introductory methods-intensive course. While many intermediate and advanced courses will contain a methodological component, these courses provide practical experience for students in the diverse empirical approaches taken by social sciences. Students will be exposed to both qualitative and quantitative approaches to research. These offerings will be expanded in the future.

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## *Sample Methods Courses*

1. Research Methods in Social and Behavioral Sciences (SOC1 105)
2. Ethnographic Research Methods (SOC1 109)

Foundational Theory Course: The social sciences emerged as a distinct form of intellectual inquiry alongside the industrialization of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century in Europe. Students will take a theory course that looks at core theoretical approaches which are shared across social scientific disciplines. Though many of contemporary social science's theoretical antecedents originated in the west, we also examine how they have migrated to, been translated in, and influenced Asia. While students can complete foundational courses in any sequence, it is recommended that they complete their theory requirement in year 2.

These offerings will be expanded in the future.

## *Sample Theory Course*

2. Ethics and Moral Philosophy (SOC1 214)
3. Introduction to Science and Technology Studies (SOC1 211)
4. History of International Relations Theory (HIS 203)

Intermediate Courses: Intermediate courses examine key topics across the Social Sciences. Courses introduce students to methodological, theoretical, and thematic facets of a wide variety of topics. Students may take up to 4 intermediate courses as part of their completion of the major. Foundation courses are not a prerequisite for intermediate courses, though it is recommended students complete those courses as early as possible.

## *Sample Intermediate Courses*

5. Foundations of Political Economy (SOC1 201)
6. Introduction to Political Science (SOC1 213)
7. Disability and Culture (SOC1 215)

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8. Digital Anthropology (SOC1 202)
9. Youth and Society in Asia (SOC1 204)
10. Development from Below: Indigenous Paths to Modernity in Vietnam (SOC1 207)
11. Culture and the Economy in Developing Asia (SOC1 208)

Advanced Courses: Advanced courses are small seminar-style courses that allow for in-depth discussion of specialized thematic and theoretical areas. Advanced courses can also be independent studies co-designed by the student and their advisor. Students must take at least 2 advanced courses to complete major requirements. Foundation courses are a prerequisite for advanced courses.

## *Sample Advanced Courses*

12. Women and Politics in Asia (SOC1 301)
13. Language, Culture, and Thought (SOC1 305)
14. Global Political Economy (SOC1 307)
15. The Anthropology of Sex (SOC1 309)
16. Technology, Innovation and Conflict (SOC1 308)

Capstone Project (for Honors): Those students who wish to graduate with honors must complete a capstone seminar and capstone project as the culmination of their journey through the Social Studies major. They must also receive a grade of “honors” on their capstone. Capstones provide students with the opportunity to work closely with an advisor to dive deeply into a topic of their interest with an emphasis on ethics, the application of theory to methods, and communication of their ideas. While typical capstones will be research projects employing methods students have developed over the course of their studies, alternative projects such as films, social enterprises, policy reports, and digital media may also be developed in coordination with a supervisor.

## **Requirements for Declaring the Social Studies Major and Minor**

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In order to formally declare Social Studies as your major, you must complete Social Inquiry, and at least two courses at the 100 or 200 level. In order to formally declare Social Studies minor, you must complete Social Inquiry and at least one course in the Social Studies Program.

## **Graduation with Honors Requirements**

17. Student must complete Capstone I and Capstone II
18. The Capstone must be graded as Honors pass

## **Minor Requirements**

A Minor in Social Studies is awarded following successful completion of:

19. 1 Foundational Survey course – Social Inquiry
20. 1 Foundational Methods course
21. 1 Foundational Theory course
22. 3 Courses offered by the Social Studies Major, at least 1 of which must be at advanced (300) level

## **Petitions**

A student may petition to count a total of 2 courses not listed or cross-listed with SOCI to count towards completion of the major (Total 8 credits). Petitions must be approved by the major coordinator.

## SOCIAL STUDIES FLOWCHART

### FOUNDATION COURSES

(one in each area: Survey, Methods, Theory)

#### Foundational Survey Course

- Social Inquiry

#### Foundational Methods Courses Sample

- Research Methods in Social and Behavioral Sciences
- Ethnographic Research Methods

#### Foundational Theory Courses Sample

- Ethics and Moral Philosophy
- History of International Relations Theory
- Introduction to Science and Technology Studies

Foundation Courses  
(3 required)

Intermediate Courses  
(4 required)

Advanced Courses  
(2 required)

Major Courses  
(2 required) \*\*\*

Major Courses  
(2 required) \*

Capstone I &  
Capstone II  
(2 required) \*\*

### INTERMEDIATED COURSES (200-level)

#### Sample Intermediate Courses

- Foundations of Political Economy
- Introduction to Political Science
- Disability and Culture
- Digital Anthropology
- Youth and Society in Asia
- Development from Below: Indigenous Paths to Modernity in Vietnam
- Culture and the Economy in Developing Asia

Foundation courses are not a prerequisite for intermediate courses, though it is recommended students complete those courses as early as possible.

### ADVANCED COURSES (300-level)

#### Sample Advanced Courses

- Women and Politics in Asia 13. Language, Culture, and Thought
- Global Political Economy
- The Anthropology of Sex
- Technology, Innovation and Conflict

Foundation courses are a prerequisite for advanced courses.

### MAJOR COURSES

- Any courses offered by the Social Studies Major, at least one of which must be 300-level.

\*Regular major requirements

\*\*Major with Honor requirements

\*\*\*Any courses within the major

### SOCIAL STUDIES MINOR (6 courses)

- Foundation Courses, one course in each area: Survey, Methods, Theory (3 required)
- Courses offered by the Social Studies Major, at least one of which must be at 300-level (3 required)