

SOCIAL STUDIES, BACHELOR OF ARTS (592)

Program Coordinator

Jennifer A. Hanley, jennifer.walton-hanley@wku.edu, (270) 745-4723

The Social Studies major, a 51-credit-hour program, is interdisciplinary by design: students must complete courses in History, Political Science, Economics, and Geography, with elective options in History, Political Science, Geography, Anthropology, Sociology, and Psychology. This program of study provides students with a strong foundation in history and equips them with the skills to collect, analyze, and summarize data and the ability to apply those skills to construct arguments and use evidence to support them. The Social Studies major prepares students to bring a range of skills from the social and behavioral sciences, economics, and geography to the study of the past. The major is designed to prepare students to teach Social Studies in grades 8-12, and students who complete this major may become eligible for teacher certification in Social Studies. Social Studies, particularly when combined with a second major in History, enables students to pursue careers in education (at all levels), library sciences, management, law, administration, and sales. Social Studies graduates are well suited for work in local, state, and federal government; banking; journalism; and politics. Many businesses seek job candidates with a strong background in the liberal arts because of their critical thinking, analytic, and writing abilities. Students with a major in Social Studies who pursue teacher certification receive a 12-hour waiver in the upper-division hour requirement in the major field. In choosing elective courses, students should consider the number of upper-division courses required for graduation. No minor or second major is required.

Concentrations

- General (No Concentration)
- Teacher Education (TCHR)

Program Requirements (51 hours)

A baccalaureate degree requires a minimum of 120 unduplicated semester hours. More information can be found at www.wku.edu/registrar/degree_certification.php. (https://www.wku.edu/registrar/degree_certification.php)

Students who began WKU in the Fall 2014 and thereafter should review the Colonnade requirements located at: <https://www.wku.edu/colonnade/colonnaderequirements.php>. (<https://www.wku.edu/colonnade/colonnaderequirements.php>)

Code	Title	Hours
History		
HIST 101	World History I	3
HIST 102	World History II	3
HIST 240	The United States to 1865	3
HIST 241	The United States Since 1865	3
HIST 498	Senior Seminar	3
Select 12 hours of upper-division courses including a course from each of the following areas:		12
United States ¹		
Europe ²		

Global South ³		
Ancient to Early Modern ⁴		
Political and Behavioral Sciences		
PS 110	American National Government	3
IA 250	International Politics	3
Select two courses, each from a different discipline, from the following (at least three hours must be upper division):		6
ANTH 120	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	
ANTH 342	Peoples and Cultures of the Caribbean	
ANTH 360	Applied Anthropology – Understanding and Addressing Contemporary Human Problems	
ANTH 388	Foodways	
PS 310	The American Presidency	
PS 316	The Legislative Process	
PS 326	Constitutional Law	
PS 327	Civil Liberties	
PS 328	Criminal Justice Procedures	
IA 357	U S Foreign Policy	
PS 370	American Political Parties and Interest Groups	
PS 373	Minority Politics	
PS 374	Women and Politics	
PS 435	American Political Thought	
PSYS 350	Social Psychology	
or PSY 350	Social Psychology	
SOCL 100	Introductory Sociology	
SOCL 322	Religion in Society	
SOCL 362	Social Institutions: Race, Class, and Gender	
SOCL 363	Population, Society, and Development	
SOCL 375	Diversity in American Society	
SOCL 376	Sociology of Globalization	
Economics		
ECON 202	Principles of Economics (Micro)	3
ECON 203	Principles of Economics (Macro)	3
Geography (at least three hours must be upper division):		
GEOG 110	World Regional Geography	3
or GEOG 330	Introduction to Cultural Geography	
Select one of the following not already counted toward the major:		3
GEOG 110	World Regional Geography	
GEOG 226	Our Dangerous Planet	
GEOG 227	Our Vulnerable Planet	
GEOG 330	Introduction to Cultural Geography	
GEOG 352	Geography of Kentucky	
GEOG 378	Food, Culture, and Environment	
GEOG 380	Global Sustainability	
GEOG 465	Geography of East Asia	
GEOG 480	Sustainable Cities	

HIST 375	Spatial History
Total Hours	51

- ¹ United States: HIST 302, HIST 303, HIST 316, HIST 320, HIST 321, HIST 325, HIST 329, HIST 343, HIST 347, HIST 348, HIST 349, HIST 352, HIST 353, HIST 354, HIST 358, HIST 359, HIST 390, HIST 430, HIST 440, HIST 441, HIST 442, HIST 443, HIST 444, HIST 445, HIST 446, HIST 447, HIST 449, HIST 450, HIST 451, HIST 453, HIST 454, HIST 456, HIST 457, HIST 458, HIST 464, HIST 494
- ² Europe: HIST 305, HIST 306, HIST 307, HIST 308, HIST 317, HIST 318, HIST 322, HIST 323, HIST 324, HIST 334, HIST 335, HIST 338, HIST 340, HIST 407, HIST 419, HIST 426, HIST 439, HIST 463
- ³ Global South: HIST 330, HIST 331, HIST 364, HIST 365, HIST 370, HIST 378, HIST 379, HIST 404, HIST 460, HIST 461, HIST 462, HIST 465, HIST 466, HIST 471, HIST 480
- ⁴ Ancient to Early Modern: HIST 304, HIST 305, HIST 306, HIST 307, HIST 308, HIST 317, HIST 318, HIST 323, HIST 330, HIST 364, HIST 404, HIST 407, HIST 419, HIST 440, HIST 460, HIST 463

Teacher Education Requirements

The major in Social Studies with Teacher Certification is intended for those seeking certification to teach in grades 8-12. It requires a minimum of 51 semester hours and leads to a Bachelor of Arts degree. No minor or second major is required. Teacher certification requires additional coursework in education specified by the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences. A grade of "C" or higher is required in all courses applying to certification. Students seeking Teacher Certification must complete the requirements for the Social Studies major as well as the following professional education courses:

Code	Title	Hours
EDU 250	Discover Teaching: Introduction to Teacher Education	3
PSY 310	Educational Psychology: Development and Learning	3
SEC 350	Clinical Practices in Secondary Teaching I	4
EDU 350	Student Diversity and Differentiation	3
EDU 360	Behavior and Classroom Management in Education	3
SEC 481	Clinical Practices in Secondary Teaching II: Social Studies	4
EDU 260	Classroom Assessment	3
LTCY 497	Literacy Competencies for Middle and High School Classroom Teachers	0
SEC 490	Student Teaching	10
EDU 489	Student Teaching Seminar	3
Total Hours		36

Finish in Four Plan

Without Teacher Certification

First Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
HIST 240 or HIST 241		3 HIST 101 or HIST 102	3
ENG 100 or COMM 145		3 HIST 241 or HIST 240	3

Colonnade Quantitative Reasoning	3 COMM 145 or ENG 100	3
GEOG 110 or PS 110	3 Colonnade Natural & Physical Sciences w. Lab	3
Colonnade Arts & Humanities	3 PS 110 or GEOG 110	3

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Second Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Upper-Level History Elective		3 HIST 102 or HIST 101	3
Colonnade Natural & Physical Sciences		3 Geography Elective	3
IA 250		3 ECON 203	3
ENG 200		3 Political and Behavioral Sciences Elective	3
ECON 202		3 General Elective or Course for Optional Second Major or Minor	3

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Third Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Upper-Level History Elective		3 Upper-Level History Elective	3
Political and Behavioral Sciences Elective		3 Colonnade Connections Course	3
ENG 300		3 Colonnade Connections Course	3
General Elective or Course for Optional Second Major or Minor		3 General Elective or Course for Optional Second Major or Minor	3
General Elective or Course for Optional Second Major or Minor		3 General Elective or Course for Optional Second Major or Minor	3

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Fourth Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Upper-Level History Elective		3 HIST 498	3
Colonnade Connections Course		3 General Elective or Course for Optional Second Major or Minor	3
General Elective or Course for Optional Second Major or Minor		3 General Elective or Course for Optional Second Major or Minor	3
General Elective or Course for Optional Second Major or Minor		3 General Elective or Course for Optional Second Major or Minor	3
General Elective or Course for Optional Second Major or Minor		3 General Elective or Course for Optional Second Major or Minor	3

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Total Hours 120

Teacher Certification

First Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
HIST 240 or HIST 241		3 HIST 101 or HIST 102	3
ENG 100 or COMM 145		3 HIST 241 or HIST 240	3
Colonnade Quantitative Reasoning		3 COMM 145 or ENG 100	3
GEOG 110 or PS 110		3 Colonnade Natural & Physical Sciences w. Lab	3

EDU 250	3	EDU 260	3
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Second Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Upper-Level History Elective		3 HIST 102 or HIST 101	3
ECON 202		3 ECON 203	3
Colonnade Natural & Physical Sciences		3 ENG 200	3
Colonnade Arts & Humanities		3 IA 250	3
PS 110 or GEOG 110		3 EDU 350	3
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Third Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Upper-Level History Elective		3 SEC 350	4
Political and Behavioral Sciences Elective		3 Upper-Level History Elective	3
EDU 360		3 Colonnade Connections Course	3
ENG 300		3 Colonnade Connections Course	3
Geography Elective		3 PSY 310	3
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Fourth Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
SEC 481		4 EDU 489	3
LTCY 497		0 SEC 490	10
HIST 498		3	
Upper-Level History Course		3	
Colonnade Connections Course		3	
Political and Behavioral Sciences Elective		3	
	16		13
Total Hours 120			

PLEASE NOTE: Many course options in the Social Studies major fulfill requirements in the Colonnade program. Consult with your advisor when selecting electives.