



New Program Report

Date Submitted:

06/14/2023

Institution

Missouri Southern State University

Site Information

Implementation Date:

8/1/2024 12:00:00 AM

Added Site(s):

Selected Site(s):

Missouri Southern State University, 3950 E. Newman Road, Joplin, MO, 64801-1595

CIP Information

CIP Code:

450101

CIP Description:

A program that focuses on the general study of human social behavior and social institutions using any of the methodologies common to the social sciences and/or history, or an undifferentiated program of study in the social sciences.

CIP Program Title:

Social Sciences, General

Institution Program Title:

Social Sciences

Degree Level/Type

Degree Level:

Bachelor's Degree

Degree Type:

Bachelor of Science

Options Added:

Collaborative Program:

N

Mode of Delivery

Current Mode of Delivery

Classroom

Student Preparation

Special Admissions Procedure or Student Qualifications required:

n/a

Specific Population Characteristics to be served:

Program is open to all students with an interest in an interdisciplinary approach to social sciences.



DEPARTMENT OF
HIGHER EDUCATION &
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

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Faculty Characteristics

Special Requirements for Assignment of Teaching for this Degree/Certificate:

All full-time and part-time (adjunct) assigned faculty will meet HLC standards for faculty qualifications.

Graduate degree (MA, PhD, EdD, MSW, DSW) with at least 18 hours in the subject matter of the course.

Estimate Percentage of Credit Hours that will be assigned to full time faculty:

90% of credit hours will be taught by full time faculty.

Expectations for professional activities, special student contact, teaching/learning innovation:

Standard faculty teaching, service, and scholarship requirements; student mentoring for capstone experiences.

Student Enrollment Projections Year One-Five

Year 1	Full Time: 2	Part Time: 1	
Year 2	Full Time: 5	Part Time: 2	
Year 3	Full Time: 8	Part Time: 4	Number of Graduates: 5
Year 4	Full Time: 10	Part Time: 6	
Year 5	Full Time: 10	Part Time: 6	Number of Graduates: 10

Percentage Statement:

n/a

Program Accreditation

Institutional Plans for Accreditation:

No accreditation beyond HLC will be sought for this program.

Program Structure

Total Credits:

120

Residency Requirements:

A minimum of 30 semester hours for the baccalaureate degree must be earned in residence at MSSU.

General Education Total Credits:

42

Major Requirements Total Credits:

46

Course(s) Added

COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS	COURSE TITLE
See attached	46	See attached documentation

Free Elective Credits:

32

Internship or other Capstone Experience:

3 hours of experience/practice required



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Assurances

I certify that the program is clearly within the institution's CBHE-approved mission. The proposed new program must be consistent with the institutional mission, as well as the principal planning priorities of the public institution, as set forth in the public institution's approved plan or plan update.

I certify that the program will be offered within the proposing institution's main campus or CBHE-approved off-site location.

I certify that the program will not unnecessarily duplicate an existing program of another Missouri institution in accordance with 6 CSR 10-4.010, subsection (9)(C) Submission of Academic Information, Data and New Programs.

I certify that the program will build upon existing programs and faculty expertise.

I certify that the program can be launched with minimal expense and falls within the institution's current operating budget.

I certify that the institution has conducted research on the feasibility of the proposal and it is likely the program will be successful. Institutions' decision to implement a program shall be based upon demand and/or need for the program in terms of meeting present and future needs of the locale, state, and nation based upon societal needs, and/or student needs.

Contact Information

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MISSOURI SOUTHERN

STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

MEMO

Report AP 22-23:301

DATE: March 1, 2023

TO: Dr. Marsi Archer, Interim Dean, Arts and Sciences
Dr. Dominic Bucceri, Chair, Academic Policies
Dr. Jody Jensen, Chair-Elect, Academic Policies

FROM: Megan L. Bever, Chair, Department of Social Sciences

RE: New Major Proposal – Bachelor of Science in Social Sciences

The faculty of the Social Sciences Department wish to submit for **Routine Review** an application for a **Bachelor of Science in Social Sciences**. This new degree will complement our existing degrees in History, Social Work, Sociology, and IPA with a Global Cultural Studies Emphasis by allowing students with a broad interest in the Social Sciences to complete an interdisciplinary degree. We believe this new major will meet these specific needs of students:

- Many students pursue a BGS when their first plan of study does not work out, but as BGS students, they enroll in many advanced courses in anthropology, history, international studies, and sociology. We believe this new major can give these students a “home” department on campus and allow them to earn a credential as they take courses that are of interest to them.
- There are students who declare a SW00 (pre-Social Work) major their first and second years who end up being unable to enroll in the Social Work program as juniors. This new major would enable them to stay in related course work, take electives in Social Work, and complement those electives with methods training, professional development, and a broad exposure to the study of social science.
- Our discipline-specific majors are offered primarily on campus, and we do not have the faculty to offer a timely path to a sociology or history degree entirely online. This new major, however, will allow enough flexibility in course options that students could complete the degree online. This would prevent our majors from stalling out or switching to BGS when they need to take classes through distance education.
- Students pursuing an ES26 (Secondary Social Sciences – Option 1) could complete this second major by taking four additional hours (one experiential class and the professional development seminar).
- This major could create a path wherein a student who wished to complete an undergraduate and a graduate degree at an accelerated pace could complete up to nine hours of Justice Studies coursework (with approval of the program coordinator) within this degree that could subsequently transfer to the Justice Studies program (pending admission and approval).

We believe this BS degree will ensure that our students continue to graduate well-prepared to enter the job market. In addition to the strengths traditionally offered by our other degrees – such as critical thinking; clear writing and argumentation; and recognition of systemic patterns of cause and effect – a BS degree will prepare our students for jobs in areas of information sciences, public administration, social services, public records, and the non-profit sector. This degree provides students with a foundational work in social sciences methodology and practical immersive classroom experiences. Should students wish to continue their studies, this degree should also prepare

them for graduate programs in Anthropology, History, International Studies, Public History, Museum Studies, Library Science, Public Administration, Social Work, and Sociology.

We believe that the BS in Social Sciences **fits clearly within MSSU's state-approved mission**: an emphasis on international education. The course offerings feature International Studies, and are comparative and global in theme. There are many opportunities to study abroad.

Likewise, this program **will be offered at MSSU's main campus** in Joplin, which is **within our state-approved service region**. Moreover, our BS degree in Social Sciences will **not unnecessarily duplicate any existing program in our applicable geographic area**. In fact, neither Pittsburg State University nor Missouri State University offers a BS-option in Social Sciences. Kansas State University has had success with a similarly structured program, but that university is well beyond our region.

Finally, the **cost to launch this new program would be minimal and within our operating budget** because it **builds on our current programs in Social Sciences and on the existing expertise of faculty**. All the courses listed in the degree are taught by full-time and contingent faculty already employed by MSSU. Furthermore, all requirements for the BS degree are offered in other existing programs at MSSU.

**MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY
School Curriculum Oversight Committee/Academic Policies Committee**

Proposal for a NEW MAJOR or CERTIFICATE

1. **School:** Arts & Sciences **Department:** Social Sciences **Date:** 3/1/2023
2. **Title:** BS in Social Sciences **CIP Code:** 45.0101
3. **New Major or Certificate:** Yes
4. **Date first offered:** Fall 2024 (students can begin earning credits immediately)
5. **Describe the need for this new certificate including evidence of student demand for the program and market or societal need for the skills being developed.**

See attached memo for an explanation of purpose and need.

6. **Is the certificate interdisciplinary?** Yes
7. **Are there similar programs offered at other Missouri institutions?** No.
If so, how is this program unique or different from existing programs?

Neither Pittsburg State University nor Missouri State University offers a BS-option in Social Sciences. Kansas State University has had success with a similarly structured program, but that university is well beyond our region.

8. **Describe the curriculum requirements for the major.**

See attached course list.

9. **What are the student learning objectives for the program?**

1. Develop a core of anthropological, historical, and sociological knowledge that will be relevant to students' future professional lives.
2. Demonstrate the ability to think critically about social, cultural, political, and economic structures.
3. Demonstrate competency in various skills associated with historical, sociological, and cultural interpretation.
 - a. compare / contrast both classical and contemporary theoretical orientations.
 - b. utilize quantitative or qualitative research methods for gathering data.
 - c. Develop a thesis statement that demonstrates an understanding of the discipline of history by addressing appropriate historical questions.
 - d. Distinguish between primary and secondary sources used in the writing of history and know how to use and analyze each appropriately. Students will thus be able to:
 - i. analyze a primary document as a product of a particular historical era.
 - ii. respond critically to a scholarly source

- e. Construct a well-organized argument (a research paper; an oral presentation; or a project), that
 - i. Uses appropriate evidence or data that is documented in the appropriate citation format for the discipline.
- f. Respond to constructive feedback to develop the revising skills that historians use to strengthen their interpretative analysis.

10. How will the objectives be assessed?

Students will take multiple paths through this degree program. To account for this flexibility:

- 1. All courses within the Methods and Experience/Practice use rubrics to assess applicable components of these program objectives.
- 2. As a part of HIST 490, students will complete an exit survey designed to gauge their competencies in the program objectives.
- 3. Foundations courses will assess students over Objective 1

11. If this certificate is approved –

- a. **Will additional staff be needed?** No.
- b. **Will additional space, equipment, special library materials, or any major expense be involved?** No.

12. Include any additional information about the program that would be helpful.

Social Sciences Major

(if paired with HIST, SW, or SOC major, student may apply no more than nine hours (total) from either Foundations, Additional Upper Division Hours, or Additional Hours and no hours from Methods or Experience/Practice)

Foundations in Social Sciences	
Choose 2 from Social and Political Institutions	6 hrs
ANTH 101: Introduction to Anthropology	3
PSC 120: American Government	3
PSC/GEOG 257: Introduction to Urban Studies	3
SOC 110: Introduction to Sociology	3
SOC 204: Introduction to Studies in Race and Ethnicity	3
SOC 210: Social Problems	3
Choose 2 from Global Studies	6 hrs
HIST 160: History of Latin America	3
HIST 180: Introduction to Global History	3
HIST/INTS 217: Middle Eastern History	3
HIST 201: Introduction to International Studies	3
PSC 122: International Relations	3
PSC 130: Introduction to Comparative Politics	3
Choose 2 from Cultural Studies	6 hrs
ANTH/SOC 246: Ozark Culture and Folklore	3
HIST 110: United States History, 1492-1877	3
HIST 120: United States History, 1877 - present	3
HIST 130: Western Civilization to 1600	3
HIST 140: Western Civilization since 1600	3
HIST 210: African American History to 1877	3
HIST 220: African American History since 1877	3

Social Sciences Methods	
Choose 1 from	3 hrs
HIST 201: Introduction to Historical Research	3
SW 231: Introduction to Human Services	3
SOC 340: Social Sciences Methods	3
JS 504: Social Sciences Methods*	3

Experience and Practice	
Choose 1 from	3 hrs
HIST 202: Introduction to Public History	3
GEOG 304: Introduction to GIS	3
HIST 483: Archival Methods and Collections	3
HIST 488: Wellness, Nutrition, and the Social Determinants of Health	3
HIST 491: Internship in History	3
HIST 492: Research Internship in History	3
HIST 497: Seminar in Historical Research	3

INTS 308: Model United Nations	3
INTS 491: Internship in International Studies	3
SOC 491: Internship in Sociology	3
SOC 492: Research Internship in Sociology (to be created)	3

Professional Development	
HIST 490: Professional Development	1 hr

Additional Upper Division Hours	
Choose from at least 3 prefixes	15 hrs
ANTH: Any 300 or 400 level course	
HIST: Any 300 or 400 level course	
INTS: Any 300 or 400 level course	
PSC: 342, 361, 411, 412, 421, 435	
SOC: Any 300 or 400 level course	
SW: 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, and 396	

Additional Hours	
Choose from any two ANTH, HIST, INTS, SOC courses or SW electives	6 hrs

TOTAL HOURS: 46

*JS courses require junior standing, at least a 3.2 GPA, and permission of the JS program director