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## SOCIAL STUDIES BS

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### Social Studies

*College of Social & Behavioral Sciences  
Department of History  
Social Studies Program  
114 Armstrong Hall • 507-389-6306  
Website: [sbs.mnsu.edu/socialstudies](http://sbs.mnsu.edu/socialstudies)*

Coordinator: Matt Loayza

The social studies program is designed to prepare students to teach social studies in secondary schools. This challenging program draws upon faculty from nine areas (anthropology, economics, ethnic studies, gender and women's studies, geography, history, political science, psychology, and sociology) and works with the College of Education to promote effective teaching practice for future and in-service teachers.

A non-teaching major in social studies is also offered, and provides the student an opportunity to create a program to meet her or his personal academic needs.

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**Academic Map/Degree Plan at [www.mnsu.edu/programs/#All](http://www.mnsu.edu/programs/#All)**

#### **POLICIES/INFORMATION**

**Admission to Major** is granted by the program. Minimum university admission requirements are:

- a minimum of 32 earned semester credit hours.
- a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 ("C").

Contact the social studies coordinator for application procedures.

**Admission to the Social Studies Program.** Students enrolling in SOST 450 must be admitted to the social studies program, a process in addition to admission to the major. Admission to the social studies (teaching) program is limited. Preference for admission to the program is given to students who have a 3.0 GPA and who have had significant global, multicultural, civic, and community service experience. Students are encouraged to work closely with their advisor to prepare for admission to the social studies program.

**GPA Policy.** A grade of "C" or better is required in all courses in the major.

**P/N Grading Policy.** No more than 12 credits may be taken P/N.

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#### **SOCIAL STUDIES BS**

Degree completion = 120 credits

#### **Major Restricted Electives**

A minimum of 27 credits (of which 17 need to be upper division) must be taken on a widely distributed basis from the social sciences and history OUTSIDE the area of concentration and/or from the interdisciplinary programs of: Ethnic Studies, Gender & Women Studies and Urban Studies.

Students are encouraged to take a mixture of courses that reflect a global and multicultural understanding.

ANTH 100 - ANTH 499  
ECON 100 - ECON 499  
ETHN 100 - ETHN 499  
GEOG 100 - GEOG 499  
GWS 100 - GWS 499  
HIST 100 - HIST 499  
POL 100 - POL 499  
PSYC 100 - PSYC 499  
SOC 100 - SOC 499  
URBS 100 - URBS 499

Students should enroll in SOST 299, Individual Study in the subsequent semester to declaring the Social Studies non-teaching major. Students will work with the social studies coordinator to define personal learning goals and objectives and begin the development of a personal learning portfolio. In the senior year, the student will take SOST 499, Individual Study.

(choose 1-14 credits)

SOST 299 Individual Study (1-6)  
SOST 499 Individual Study (1-8)

#### **Major Emphasis: Area of Concentration**

A minimum of 24 credits must be taken in ONE of the following areas (15 credits of the 24 credits must be upper division courses). Areas include: Anthropology, Economics, Ethnic Studies, Gender & Women Studies, Geography, History, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology.  
(choose 24 credits)

Students taking the history option are required to take at least six credits from each of the following areas: Europe, Third World (i.e. Latin America, Middle East, Asia, and Africa) and United States

ANTH 100 - ANTH 499  
ECON 100 - ECON 499  
ETHN 100 - ETHN 499  
GEOG 100 - GEOG 499  
GWS 100 - GWS 499  
HIST 100 - HIST 499  
POL 100 - POL 499  
PSYC 100 - PSYC 499  
SOC 100 - SOC 499

**Required Minor: None.**

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#### **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

##### **SOST 200 (2) Introduction to Social Studies Teaching**

Acquaints students majoring in social studies (teaching) with the social studies major and fundamental ideas that will help students integrate what they are learning in social sciences and history within the context of secondary social studies classroom. Fall, Spring

##### **SOST 222 (1-4) Selected Topics**

Designed to provide students the opportunity to explore a variety of topics related to social studies. Fall, Spring

##### **SOST 299 (1-6) Individual Study**

##### **SOST 450 (4) Teaching Social Studies Secondary School**

Organization and presentation of social studies in secondary schools. Preparation of units for teaching purposes, examination of materials useful to the social studies teacher. Application of national and state standards to teaching social studies. Prerequisite: Concurrently with KSP 440  
Fall, Spring

##### **SOST 485 (1-6) Topics**

Designed to provide students the opportunity to explore a variety of topics related to social studies.

##### **SOST 491 (1-6) In-Service**

Designed to provide students the opportunity to integrate academic learning with professional practice.

##### **SOST 499 (1-8) Individual Study**