The Division of Social Sciences offers a broad range of majors. The wide variety of courses, taught by a diverse faculty, are designed to develop students' individual abilities while preparing them for graduate schools, or for careers in such diverse areas as teaching, law enforcement, and social services.
The Division of Social Sciences Prepares Students for a Variety of Successful Careers

Within the Division of Social Sciences are major degree programs in Criminal Justice, History, Political Science, Sociology, and Social Studies/Secondary Education. Students may also choose an undergraduate minor from these areas, as well as minors in Psychology, Gerontology, International Relations and Minority Studies. Students in the Social Sciences can pursue a very broad range of careers, including:

Social Sciences-Related Careers

- Education, Law, Law Enforcement, Government, Community Planning, Human Resources, Public Administration, Social Work, Business, Tourism Management, Librarian/Archivist, Consulting, Elder Care, Youth Development, and Non-Profit Organizational Management are some of the fields that Social Science graduates pursue.

Because the Social Sciences deal with understanding various aspects of human behavior and experience, students need to possess special skills in order to be successful in their studies and eventual career pursuits.

Some of these are:

- To be able to think critically,
- To be able to solve problems logically,
- To be able to communicate clearly, both in speaking and in writing,
- To be able to absorb factual information as well as understand theories and concepts that attempt to explain some aspects of human social behavior or experience and
- To be able to understand the scientific method of inquiry and use it in conducting research on social issues and problems.

In order to help students develop these skills, instructors will combine class work with outside research, internships, and other experiences that are designed to produce graduates who are well prepared to undertake advanced studies or career opportunities in a field related to the Social Sciences.

Majors

- Criminal Justice studies behavior that violates society's norms and laws, and examines how the police, courts and correctional institutions work.
- History places emphasis on examining what has happened in the life and experiences of human beings. This knowledge is used to understand past and current issues facing humanity at various levels as well as to help shape future developments.
- Political Science explores human behavior as it relates to the process of public decision-making with emphasis on the workings of government.
- Sociology studies the structure and workings of human social life and how social change happens. It focuses on understanding groups, organizations and entire societies as well as how people function within them.
- Social Studies is a major that combines aspects of all the social sciences under one program of study. Students take basic courses in economics, geography, history, political science, and psychology, usually in combination with education classes. This major is generally chosen by students who intend to enter teaching, although they can pursue many of the same careers as other social sciences students.

Minors

- Gerontology, the study of the aging process, focuses on the physical, mental and social changes in older persons. The effects of an aging population on society are also examined.
- Psychology emphasizes the study of the mind and processes related to human behavior.
- International Relations examines forces and factors that influence the behavior of nations within the global, social, economic, and political arena.
- Minority Studies focus on understanding the interaction between various racial and ethnic minority groups and the larger societies in which they exist, with particular emphasis on the efforts of many of these groups to address issues of socio-economic and political discrimination.