

**Department of Social Sciences
Assessment Plan, 2002-2003**

<u>Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose</u>	<u>Program Intended Educational Outcomes/Objectives</u>	<u>Means of Program Assessment and Criteria</u>
<p><u>Mission Statement</u></p> <p>It is the mission of the Department of Social Sciences to encourage a life-long passion for learning and a quest for knowledge by providing an environment that fosters academic excellence and unfettered inquiry. We encourage the development of ethics and values that recognize knowledge in all its diverse and creative forms. The Department of Social Sciences offers major and minor programs for the disciplines of History, Political Science, and Sociology, and it supports a Social Science Composite Degree for secondary teaching certification and a minor in Geography.</p> <p><u>Goals Statement</u></p> <p>Among its goals, the Department of Social Sciences will:</p> <p>1. Provide expert classroom instruction with opportunities for a variety of learning experiences, activities, research, and</p>	<p>1.a. Social Sciences courses will be taught by qualified faculty members with expertise (and preferably, terminal degrees) in their teaching fields.</p> <p>1.b. Social Sciences courses will support the department's mission and the mission of the respective disciplines.</p> <p>2.a. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the methodologies, concepts, and subject matter of the discipline of their major.</p> <p>2. b. Students will demonstrate ability to conduct original research in the discipline of their major by designing a research proposal, collecting data, analyzing the data and writing up the results of their research, data and analysis.</p> <p>2.c. Students will be satisfied with their preparation within their major, with their employment opportunities, and will be successful in attaining admission and performance in graduate and professional</p>	<p>1.a. The Social Sciences Department will hire, promote, and tenure qualified faculty members who excel in teaching.</p> <p>1.b. Faculty will work with the (newly-established) Department Curriculum Committee to ensure curricular coherence.</p> <p>2. a. Department majors and minors will pass all classes in their Social Science subject major and/or minor with a C-grade or better as assessed by the professors assigned to the respective classes.</p> <p>2.b. Graduating majors in the Social Science disciplines will complete at least one original piece of research using the acceptable style manual for the respective discipline. The minimum acceptable grade for this research is B.</p> <p>2.c. Postgraduate surveys of students and employers will determine satisfaction with preparation in the major, with employment, employer satisfaction with</p>

<p>reporting.</p> <p>2. Prepare students for a more fulfilling life, for a variety of employment opportunities, and for graduate studies.</p> <p>3. Provide opportunities for practical experience and experiential education within the respective disciplines.</p>	<p>schools; employers will be satisfied with SUU graduate employees.</p> <p>3.a. Social Sciences students will have opportunities for internships, work studies, service learning, practicums, memberships in honorary societies, and other forms of practical experience.</p>	<p>discipline major employees, and success in admission to graduate school and levels of graduate school performance.</p> <p>2.d. When feasible, comprehensive pre- and post-assessment tests appropriate to the respective discipline will be administered to majors in each of the disciplines.</p> <p>3.a. Social Sciences faculty with expertise will oversee internship, practicum, work study, and service learning opportunities, and will sponsor and advise honorary societies and other club activities. Faculty will provide brief annual reports about relevant activities and accomplishments.</p>
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