

Social Sciences Division

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OVERVIEW

The Division offers six baccalaureate majors and two associate majors: The baccalaureate majors are: General Studies, Interdisciplinary Studies, Justice Studies, Psychology, Social Work and Social Science with emphases in History, Political Science, Sociology, and Anthropology. The Associate of Arts degrees are: Behavioral Science and Liberal Arts: Social Science.

All the majors in the Social Sciences Division provide preparation for a variety of careers, and/or graduate school. In addition, the Social Science major, when taken as part of an integrated secondary education program, prepares students for professional teaching. The Justice Studies major includes concentrations in Criminal Justice and/or Corrections and Human Services. The Psychology major is for students who wish to pursue graduate study in the discipline, or those who seek careers in human services and community agencies. The Bachelor of Social Work program's focus on the "Person-In-Environment" paradigm uniquely equips baccalaureate social workers to work effectively with individuals, families, groups,

communities and organizations.

The Social Sciences Division lends vital support to the College through its participation in the General Education Core. All students are required to complete nine Social Science credits as part of Core, and the Division provides a variety of courses for fulfilling this requirement.

The Social Sciences Division is committed to equal opportunity for all students. Policies and practices throughout the program specifically prohibit discrimination based on, but not limited to, race, color, sex, sexual orientation, age, religion, disablement, national origin, marital status, and political belief.

SPECIAL ACCREDITATION

Social Work is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

MAJORS AND MINORS OFFERED

BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

GENERAL STUDIES: SOCIAL SCIENCES

The General Studies major serves a number of student's needs: for strong liberal arts programs; for thorough pre-professional coursework; as preparation for many graduate programs. See the Academic Programs section for additional information on this major.

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

The Interdisciplinary Studies major allows students to design a course of study to satisfy personal and career goals. Students interested in an academic area within the Interdisciplinary option **MUST** contact the Division office of the discipline they intend to pursue as their primary area of study. See the Academic Programs section for additional information on this major.

JUSTICE STUDIES

The Justice Studies major provides students with professional education that prepares them for a variety of careers in federal, state, and local criminal justice and human service agencies. The curriculum is strongly oriented to the social and behavioral sciences. As a part of the commitment to developing a professionally oriented student, field training placements in criminal justice agencies are available.

PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology is involved in the scientific study of the mind and behavior. Psychologists, using the scientific method, discover and create knowledge about human beings as well as help better the human condition through psychological services. Psychologists pursue their research and human services in clinics, hospitals, schools, colleges, universities, businesses, and military and government agencies as well as a variety of other health and social services organizations.

The set of required courses in the Psychology major is congruent with guidelines of the American Psychological Association. While most sub-disciplines in the field of psychology are included in the program of study, developmental psychology, social psychology, and counseling/clinical psychology receive particular emphasis as bases for graduate study.

SOCIAL SCIENCE

The Social Sciences major integrates four Social Science emphases (Anthropology, History,

Political Science, and Sociology) into a comprehensive program designed to enhance students' understanding of the world of the past, present and future through the application of social scientific research skills to domestic, regional and global problems, as well as issues of diversity. The major provides practical insights into why and how the world(s) we live in work the way they do. Students interested in graduate school receive suitable grounding in a specific Social Science emphasis. When taken as part of an integrated Secondary Education program, the major trains students for professional teaching.

The Social Sciences major can prepare students for careers not only in teaching but also law, politics, journalism, historical preservation, cultural resource management, or for running their own business and anything involving finding and understanding new information (research). The major's focus on independent learning provides opportunity for students to prepare for a wide variety of leadership positions in community and business.

SOCIAL WORK

The Social Work program prepares students for entry-level generalist practice. Through courses, internships, research projects, and student activities delivered by traditional and non-traditional methods (technology), the program fosters in its students a celebration of differences among people and a belief that respecting these differences enriches the quality of life for all. The Division is committed to the preparation of professional social workers who possess the knowledge, skills, and values to address the needs and potential of individuals, families, groups, communities, and organizations. Drawing on an ecological and liberal arts based background and a strengths based perspective, the program prepares students for the pursuit of a more just, humane society. Graduates are prepared for practice particularly with the oppressed and at risk members of society. Graduates are expected to practice from a set of ethical principles inherent in the social work profession, including the recognition that professional development is a lifelong learning process.

LCSC offers the only accredited BSW program in northern Idaho. Program graduates are needed to work with children, families, and underserved or populations at risk including handicapped, mentally disabled, economically deprived, delinquent, elderly, or health impaired.

ADMISSIONS PROCESS

After declaring a Social Work major, students may apply for admission to the BSW program upon completion of 30 core credits as well as SW 140, SW 241, core math and English 101. The application packet is available to students on line at www.lcsc.edu/socialwork

SOCIAL SCIENCE: SECONDARY EDUCATION

See Education Division

ASSOCIATE DEGREES

BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

This Associate in Arts degree is designed for normal completion in two years. It has a two-fold purpose: First, it provides coursework and field placement experience in human services for persons who may want to enter this field of work at the paraprofessional level. Second, it provides a solid general education experience and can serve to enhance career mobility, to be the foundation for a baccalaureate program, or to prepare the student who wants to transfer to another institution. The program is an interdisciplinary approach to the study of human behavior and cuts across several academic and professional fields. An advisor works with each student to assist him/her in course selection and evaluation of career opportunities.

LIBERAL ARTS: SOCIAL SCIENCES

This Associate in Arts degree focuses on Social Sciences. The Social Sciences emphasis gives students an introduction to the breadth of disciplines in the Social Sciences by requiring course work in three different Social Science disciplines.

MINORS

The ten minors available in the Social Sciences Division are designed to enrich, complement, and/or supplement the formal education of student's major. They are not solely, or even primarily, for Social Science majors. Those interested in acquiring a minor for teacher certification should first consult with their academic advisor and the Education Division.

- Behavioral Science
- Global Perspective
- History
- Justice Studies
- Native American Studies
- Political Science
- Political Psychology
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Social Sciences

ASSESSMENT

In order to obtain regular feedback on program excellence, the Division requires that all graduating seniors participate in a graduate assessment that includes:

- Senior research project and presentation including a capstone experience with quantitative or qualitative research.
- Area Concentration Achievement Tests (ACATs) for Social Work Justice Studies, and Psychology graduating seniors.
- The graduate follow-up survey.

EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS

In the Justice Studies major:

- 1.** The ability to think critically about major issues relating to justice studies.
- 2.** An understanding of human behavior, social control, cultural differences, and concerns for minority groups with regard to criminal justice.
- 3.** Proficiency in the use of verbal and written communication skills.
- 4.** Basic competencies in conceptualizing, conducting, interpreting, and evaluating research in the field of criminal justice.
- 5.** An understanding of criminal and juvenile justice, criminology, law enforcement, adjudication, and corrections.
- 6.** First-hand experience in the theoretical and practical applications of justice studies.

In the Psychology major:

Students completing the Psychology major will be able to demonstrate skills and knowledge related to:

- 1.** A variety of research methodologies
- 2.** Biological bases of behavior

3. Cognitive-affective bases of behavior
4. Social bases of behavior
5. Developmental theories
6. Individual differences
7. Preparation for graduate school or employment

Students who major in Psychology need to be aware that some elective psychology courses may require a discussion or disclosure of personal information, such as relationships with parents or significant others. This also includes courses students must take for the Addiction Studies minor.

In the Social Science major:

1. The ability to perform a social scientific research inquiry.
2. The ability to think analytically about social phenomena.
3. The ability to use relevant theoretical and conceptual categories.
4. The ability to comprehend written works of social science through summarizing their major points and lines of argument.
5. The ability to make a written presentation in a clear, concise, and organized manner.
6. The ability to make an oral presentation in a clear, concise, and organized manner.
7. Command of basic knowledge relevant to a social science discipline.
8. The capacity to apply social scientific reasoning to appropriate social phenomena.
9. The ability to discern and evaluate relevant evidence bearing on a social scientific argument.
10. The ability to discern and evaluate relevant qualitative evidence bearing on a social science argument.
11. Familiarity with some of the main ideas of the history of social thought.
12. Mastery of a relevant lexicon of social scientific terms.
13. A comprehension of the social origins of the diversity of human behavior, thought and emotion.

In the Social Work major:

1. Provide learning experiences and opportunities in a variety of settings that develop generalist practice social work knowledge and skills needed to achieve BSW career objectives and meet client needs.
2. Educate students on the ethical foundation of social work as stated in the NASW Code of Ethics where self reflection of one's own values and the understanding of how they influence relationships is emphasized.
3. Teach generalist practice social work knowledge and skills that prepare students to enhance human well-being and alleviate poverty, oppression, and other forms of social injustice through an understanding of social work history, social welfare policy analysis and development, advocacy, resource development, and other social or political actions that promote social and economic justice.
4. Teach generalist practice social work knowledge and skills that prepare students to enhance the social functioning and interactions of individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities by involving them in accomplishing goals, developing resources, and preventing and alleviating distress while relying on a liberal arts foundation.
5. Engage and require students to develop, use, and critique research for evaluating practice and adding to the knowledge base of the profession.
6. Ensure students have learned to develop and apply assessment, intervention, and evaluation skills differentially based on diversity with a strengths-based perspective from an ecological point of view.
7. Encourage students to understand the ethical requirement of commitment to life long learning.

SPECIAL FEES

SW 497A - Liability insurance for social work practicum

SW 499A - Assessment test fees for social work graduates

ADVISING

Students must make appointments with their advisors, who will help them with course schedules, as well as planning their educational and post graduate careers. Only an advisor may approve the student's schedule for Web registration.

CLUBS

- Native American Club
- Political Forum
- Pre-Law Club
- Gay Straight Alliance
- Mock Trial Program
- Psychology Club
- Student Organization of Social Work
- College Democrats

PREPARATION FOR FUTURE**GRADUATE STUDIES**

A degree in any of the Social Science majors provides an excellent foundation for future graduate studies.