General Social Science

Jamie Bufalino, Program Director
275 McKenzie Hall
541-346-4802
gensocialsciences@uoregon.edu

General Social Sciences is a multidisciplinary, undergraduate program that prepares students for success in an interconnected global environment. GSS majors learn how analyze social issues using research and critical thinking. They also develop innovative problem-solving skills, which are applicable towards professional fields like business, government, law, and education. The GSS curriculum provides flexibility in both class schedules and coursework. This allows students to tailor their educations according to their interests, and to balance multiple academic or personal pursuits in their lives.

GSS majors take courses on specific social topics from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. Students can also earn course credit for internships in their desired fields. The curriculum is divided into 4 distinct concentrations (https://gss.uoregon.edu/concentrations/):

- Applied Economics, Business and Society (AEBS)
- Crime, Law and Society (CLS)
- Globalization, Environment, and Policy (GEP)
- Social Science Teaching (SST)

Each concentration serves as a central focus for required and elective courses within the major. After declaring a concentration, students select courses from a wide range of social sciences departments as well as the university's professional schools (Business, Education, Journalism, and Planning and Public Policy Management).

- BA and BS in General Social Science **(**http://catalog.uoregon.edu/archive/2021-2022/arts_sciences/generalsocialscience/gss/**)**
- Minor in Commerce and Society **(**http://catalog.uoregon.edu/archive/2021-2022/arts_sciences/generalsocialscience/commerce/**)**
- Minor in Criminology **(**http://catalog.uoregon.edu/archive/2021-2022/arts_sciences/generalsocialscience/criminology/**)**

Undergraduate Studies

The program has four concentrations or tracks. Each concentration has its own set of core courses and then provides a number of elective courses from various departments. Major requirements for each of the four concentrations may be found on the program website.

Applied Economics, Business, and Society

This track combines technical training in business with the analytical training of the liberal arts. It draws heavily from courses in the business college and the economics department to offer specific business skills while exploring how business functions in society, on the national level, and in the global context. This concentration is designed specifically for students who plan to work in business or to pursue a master of business administration degree.

Crime, Law, and Society

This track provides broad exposure to problems that confront society on the causes and consequences of, and policies on, crime, offering preparation for students with an interest in criminology, law practice, law enforcement, or social services.

Globalization, Environment, and Policy

This track focuses on broad social-political and environmental issues at the regional, national, and global levels, as well as the policy planning required to meet these issues within an interdisciplinary context. The globalization concentration provides training for students planning to work in green industry, government, NGOs, and environmental organizations. In addition, the track prepares students to earn graduate degrees in planning, public management, policy studies, or other applied social sciences with a global emphasis.

Social Studies Teaching

This track prepares students with the course requirements for admission to the graduate teacher licensure program at the University of Oregon—UO Teach. This concentration does not, in and of itself, lead to a teaching license; rather, it provides a well-defined content so that students are prepared to enroll in a graduate program to become licensed to teach social studies at the middle or high school level.

General social science majors are encouraged to consult with their advisors at least once a year to ensure their remaining course work is structured to meet all the requirements for the major. Students should notify the General Social Science Program office of their intention to graduate at least one term before the proposed graduation date.

Four-Year Degree Plan

The degree plan shown is only a sample of how students may complete their degrees in four years. There are alternative ways. Students should consult their advisor to determine the best path for them.

Bachelor of Arts in General Social Science

Course	Title	Credits Milestones
First Year		
Fall		
BA 101	Introduction to Business	4
WR 121	College Composition I	4
First term of first-year second-language sequence		4
Group-satisfying course		4
	Credits	**16**
Winter		
EC 201	Introduction to Economic Analysis: Microeconomics	4
WR 122 or WR 123	College Composition II or College Composition III	4
Second term of first-year second-language sequence		4
Group-satisfying course		4
	Credits	**16**
Spring		
EC 202	Introduction to Economic Analysis: Macroeconomics	4
Third term of first-year second-language sequence		4

Group-satisfying courses		8
	Credits	**16**
	Total Credits	**48**

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Second Year			
Fall			
BA 215	Accounting: Language of Business Decisions	4	
First term of second-year second-language sequence		4	
Group-satisfying course		4	
Course in a specialization area		4	
Consider a minor, a double major, study abroad			
	Credits	**16**	
Winter			
MATH 243	Introduction to Methods of Probability and Statistics	4	
Second term of second-year second-language sequence		4	
Group-satisfying course		4	
Course in a specialization area		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Spring			
Research methods course		4	
Third term of second-year second-language sequence		4	
Group-satisfying course		4	
Course in a specialization area		4	
	Credits	**16**	
	Total Credits	**48**	

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Third Year			
Fall			
Courses in a specialization area		12	
Consider career preparation, internships, career counseling, study abroad, résumé-building			
Group-satisfying course		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Winter			
Elective courses		12	
Course in a specialization area		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Spring			
Elective courses		16	
	Credits	**16**	
	Total Credits	**48**	

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Fourth Year			
Fall			
Elective courses		8	
Consider applying for employment, internships, Graduate School, degree			
Group-satisfying courses		8	
	Credits	**16**	
Winter			
Elective courses		16	
	Credits	**16**	
Spring			
Elective course		4	
	Credits	**4**	
	Total Credits	**36**	

Bachelor of Science in General Social Science

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
First Year			
Fall			
BA 101	Introduction to Business	4	
WR 121	College Composition I	4	
Mathematics course		4	
Group-satisfying course		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Winter			
EC 201	Introduction to Economic Analysis: Microeconomics	4	
WR 122	College Composition II	4	
Mathematics course		4	
Group-satisfying course		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Spring			
EC 202	Introduction to Economic Analysis: Macroeconomics	4	
Mathematics course		4	
Group-satisfying courses		8	
	Credits	**16**	
	Total Credits	**48**	

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Second Year			
Fall			
BA 215	Accounting: Language of Business Decisions	4	
Elective course		4	
Group-satisfying course		4	
Course in a specialization area		4	
Consider a minor, a double major, study abroad			
	Credits	**16**	
Winter			
MATH 243	Introduction to Methods of Probability and Statistics	4	
Elective course		4	
Course in a specialization area		4	
Group-satisfying course		4	
	Credits	**16**	

Spring		
Placeholder		
Research methods course		4
Group-satisfying course		4
Elective course		4
Course in a specialization area		4
	Credits	**16**
	Total Credits	**48**

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Third Year			
Fall			
Group-satisfying course		4	
Courses in a specialization area		12	
	Credits	**16**	
Winter			
Elective courses		12	
Course in a specialization area		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Spring			
Elective courses		16	
	Credits	**16**	
	Total Credits	**48**	

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Fourth Year			
Fall			
Group-satisfying courses		8	
Elective courses		8	
Consider applying for employment, internships, Graduate School, degree			
Meet with an advisor			
	Credits	**16**	
Winter			
Elective courses		16	
	Credits	**16**	
Spring			
Elective course		4	
	Credits	**4**	
	Total Credits	**36**	