

# Social Science Education

---

## Department Information

- **Department Web Site:**  
[www.ndsu.edu/education/](http://www.ndsu.edu/education/) (<http://www.ndsu.edu/education/>)
- **Credential Offered:**  
B.S.; B.A.
- **Official Program Curriculum:**  
[catalog.ndsu.edu/undergraduate/program-curriculum/social-science-education/](http://catalog.ndsu.edu/undergraduate/program-curriculum/social-science-education/) (<http://catalog.ndsu.edu/undergraduate/program-curriculum/social-science-education/>)

Social science involves the study of people and their interactions with each other, with their social and political institutions and with their environments. Accordingly, the social science education major includes a broad range of courses and subjects. Teacher candidates are expected to demonstrate both breadth and depth of understanding in the academic disciplines that make up the social sciences.

## The Program

Candidates in the social science education major are prepared to teach a diverse curriculum to a diverse student population. The social science education teacher candidate should work closely with an advisor to be sure that the general education courses taken will provide a strong foundation for the advanced courses in the major.

## Professional Education Courses

Teacher candidates may enroll in the 300-level professional education courses before being formally admitted to the School of Education (SOE). Prior to enrolling in the 400-level courses, teacher candidates must complete the application for admission to the SOE; attain a minimum of a 2.75 grade point average overall in their course work and education courses; and pass the Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators exam or meet minimum scores on the ACT+. Requirements for admission can be found on the School of Education website (<https://www.ndsu.edu/education/>).

## Student Teaching

Student teaching (clinical practice) is the culmination of the teaching program. During the clinical practice, teacher candidates apply the knowledge and skills acquired in their college courses to real-world classrooms under the supervision of experienced social science teachers in middle or high schools. Faculty members from NDSU conduct regular on-site visits to support, encourage, and evaluate teacher candidates so that they gain the confidence and ability to join the teaching profession after graduation.

## Student Advisement

An academic advisor works individually with social science education majors to plan their programs of study and to advise and assist them as they progress to degree completion. Students are encouraged to seek their advisor's help whenever needed.

## LICENSURE

Upon completing this program, teacher candidates are eligible for teacher licensure in social science in most states. Our program is accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) and approved by the North Dakota Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB).

## Career Opportunities

There has been a surplus of social science teachers across the country for the past several years. It has been predicted that the surplus will continue. Students who elect to major in social science education should consider obtaining a second major or a teachable minor to enhance their employment prospects. In addition, students in social science education are encouraged to seek volunteer and employment experiences that complement their education. Summer or after-school work with special needs students, high school or middle school student activities, or other human service activities can provide the candidate valuable experience with children and adolescents.

## Sample Program Guide

**IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER:** A Sample Program Guide provides an unofficial guide of program requirements and should be used by prospective students who are considering attending NDSU in the future. It is NOT an official curriculum and should NOT be used by current NDSU students for official degree planning purposes. Note that the official curriculum used by current NDSU students can vary from the Sample Program Guide due to a variety of factors such as, but not limited to, start year, education goals, transfer credit, and course availability.

To ensure proper program completion, enrolled students should utilize Degree Map (<https://www.ndsu.edu/registrar/degreemap/>) and Schedule Planner (<https://www.ndsu.edu/onestop/degree-map-and-planning/>) in Campus Connection and consult regularly with their academic advisor to ensure requirements are being met.

<b>First Year</b>			
<b>Fall</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Credits</b>
COMM 110		3 ENGL 120	3
ENGL 110		3 GEOL 106	3
HIST 101		3 GEOL 106L	1
SOC 110		3 HIST 102	3
Science & Technology Gen ed		3 Quantitative Reasoning Gen Ed	3
Wellness Gen Ed		2-3 HIST Diversity & Inclusion in History	3
			<b>17-18</b>
			<b>16</b>
<b>Second Year</b>			
<b>Fall</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Credits</b>
EDUC 321		3 EDUC 322	3
HIST 103		3 HIST 104	3
GEOG/ECON/POLS Elective		3 GEOG/ECON/POLS Elective	3
HIST European History		3 HIST Widening Horizons	3
Science & Technology Gen Ed		3 HIST European History	3
Cultural Diversity Gen Ed		3 Apply to the School of Education	
Complete Core Academic Skills Exam or access your ACT+ scores			
			<b>18</b>
			<b>15</b>
<b>Third Year</b>			
<b>Fall</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Credits</b>
EDUC 451		3 EDUC 489	3
EDUC 475		2 GEOG/ECON/POLS Elective	3
ECON 201, POLS 115, or GEOG 151		3 GEOG/ECON/POLS Elective	3
GEOG/ECON/POLS Elective		3 HIST US 300-400 Elective	3
HIST Widening Horizons		3 Science & Tech w/ Lab	4
HIST US 300-400 Elective		3	
			<b>17</b>
			<b>16</b>
<b>Fourth Year</b>			
<b>Fall</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Credits</b>
EDUC 481 (Social Sciences)		3 EDUC 485	1
EDUC 486		3 EDUC 487	9
HIST 390		3 EDUC 488	3
GEOG/ECON/POLS Elective		3	
GEOG/ECON/POLS Elective		3	
Apply for Student Teaching			
Complete PLT (grades 7-12) Exam			
Complete Subject Area Assessment Exam			
			<b>15</b>
			<b>13</b>
<b>Total Credits: 127-128</b>			