

SOCIAL SCIENCES (SS)

SS 140 Criminal Investigations

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

In this course, students will get exposure to a wide range of interpersonal and scientific factors that are explored by criminal investigators in their efforts to support hypotheses developed to solve a variety of crimes. Some of the course topics will include the appropriate collection of evidence at a crime scene, techniques for interviewing witnesses and suspects, the role of the crime lab, the science of fingerprinting, forensic medicine, and the preparation of testimony that leads to the conviction of criminals.

SS 170 Life-Span Development

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

The purpose of Life-Span Development is to introduce students to the broad concepts of human growth and development from conception to death. Students will be introduced to human development from the prenatal stage to death with particular emphasis placed on early childhood, adolescence and old age. The course is especially designed for students entering the healthcare professions as the slant is toward practical application of all stages. Upon completion of the course, students should be able to demonstrate a basic knowledge of the developmental stages of life.

SS 201 American Government in Action

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

This is an introductory course that will help students understand how the pieces of American government fit together, and how politics continuously affects their lives. Students will examine the roles of interest groups, the media, political parties and the three branches of government. Class discussions about relevant and current political issues will be encouraged.

SS 204 Juvenile Justice System in America

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

The course is designed to explore the components of the juvenile justice system in America. The various features, characteristics, policies and concerns about the juvenile justice system are carefully examined. As part of the review, adolescent behavior and influence of the family dynamic will be discussed. The detention of juveniles, the various programs focused on the diversion of youths from the juvenile justice system, rehabilitation programs and prevention programs will also be reviewed.

SS 210 Personal Financial Planning for Wealth and Success

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

This course is designed to help students make the complex world of financial planning simple to understand by developing a "real life" comprehensive personal financial plan that will help them achieve financial security and independence. Students will actively address their current and projected future financial situation upon graduation. Topics covered will include personal budgeting; controlling spending and eliminating wasteful spending; cash and credit management; investments & investing wisely; making major purchases including home and car; understanding health, life, home and auto insurance needs; the ins and outs of renting; and how to use the consumer protection resources that are available to them under the law.

SS 211 Principles of Economics

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

Prerequisites: EN 100

Introduces the fundamental principles of microeconomics and macroeconomics, such as scarcity, supply and demand, growth, fiscal and monetary policies, and the public and the private sectors.

SS 222 Mindful Living

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

On a single day, how often do you find yourself pulled in multiple directions? In a world inundated with information, and increasingly demanding of our time and attention, it can be overwhelming to know how to even begin prioritizing what is important. What if there were something you could do to increase your productivity, reduce anxiety and stress, and be more fully present in your daily experiences? Welcome to the practice of mindfulness –sustained, purposeful, moment-to-moment attention without judgement. Research studies have shown that a regular mindfulness practice yields concrete physical and emotional benefits, including reduced stress, decreased physical pain, increased concentration, and a happier mindset. In this course, you will learn different ways to practice mindful living.

SS 236 Small Business and the Law

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

This course is designed for those students who intend to start and operate their own small business. This course will focus on the various elements associated with the start-up, acquisition and operation of a small business from the entrepreneurial point of view. Topics to be covered will include business formation, contract negotiations and drafting, financing, employee discrimination issues, customer relations issues, licensing, permits and tax basics. Additionally, students will be asked to complete a legal research assignment and prepare and present a business plan in their major field of study.

SS 260 American History

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

This course provides a succinct history of the United States that surveys from pre-European contact to the present day. The course's framework contains two essential components. The first is the historical content piece which has been condensed into ten periods (one for each week) and organized in accordance with the requisite text to recount America's vast "coming to be" story. The second essential component of the course is the historical reasoning processes and critical thinking skills, which students will develop, fine-tune and demonstrate primarily through argumentative writing. Students will effectively analyze both primary and secondary sources, to contextualize them through their acquired knowledge of America's key historical events and developments, and to ultimately use their specific contents as evidence to either qualify comparative or causal claims or to support their own historical arguments.

SS 261 A History of Video Games and Esports

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

Video games have come a long way from their humble beginnings as a niche technology to an integral part of modern society. This course offers an in-depth exploration of the historical progression of video gaming, shedding light on its remarkable transformation and evolution over time. Throughout this course, students will acquire a comprehensive understanding of how video games have not only significantly influenced the realm of entertainment but have also made a profound impact on the worlds of business, society, and popular culture.

SS 262 Contemporary History

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

Prerequisites: EN 100

This course encourages students to explore economic, political, social and cultural developments throughout the world since World War II, particularly in developing nations including spiritual, scientific and intellectual developments.

SS 263 Architectural History

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

This course is a study of the major periods and styles of architecture from Egyptian through postmodern. Styles studied will include Egyptian, Greek, Roman, early Christian, Byzantine, Romanesque, Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque, 18th, 19th and 20th century. Through a series of lectures, discussions, and readings, students will gain a fundamental understanding of the history of architecture including the historical and social context of each period respectively.

SS 264 The Holocaust

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

Prerequisites: EN 100

In this course, students will study genocide and mass murder in modern history. The focus of this course is the Jewish Holocaust of 1933-1945. Through film, photographs, and readings, the course will provide students with a basic understanding of the establishment of the Nazi Party and its attitudes, beliefs, and laws that were put into action during this time period. Students will compare the Holocaust to current genocidal acts in the world today, including the effects of genocide on society.

SS 271 Introduction to Psychology

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

This introductory course in psychology is a survey of the multiple aspects of human behavior. It includes, but is not limited to, such topics as the history of psychology, the biological foundations of behavior, memory, learning, personality, psychological disorders and treatment and social behavior. Importantly, this course will be geared to stress those areas of more practical significance for those in medical service fields.

SS 272 Psychology of Healthcare

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

Prerequisites: EN 100

This course addresses the human element of clinical competence in providing health care. Students will explore the psychodynamics of interactions between healthcare workers and patients, the psychological influences of illness and pain, the psychosocial factors that impact one's effectiveness as a healthcare team member, the impact of families on a patient's treatment plan, the role of body image in patient responsiveness to treatment, and a variety of other psychosocial factors that influence healthcare delivery.

SS 273 Psychology of Happiness

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

This course will explore the psychological principles associated with the experience, feelings and thoughts of happiness. Students will be exposed to a variety of research investigations that have studied different variables that impact happiness. Some of the subtopics discussed in this course include ways to define and measure happiness, differences and similarities in happiness across cultures, happiness and money, and ways to increase happiness.

SS 274 Human Relations in the Workplace

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

Major skill areas covered in the course include making a good impression with your employer, managing conflict with difficult coworkers, working on a team with diverse groups of people, providing exceptional customer service, and managing on-the-job stressors. This course provides a set of practical human relations techniques that will help students increase the likelihood of job security and career advancement in any current or future job.

SS 291 Social Problems

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

This course will examine contemporary social issues from multiple perspectives. Attempts to see the ethics, the arguments and the policy outcomes involved in problems such as drug abuse, crime, poverty and the global environment.

SS 292 Internet and Society

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

This Sociology course will provide an understanding of human social behavior, and the present and probable future impact on our human condition, from this radically accelerating technological age. The focus will be on examining evolving American social behaviors as they are continually affected and accelerated by various technological innovation. Topics that will be covered include: the importance of examining digital sociology; the real world consequences of fake news, misinformation, conspiracy theories and the need for media literacy; the internet as a tool for social change; the impact of online influencers on digital communities; data privacy and the Internet of Things; the internet and political polarization; the effects of the internet on loneliness, mental health and parasocial relationships; and the use of AI generated content.

SS 293 Crime and Deviance

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

This course traces the historical development of crime and deviance. A review of the social, physiological, and psychological theories of crime are examined. Topics such as the history of policing and the history of corrections are also reviewed.

SS 303 Communication in the Global Workplace

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

Prerequisites: EN 100

This course is designed to acquaint students with intercultural communication issues, emphasizing issues that arise in the workplace. The course is organized around nine megaskills: (1) Understanding my cultural identity, (2) Checking cultural lenses, (3) Global consciousness, (4) Shifting perspectives, (5) Intercultural communication, (6) Managing cross-cultural conflict, (7) Multicultural teaming, (8) Dealing with bias, and (9) Understanding the dynamics of power. Course activities will develop these megaskills, supplemented by online notes and additional readings. Students will be asked to develop Individual Action Plans for two of these megaskills. The course culminates in a final project: making an end-of course presentation, demonstrating students' ability to enter into the views of a person from another culture.

SS 304 Digital Media & The Law

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

In this course, students will examine how the existing legal structure within digital and social media operates and understand how the global shift to digital media has profoundly affected the production and control of information from a global and domestic perspective. The course is designed to introduce students to legal issues that are most relevant to careers in digital media and to individuals using digital and social media for personal interests. These topics include information access and protection, intellectual property, defamation, invasion of privacy, commercial speech, jurisdiction, internet regulations, and, of course, freedom of expression.

SS 311 The Global Economy

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

Prerequisites: EN 331 or EN 322

This course is an exploration of the increasingly complex global economy with particular attention to the competing political economies of Europe, the United States, and the Pacific Rim.

SS 320 Health Equity and Diversity

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

This course steers health care students to gain an understanding of health equity and diversity, starting with the implicit bias training, along with discussion and reflection. The course discusses the evidence of having a diverse workforce and the benefits it brings to individuals and organizations. Through case studies and groupwork, students will formulate best practices and solutions to apply health equity in their field of study and develop a presentation.

SS 330 Contemporary Social Issues

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

This course will examine contemporary social issues from multiple perspectives. Attempts to see the ethics, the arguments and the policy outcomes involved in problems such as drug abuse, crime, poverty and the global environment.

SS 350 Everything is a Negotiation

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

Prerequisites: EN 100

Program Restriction: This course not open to students in the Business Management program. This course is intended to help students develop the skills they need to successfully negotiate their way through their work situations. Students will practice both face-to-face negotiations and negotiations carried on electronically.

SS 370 Marriage and the Family

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

Prerequisites: EN 100

This course is a review of psychological concepts relevant to understanding marital and family functioning. Topics will include mate selection, marital communication, intimacy, conflict resolution, transitioning to parenthood, managing crises, family violence, divorce, and balancing work, leisure and family.

SS 371 Forensic Psychology

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

Prerequisites: EN 100

This course addresses the psychological issues of human behavior that surround law enforcement and the legal system. It supplements information provided by physical evidence forensics courses and offers hands-on practice by utilizing psychological techniques implemented in the field. It familiarizes students with new technologies and available databases used in investigations. The course goes beyond criminal profiling popular in today's media and explores the findings of psychological research behind such issues as eyewitness identification (memory retrieval) and interviewing (conformity and obedience). Forensic Psychology also covers newer areas of concern such as psychological assistance in all career aspects of policing from personnel selection to dealing with the demands of the job.

SS 470 Applied Research Statistics

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

This is an intermediate-level course designed to develop in students an expertise in identifying statistical approaches to research problems. Students will examine statistics and the rationale behind them. They will comprehend and interpret statistical results as they apply to their programs. Students will master the APA style of writing by dissecting the results and discussion sections of journal articles in their programs and by writing those sections using statistics learned in the course.

SS 471 Developmental Psychology

4 Class Hours, 4 Quarter Credit Hours

This online course will focus on the cognitive, emotional, social, intellectual and physical influences on psychological development of individuals across the lifespan. It will concentrate on the normal and optimal patterns of development, as well as the individual variability of growth at each stage of development.