

Social Studies Major Overview:

The Social Studies major provides students with a broad understanding of human society, culture, history, economics, politics, and geography. It integrates concepts from history, sociology, political science, economics, and anthropology, enabling students to critically analyze social structures, behaviors, and global interactions. The program emphasizes research, critical thinking, and communication skills, preparing graduates for careers in education, public policy, social research, and community development. Social Studies graduates are well-equipped to contribute to shaping informed, engaged citizens and communities.

Typical Industry Sectors:

1. Education (K-12 and Higher Education)
2. Government and Public Administration
3. Social Research and Policy Analysis
4. Nonprofit and Advocacy Organizations
5. Museums, Cultural Heritage, and Public History

10 Sample Entry-Level Job Titles:

1. Social Studies Teacher (Middle or High School)
2. Research Assistant (Social Science or Policy)
3. Community Outreach Coordinator
4. Policy Analyst Assistant
5. Public Relations Specialist
6. Museum Educator
7. Legislative Assistant
8. Social Services Assistant
9. Economic Development Coordinator
10. Program Coordinator (Nonprofit or Community Services)

5 Hard Skills:

1. Research and Data Analysis
2. Knowledge of Social Theories and Historical Contexts
3. Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
4. Statistical Analysis (e.g., SPSS, Excel)
5. Curriculum Development and Educational Planning

5 Soft Skills:

1. Communication (Written and Oral)
2. Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving
3. Collaboration and Teamwork

4. Cultural Sensitivity and Empathy
5. Time Management

Additional Training or Certifications:

While a degree in Social Studies provides broad knowledge, graduates often pursue teaching certification for roles in education or additional certifications in areas such as social research, public policy, or community engagement. Some students may pursue graduate studies for advanced roles in research or academia. Internships with government agencies, think tanks, or nonprofit organizations offer practical experience and networking opportunities in fields like policy analysis, public history, or community development.

Student and National Organizations:

1. [National Council for the Social Studies \(NCSS\)](#)
2. [American Political Science Association \(APSA\)](#)
3. [American Historical Association \(AHA\)](#)
4. [The International Social Science Council \(ISSC\)](#)
5. [Phi Alpha Theta \(National History Honor Society\)](#)