

SECONDARY EDUCATION SOCIAL STUDIES, B.SOSC.

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Harrisburg

Program Description

The Secondary Education Social Studies major prepares students to meet the requirements as established by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, to be certified for the Social Studies Instructional I Certificate. The major prepares students to teach history, government, economics, geography, psychology, sociology, and anthropology.

Students are challenged to prepare for teaching assignments at the middle and high school level, and in diverse settings characterized as rural, urban, and suburban. The art and science of teaching social studies in secondary schools is undergoing significant transformation as new technologies, new issues and considerations, and new instructional strategies are all having an impact on the delivery of social studies instruction.

Students admitted to the program must submit and renew annually the appropriate clearances. These include FBI fingerprint check, Act 151 child abuse history clearance, and Act 34 criminal record check. Additionally, documentation a clear tuberculosis (TB) test must be submitted no more than 90 days prior to any clinical field placement.

Students thinking seriously about entering the education program should plan their freshman and sophomore years carefully, following the Suggested Academic Plan as closely as possible. Semesters 5 through 8 are very structured.

What is Secondary Education Social Studies?

Secondary Education Social Studies prepares individuals to teach students in the secondary grades, which may include grades seven through twelve, depending on the school system or state regulations, in the areas of history, government, economics, geography, psychology, sociology, and anthropology.

You Might Like This Program If...

- You enjoy history, economics, geography, sociology, and government;
- You like critical, creative, and reflective thinking;
- You enjoy helping others learn;
- You want to have an important and direct impact on the lives of others;
- You want a career in teaching or school administration;
- You want to help transform the world, one student at a time.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SECONDARY EDUCATION SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAM (<https://harrisburg.psu.edu/behavioral-sciences-education/teacher-education/secondary-education-social-studies-bsosc>)