

Social Science (B.A.)

Program Description

The social science major is interdisciplinary and provides breadth of knowledge through coursework in anthropology, legal studies, psychology, and sociology. It also offers depth by giving students the opportunity to select core courses from one of these social science areas.

Locations

To learn where the B.A. in social science is offered, please visit our Web site at www.webster.edu/ugcatalog

Degree Requirements

51 required credit hours
27 general education credit hours
50 elective credit hours

A minimum of 51 credit hours should be selected from within anthropology/sociology/psychology. A minimum of 21 credit hours must be in 3000-4000 level courses.

Students are required to take the following courses:

ANSO 1010 Introduction to Sociology	3 hours
PSYC 1100 Introduction to Psychology	3 hours
ANSO 1070 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	3 hours
ANSO 4900 Senior Seminar or PSYC 4900 Senior Seminar	3 hours

One course from the following:

ANSO/PSYC 2750 Introduction to Measurement and Statistics	3 hours
ANSO/PSYC 2825 Introduction to Research Methods	3 hours

One course from the following:

ANSO 3550 Theories of Social Science	3 hours
PSYC 3550 History, Philosophy, and Systems of Psychology	3 hours

Within required and elective courses, a minimum of 21 credit hours must be in 3000-4000 level courses.

Special Requirements

No more than 6 credit hours obtained in practica, independent learning experiences, reading courses, and assessment of prior learning may be applied toward the 51 credit hours required for a major.

Current Webster students should petition for admission to the department on completion of no more than 51 credit hours of academic work. Transfer students are urged to petition for admission to the department at the time of acceptance to the University. Transfer students must complete a minimum of 33 approved credit hours of academic work at Webster within the major. These courses may be included as part of the residency requirement.

Courses completed with a grade below a C- do not count toward fulfilling the specific course requirements of the major.

Course Descriptions

ANSO 1010 Introduction to Sociology (3)

Intended primarily for students who wish to gain a broad, general overview of the field, its area of study, methods of inquiry, and conceptions and analysis of society.

ANSO 1070 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (3)

Explores the concepts of culture, universals and diversities of humanity, transmission of culture, and the role of the anthropologist in modern society.

ANSO 2750 Introduction to Measurement and Statistics (3)

Designed to aid the student in learning how to ... "make sense" of a body of numbers; how to summarize and extract information from numbers; how to detect, measure, and use relationships between variables; and how to use statistical aids to the decision-making process. Prerequisite: ANSO 1010, ANSO 1070, PSYC 1100, or permission of the instructor.

ANSO 2825 Introduction to Research Methods (3)

Research is at the heart of the behavioral and social sciences. This course will cover the basics of quantitative and qualitative research design. In addition, students will be provided with the means to critically analyze and assess the ethics of research findings. Lastly, students will be given the opportunity to collect data and analyze the results. Prerequisite: ANSO 1010, ANSO 1070, PSYC 1100, or permission of the instructor.

ANSO 3550 Theories of Social Science (3)

Examine the works of the classic producers of ideas about society and culture, and about being a social and cultural product (Marx, Weber, Durkheim, Simmel, Freud, Mead, etc.) as each continues to influence the ideas of contemporary theorists in the social sciences. Reviews classic explanations of how society works, following major streams of social theories through to present-day approaches. Prerequisites: ANSO 1010 or ANSO 1070, and 6 credit hours of social science; or permission of the instructor.

ANSO 4900 Senior Seminar (3)

This seminar is designed to be a capstone experience in the major. The purpose of the course is for students to demonstrate an integration of their learning/knowledge in the discipline. Course topics vary each semester. Prerequisite: 12 credit hours of social science or permission of the instructor. May be repeated for credit if content differs.

PSYC 1100 Introduction to Psychology (3)

Introduces the breadth and diversity of contemporary psychology. Provides a foundation from which the student might progress to more advanced, specialized courses. Topics include learning, perception, bio-psychological processes, childhood and development, adjustment and mental health, and social behavior.

PSYC 3550 History, Philosophy, and Systems of Psychology (3)

Examines the contributions of philosophy, physics, physiology, and other disciplines and intellectual traditions to the development of the subject matter, problems, and methodology of contemporary psychology. Prerequisites: PSYC 1100 and 6 credit hours of psychology; or permission of the instructor.