

## Social Sciences Interdisciplinary

### Office of Interdisciplinary Degree Programs

College of Arts and Sciences  
203 Clemens Hall  
North Campus  
Buffalo, NY 14260-4670

PH: 716.645.2245 x0  
Fax: 716.645.3640  
Email: [dryden@buffalo.edu](mailto:dryden@buffalo.edu)  
Web: [www.ssc.buffalo.edu](http://www.ssc.buffalo.edu)

### Overview

Some of the major problems society faces today can be grasped fully only by integrating the specializations of different academic disciplines. The Interdisciplinary Degree Programs in the Social Sciences offer students an opportunity to focus on a particular thematic area of interdisciplinary studies whose breadth and diversity overlaps several departments. Departmental courses are organized in curricula administered by the Interdisciplinary Degree Programs in the Social Sciences.

The degree consists of courses taught by the faculty of departments throughout the university. Each program is designed to offer choice and flexibility in building the program most suitable for individual interests and career goals. Hundreds of students have graduated from the programs in recent years.

Within our BA and BS programs, the following concentrations are offered:

**Cognitive Science.** Cognitive Science is an interdisciplinary approach to how the mind works. It investigates thought and consciousness, the senses and emotions, the structure of language, cultural patterns, neural organization, and computational analogs of mental processes. It examines how these areas interact, how they develop in the growing human, and how they appear in other animals.

**Environmental Studies.** The Environmental Studies BA or BS degree offers an opportunity for students to study social science and natural science disciplines related to the environment. Field courses and an internship are required. The BS adds chemistry, ecological methods and spatial analysis. Specialty tracks provide a body of course work and experiences that prepare a student for a defined area within the field of environmental studies. In addition to the defined specialty tracks, the Environmental Studies Program accepts petitions for individualized programs.

**Health and Human Services (Community Mental Health, Early Childhood Studies and Social Gerontology).** Health and Human Services studies the systems delivering human services to individuals and communities in need, the problems affecting those individuals and communities, and the professions and professionals providing services. A significant on-site practicum experience is an integral part of this curriculum.

**International Studies.** The International Studies program provides a general background useful for graduate studies or a number of career fields with international involvement. The three tiers of the curriculum beyond the prerequisite level are based on:

1. The belief that significant language competence is fundamental to the field of international inquiry and activity;
2. The assumption that students in the field should be exposed to a range of disciplinary approaches;
3. The desirability of pursuing some focused interest in a particular geographic area.

**Legal Studies.** The Legal Studies concentration is designed for students who are interested in studying the law, legal processes, legal institutions, and the role of law in society. The program offers a multidisciplinary perspective on the law in its social and political context. This major provides a background for careers in government, law enforcement, social work, and professional training in law school.

**Urban and Public Policy Studies.** This program provides a general academic introduction to the fields of urban and public policy studies. It may prove useful to, but is not specifically designed for, those students who are anticipating graduate work in urban planning or an associated field, or who are seeking employment opportunities in politics or private agencies or the political field.

### About our Degrees

#### Cognitive Science

Cognitive Science is an interdisciplinary approach to how the mind works. It investigates thought and consciousness, the senses and emotions, the structure of language, cultural patterns, neural organization, and computational analogs of mental processes. It examines how these areas interact, how they develop in the growing human, and how they appear in other animals.

For additional information, see the [Degrees and Policies](#).

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### Environmental Studies

The Environmental Studies BA or BS degree offers an opportunity for students to study social science and natural science disciplines related to the environment. Field courses and an internship are required. The BS adds chemistry, ecological methods and spatial analysis. Specialty tracks provide a body of course work and experiences that prepare a student for a defined area within the field of environmental studies. In addition to the defined specialty tracks, the Environmental Studies Program accepts petitions for individualized programs.

For additional information, see the [Degrees and Policies](#).

### Health and Human Services (Social Gerontology, Community Mental Health, and Early Childhood Studies)

Health and Human Services studies the systems delivering human services to individuals and communities in need, the problems affecting those individuals and communities, and the professions and professionals providing services. A significant on-site practicum experience is an integral part of this curriculum.

For additional information, see the [Degrees and Policies](#).

### Health and Human Services/Social Work

The Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Degree Programs (IDP) and the Graduate School of Social Work have developed a combined degree program between IDP's Health and Human Services concentration and Social Work's M.S.W. It is a 5-year program that leads to a combined B.A./M.S.W. degree. More information on this program may be obtained through the IDP office.

For additional information, see the [Degrees and Policies](#).

### International Studies

The International Studies program provides a general background useful for graduate studies or a number of career fields with international involvement. The three tiers of the curriculum beyond the prerequisite level are based on:

1. The belief that significant language competence is fundamental to the field of international inquiry and activity;
2. The assumption that students in the field should be exposed to a range of disciplinary approaches;
3. The desirability of pursuing some focused interest in a particular geographic area.

For additional information, see the [Degrees and Policies](#).

### Legal Studies

The Legal Studies concentration is designed for students who are interested in studying the law, legal processes, legal institutions, and the role of law in society. The program offers a multidisciplinary perspective on the law in its social and political context. This major provides a background for careers in government, law enforcement, social work, and professional training in law school.

For additional information, see the [Degrees and Policies](#).

### Urban and Public Policy Studies

This program provides a general academic introduction to the fields of urban and public policy studies. It may prove useful to, but is not specifically designed for, those students who are anticipating graduate work in urban planning or an associated field, or who are seeking employment opportunities in politics or public or private agencies.

For additional information, see the [Degrees and Policies](#).

## About our Courses

For course descriptions, please see [Courses](#).

## Acceptance Information

Students should apply for admission to the major in the Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Degree Programs no later than the end of their sophomore year. Students are expected to follow major requirements as listed in the catalog for the academic year during which they are admitted to the major. To be eligible for admission to all programs, except cognitive science, students are required to attain a grade of C or better in all prerequisite courses and to have a minimum UB GPA of 2.0. To be admitted to cognitive science, students are required to attain a grade of B- or better in the prerequisite course and to have a minimum UB GPA of 2.0.

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### Transfer Policy

Transfer students must first apply to the university and meet the university's transfer admission GPA requirements. Applications are then forwarded to the IDP office for review and course equivalency evaluation. Newly admitted transfer students who have completed the prerequisite requirements or have completed 60 or more credit hours at the school from which they have transferred are accepted to the major on a provisional basis, with full admission dependent upon completion of prerequisite requirements and attaining a minimum UB GPA of 2.0 within a specified time frame.

Courses from two-year colleges may not be used toward fulfillment of the advanced-level course requirements in any of the interdisciplinary programs. At least 50 percent of coursework toward the major must be completed at UB.

Students transferring from two or four year SUNY schools are strongly advised to complete the SUNY foreign language general education requirement before transferring to UB.

### Academic Requirements

Students in the Cognitive Science program must maintain a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 in the major. Students in all other concentrations must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.33 in the major. All courses taken by a student that are included in a student's chosen curriculum within the Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Programs will be used in calculation of the major GPA. For example, if a curriculum requires a student to select 2 courses from a particular section and the student completes 3 courses from that section, all courses will be used to calculate a student's major GPA.

All students must maintain a minimum UB GPA of 2.0 overall, as well as a minimum GPA of 2.0 for the most recently completed semester to remain in good standing.

Transfer students and UB students who have left the university and returned should be aware that no more than 20% of major course work may be over 10 years old. Students who have more than 20% of course work over 10 years old will be required to complete additional courses in the major.

### Extracurricular Activities

See the [UB Student Association](#).

### Degree Options

**Bachelor of Arts.** Students may complete a BA in the following concentrations: Cognitive Science, Environmental Studies, Health and Human Services, International Studies, Legal Studies, or Urban and Public Policy.

**Bachelor of Science.** Students may complete a BS in the Environmental Studies concentration.

**Combined BA/MSW Degree Program.** The Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Degree Programs (IDP) and the Graduate School of Social Work have developed a combined degree between IDP's major in health and human service and the MSW in social work. It is a five-year program of undergraduate and graduate coursework leading to the combined BA/MSW degree.

Students complete their first three years of undergraduate work in the Interdisciplinary Degree Programs. Their fourth and fifth years are completed in the UB Graduate School of Social Work. The degree consists of 93 undergraduate credit hours and 60 graduate credit hours.

Students must complete eleven of the fifteen courses normally required for the major in health and human services. In addition, they must complete their undergraduate general education requirements. Students should see IDP program advisors for specific curriculum planning.

Acceptance to IDP's health and human services major does not assure admission to the BA/MSW degree program. Admission to the program is competitive. Students should apply for admission to the School of Social Work at the beginning of the second semester of the junior year to be admitted to the BA/MSW program for the following fall. The application deadline for Social Work is February 1. Applications and further information may be found at the School of Social Work's webpage, [www.socialwork.buffalo.edu](http://www.socialwork.buffalo.edu).

Experience (e.g. volunteer, fieldwork, employment) in a social service setting is strongly encouraged for applicants to the BA/MSW programs.

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For more information contact Dr. Lee Dryden, Director of the Interdisciplinary Degree Programs, at (716) 645-2245, ext. 2.

**Double Majors.** A double major may be completed in one of the interdisciplinary degree programs' concentrations along with a major in another department; only two of the departmental major courses may be counted toward the upper division of the interdisciplinary degree major concentration. Students cannot combine two interdisciplinary degree programs concentrations.

**Joint Majors.** Joint majors are **not** accepted.

**Double Degrees.** A double degree may be completed in one of the interdisciplinary degree programs' concentrations along with a major in another department. There are a limited number of courses that may be used towards both majors. Some students will be required to take additional course work from their IDP major curriculum. Students must meet with an advisor in each major area before beginning a double degree, and regularly during completion of the program.

### Degrees Offered

**Undergraduate:** BA, BS, or Minor (in Social Sciences Interdisciplinary)

**Concentrations:** (BA programs) Cognitive Science, Environmental Studies, Health and Human Services, International Studies, Legal Studies, Urban and Public Policy; (BS or Minor programs) Environmental Studies

**Combined:** BA/MSW (Health and Human Services concentration/Graduate School of Social Work)

### Links to Further Information About this Program

- [Undergraduate Catalog](#)
- [Undergraduate Admissions](#)
- [Graduate Admissions](#)
- [Office of Interdisciplinary Degree Programs](#)
- [College of Arts and Sciences](#)

### **Social Sciences Interdisciplinary - B.A.**

#### **Acceptance Criteria**

Minimum GPA of 2.0 overall.

Completion of prerequisite course with a grade of B- or better.

#### **Advising Notes**

Each course taken may be counted only once and applied toward only one requirement (e.g., [CSE 463](#) may be applied to the contents courses or to the focus area, but not to both). Many courses in the focus areas have pre-requisite requirements. For more information students should check individual course descriptions in the undergraduate catalog or speak with the Cognitive Science advisor.

Students in the Cognitive Science program must maintain a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 in the major. All courses taken by a student that are included in a student's chosen curriculum within the Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Programs will be used in calculation of the major GPA. For example, if the curriculum requires a student to select 2 courses from a particular section and the student completes 3 courses from that section, all courses will be used to calculate a student's major GPA.

All students must maintain a minimum UB GPA of 2.0 overall, as well as a minimum GPA of 2.0 for the most recently completed semester to remain in good standing.

Transfer students and UB students who have left the university and returned should be aware that no more than 20% of major course work may be over 10 years old. Students who have more than 20% of course work over 10 years old will be required to complete additional courses in the major

#### **Prerequisite Courses**

[PSY 342](#) Introduction to Cognitive Science: Concepts of the Mind

#### **Required Courses**

[SSC 391](#) Cognitive Science Colloquium (this course involves attending at least 75 percent of the Cognitive Science Colloquia during each term [SSC 391](#) is taken; the course should be taken three times; [SSC 391](#) is graded P/F)

Three methods courses

Three content courses

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Six courses in a single focus area

*Senior thesis option: Students may optionally write a senior thesis, based on original research done in collaboration with their cognitive science advisor. Students choosing the senior thesis option are required to take five courses in a single focus area as opposed to the six required for students not selecting the thesis option.*

### Summary

Total required credit hours for the major (cognitive science): 42-49

See [Baccalaureate Degree Requirements](#) for general education and remaining university requirements.

### Recommended Sequence of Program Requirements

#### FIRST YEAR

Fall [PSY 101](#) (prerequisite for [PSY 342](#))

Spring One methods or content course

#### SECOND YEAR

Fall [PSY 342](#), two methods or content courses

Spring One methods or content course; one focus area course

#### THIRD YEAR

Fall [SSC 391](#), one methods or content course, one focus area course

Spring [SSC 391](#), one methods or content course, one focus area course

#### FOURTH YEAR

Fall Two focus area courses

Spring [SSC 391](#), one focus area course

### Electives and Course Groupings

#### Methods Courses

[APY 320](#) Seminar in Cognitive Anthropology

[CSE 113-CSE 114](#) Introduction to Computer Programming I-II or [CSE 115-CSE 116](#) Introduction to Computer Science for Majors I-II

[PHI 215](#) Introduction to Deductive Logic or [PHI 315](#) Symbolic Logic

[PSY 207](#) Psychological Statistics

[PSY 250](#) Scientific Inquiry in Psychology

#### Content Courses

[APY 106](#) Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

[CSE 463](#) Knowledge Representation or [CSE 467/LIN 467](#) Computational Linguistics or [CSE 472](#) Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

[LIN 205](#) Introduction to Linguistic Analysis or [LIN 207](#) Language, Society, and the Individual

[PHI 108](#) Knowledge and Reality or [PHI 221](#) Introduction to the Philosophy of Science

[PSY 341](#) Cognitive Psychology or [PSY 351](#) Biopsychology

#### Focus Area Courses

*Most courses in these areas have at least one prerequisite requirement. Students should check individual course entries in the catalog or speak with the cognitive science advisor.*

#### COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

[APY 344](#) Animal Communication

[APY 457](#) Evolutionary Biology of Humans

[CDS 301](#) Language Development in Children

[CDS 402](#) Language Disorders in Children

[CSE 474](#) Introduction to Machine Learning

[LIN 320](#) Language and the Brain

[LIN 355](#) Child Language Development

[LIN 455](#) Language Acquisition

[NUR 250](#) Human Growth and Development

[PSY 336](#) Developmental Psychology

[PSY 427](#) Adult Development and Aging

[PSY 428](#) Language Development

[PSY 430](#) Evolutionary Psychology

[PSY 446](#) Animal Cognition

[PSY 448](#) Psycholinguistics

[PSY 457](#) Cognitive Development

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### COMPUTATIONAL MODELING

CSE 463 Knowledge Representation  
CSE 467/LIN 467 Computational Linguistics  
CSE 473 Introduction to Computer Vision and Image Processing  
CSE 474 Introduction to Machine Learning  
IE 323 Ergonomics  
IE 435 Human-Computer Interaction  
LIN 438 Semantics  
LIN 443 Semantics II  
LIN 448 Formal Semantics  
MTH 309 Introductory Linear Algebra  
MTH 314 Logic for Computer Science  
MTH 455 Mathematical Modeling  
MTH 460 Theory of Games  
PHI 415 Logical Theory I  
PHI 416 Logical Theory II  
PHI 417 Modal Logic  
PSY 343 Sensory Processes and Perception

### HIGH-LEVEL MENTAL PROCESSES

APY 246 Introduction to Primate Behavior  
APY 276 Introduction to Ethnomedicine  
APY 320 Seminar in Cognitive Anthropology  
APY 344 Animal Communication  
APY 377 Magic, Sorcery, and Witchcraft  
APY 380 Myth, Ritual, Symbolism  
CSE 463 Knowledge Representation  
CSE 467/LIN 467 Computational Linguistics  
CSE 474 Introduction to Machine Learning  
GEO 102 Introduction to Human Geography  
GEO 485 Cartography and Geographic Visualization  
LIN 356 An Introduction to Contemporary Theories of Metaphor  
LIN 404 Discourse-Pragmatics  
LIN 413 Language and Cognition  
LIN 417 Psycholinguistics  
LIN 421 Linguistic Anthropology  
LIN 438 Semantics  
LIN 481 Cognitive Foundations of Language  
PHI 315 Symbolic Logic  
PHI 329 Metaphysics  
PHI 333 Epistemology  
PHI 345 Aesthetics and Philosophy of Art  
PHI 370 Early Modern Philosophy  
PSY 416 Reasoning and Problem Solving  
PSY 445 Memory  
PSY 446 Animal Cognition  
PSY 447 The Psychology of Music  
PSY 448 Psycholinguistics  
PSY 457 Cognitive Development

### LANGUAGE

APY 344 Animal Communication  
CDS 286 Phonetics  
CDS 301 Language Development in Children  
CSE 396 Introduction to the Theory of Computation  
CSE 463 Knowledge Representation  
CSE 467/LIN 467 Computational Linguistics  
LIN 205 Introduction to Linguistic Analysis  
LIN 207 Language, Society, and the Individual  
LIN 301 Structure of English: The Sound System  
LIN 302 Structure of English: Grammar and Lexicon  
LIN 320 Language and the Brain  
LIN 355 Child Language Development  
LIN 356 An Introduction to Contemporary Theories of Metaphor  
LIN 404 Discourse-Pragmatics  
LIN 405 Bilingualism and Language Contact  
LIN 410 Morphology  
LIN 413 Language and Cognition

## Social Sciences Interdisciplinary

LIN 415 Syntax I  
LIN 417 Psycholinguistics  
LIN 421 Linguistic Anthropology  
LIN 425 Typology and Universals  
LIN 431 Phonetics  
LIN 432 Phonology I  
LIN 433 Phonology II  
LIN 434 Syntax II  
LIN 438 Semantics  
LIN 439 Historical Linguistics  
LIN 443 Semantics II  
LIN 448 Formal Semantics  
LIN 455 Language Acquisition  
LIN 481 Cognitive Foundations of Language  
PHI 315 Symbolic Logic  
PHI 415 Logical Theory I  
PHI 416 Logical Theory II  
PHI 417 Modal Logic  
PSY 428 Language Development  
PSY 445 Memory  
PSY 448 Psycholinguistics

### NEUROSCIENCES

APY 457 Evolutionary Biology of Humans  
CDS 428 Neural Basis of Communication/Lab  
CSE 474 Introduction to Machine Learning  
LIN 320 Language and the Brain  
PGY 451 Human Physiology I  
PSY 343 Sensory Processes and Perception  
PSY 351 Biopsychology  
PSY 418 Behavior Modification and Behavioral Medicine  
PSY 419 Biological Bases of Memory  
PSY 426 Biological Bases of Mental Disorders  
PSY 429 Psychophysiology  
PSY 436 Neuropsychology  
PSY 439 Biopsychology of Stress  
PSY 451 Drug Addiction

### SYMBOLIC SYSTEMS

CSE 305 Introduction to Programming Languages  
CSE 396 Introduction to the Theory of Computation  
CSE 451 Program Development  
CSE 463 Knowledge Representation  
CSE 467/LIN 467 Computational Linguistics  
CSE 473 Introduction to Computer Vision and Image Processing  
CSE 474 Introduction to Machine Learning  
GEO 120 Maps and Mapping  
GEO 381 Cartography  
GEO 481 Geographic Information Systems  
GEO 485 Cartography and Geographic Visualization  
GEO 488 GIS Design  
GEO 489 GIS Algorithms and Data Structures  
IE 323 Ergonomics  
IE 435 Human-Computer Interaction  
LIN 415 Syntax I  
LIN 434 Syntax II  
LIN 438 Semantics  
LIN 443 Semantics II  
LIN 448 Formal Semantics  
MTH 313 Elements of Set Theory  
MTH 314 Logic for Computer Science  
MTH 413 Introduction to Mathematical Logic I  
MTH 414 Introduction to Mathematical Logic II  
MTH 460 Theory of Games  
PHI 315 Symbolic Logic  
PHI 415 Logical Theory I  
PHI 416 Logical Theory II  
PHI 417 Modal Logic  
PSY 405 Data Analysis Techniques

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[PSY 416](#) Reasoning and Problem Solving  
[PSY 445](#) Memory

### Social Sciences Interdisciplinary - B.A. B.S.

#### Acceptance Criteria

Minimum GPA of 2.0 overall.  
Completion of prerequisite course with a grade of C or better.

#### Advising Notes

Students originally entering the BA program may transfer applicable credits to the BS program.

Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.33 in the major. All courses taken by a student that are included in a student's chosen curriculum within the Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Programs will be used in calculation of the major GPA. For example, if a curriculum requires a student to select 2 courses from a particular section and the student completes 3 courses from that section, all courses will be used to calculate a student's major GPA.

All students must maintain a minimum UB GPA of 2.0 overall, as well as a minimum GPA of 2.0 for the most recently completed semester to remain in good standing.

Transfer students and UB students who have left the university and returned should be aware that no more than 20% of major course work may be over 10 years old. Students who have more than 20% of course work over 10 years old will be required to complete additional courses in the major.

#### Prerequisite Courses

[SSC 118](#) Introduction to Environmental Studies

#### Required Courses

Three courses from social science core  
Five courses for B.A. or seven courses for B.S. from natural science core  
One statistics course  
One spatial analysis course (BS students only)  
Five courses from the chosen specialized track  
[SSC 496](#) ENV Environmental Internship

#### Summary

Total required credit hours for the major (environmental studies BA): 51-52  
Total required credit hours for the major (environmental studies BS): 59-61

See [Baccalaureate Degree Requirements](#) for general education and remaining university requirements.

#### Recommended Sequence of Program Requirements

##### FIRST YEAR

Fall [GEO 101](#) or [GLY 101](#); [SSC 118](#)  
Spring [GEO 106](#) or [GLY 102](#), one social sciences core course

##### SECOND YEAR

Fall [BIO 200](#), one statistics course; [SSC 217](#) (BS students only)  
Spring [SSC 315](#), two social sciences core courses

##### THIRD YEAR

Fall [GLY 309](#), one specialized track course; [GLY 310](#) (BS students only)  
Spring Two specialized track courses  
Fall or Spring One spatial analysis course (BS students only)

##### FOURTH YEAR

Fall One specialized track course  
Spring One specialized track course  
Fall or Spring [SSC 496](#) ENV Environmental Internship

## Social Sciences Interdisciplinary

### Electives and Course Groupings

#### Social Sciences Core

[ENG 263](#) Environmental Writings  
[PD 212](#) Urban and Environmental Planning  
[PHI 334](#) Environmental Ethics  
[SOC 446](#) Environmental Sociology  
[SSC 238](#) Science, Religion and Nature  
[SSC 442](#) Environmental Movements

#### Natural Sciences Core

[BIO 200](#) Evolutionary Biology (offered fall only)  
[GLY 309](#) Ecology (offered fall only; prerequisite: [BIO 200](#))  
[GLY 310](#) Ecological Methods (B.S. students only; offered fall only; prereq: [BIO 200](#))  
[GEO 101-GEO 106](#) Earth Systems Science 1&2 or [GLY 101-GLY 102](#) Global Environmental Science 1 & 2  
[SSC 217](#) Environmental Chemistry: Principles and Applications (BS students only)  
[SSC 315](#) Field Ecology

#### Statistics

[PSY 207](#) Psychological Statistics  
[SOC 294](#) Basic Statistics for Social Sciences  
[SSC 225](#) Statistics for Social Sciences  
[STA 119](#) Statistical Methods

#### Spatial Analysis (BS students only)

[GEO 481](#) Geographic Information Systems  
[PD 356](#) Computing for Environmental Analysis

#### Specialized Tracks

Specialized tracks provide a body of coursework and experience that prepare a student for a defined area within the field of environmental studies. Five courses in the chosen specialized track are required. The Office of Interdisciplinary Degree Programs maintains a list of pre-approved specialized tracks in the environmental studies curriculum and accepts petitions for individualized programs; please see the environmental studies advisor for further information.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND EDUCATION

[PD 301](#) Perspectives on Land Use and Development (prerequisite: [PD 212](#))  
[SSC 317](#) Environmental Politics  
[SSC 326](#) Great Lakes Ecology  
[SSC 360](#) Environmental Impact Statements  
[SSC 385](#) Energy, Environment and Society  
[SSC 406](#) Law and Environment  
[SSC 414](#) Grantwriting for Nonprofits  
[SSC 419](#) Wilderness  
[SSC 479](#) Environmental Education Fieldstudies (offered summer only)  
[SSC 493](#) Ecology of Unique Environments

#### ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND MANAGEMENT

[APY 344](#) Animal Communication  
[APY 444](#) Ethology Practicum (prereq: [APY 344](#), [SSC 448](#) or permission of Instructor)  
[GEO 345](#) Water Resources  
[GEO 350](#) Landform Field and Lab Techniques  
[GEO 352](#) Introduction to Soils  
[GEO 356](#) Forest Ecology  
[GEO 435](#) Conservation Biogeography  
[GEO 444](#) Advanced Earth Science Systems  
[GEO 445](#) Restoration Ecology  
[GEO 470](#) Integrated Environmental Management  
[SSC 441](#) Wildlife and Wildlands Management  
[SSC 448](#) Animals, Zoos and Ecology  
[SSC 493](#) Ecology of Unique Environments

#### ENVIRONMENTAL INTERNSHIP

[SSC 496](#) ENV Environmental Internship

## Social Sciences Interdisciplinary

### Social Sciences Interdisciplinary - B.A.

#### Acceptance Criteria

Minimum GPA of 2.0 overall.  
Completion of prerequisite courses with a grade of C or better in each.

#### Advising Notes

This major does not lead to teaching certification. Students interested in pursuing graduate studies directed toward state certification as K-6 teachers are strongly advised to consult with an Office of Interdisciplinary Degree Programs advisor as soon as they begin this major. Further information about teacher certification can be obtained from the Teacher Education Institute, Graduate School of Education, 375 Baldy Hall.

Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.33 in the major. All courses taken by a student that are included in a student's chosen curriculum within the Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Programs will be used in calculation of the major GPA. For example, if a curriculum requires a student to select 2 courses from a particular section and the student completes 3 courses from that section, all courses will be used to calculate a student's major GPA.

All students must maintain a minimum UB GPA of 2.0 overall, as well as a minimum GPA of 2.0 for the most recently completed semester to remain in good standing.

Transfer students and UB students who have left the university and returned should be aware that no more than 20% of major course work may be over 10 years old. Students who have more than 20% of course work over 10 years old will be required to complete additional courses in the major.

#### Prerequisite Courses

[PSY 101](#) Introductory Psychology  
[SSC 103](#) Introduction to Health and Human Services

#### Required Courses

One introductory course  
Two analytical skills courses (one statistics course and one methods course)  
One human biology course  
Three intermediate-level courses, one of which must be [PHI 337](#) Social and Ethical Values in Medicine  
Six courses from the chosen concentration area

#### Summary

Total required credit hours for the major (health and human services): 45-46

See [Baccalaureate Degree Requirements](#) for general education and remaining university requirements.

#### Recommended Sequence of Program Requirements

##### FIRST YEAR

Fall [PSY 101](#), [SSC 103](#)  
Spring One introductory course, one statistics course

##### SECOND YEAR

Fall One human biology course, one methods course  
Spring Two intermediate courses\*\*

##### THIRD YEAR

Fall One intermediate course\*\*, one concentration area course  
Spring Two concentration area courses

##### FOURTH YEAR

Fall Two concentration area courses (one of which is [SSC 496](#) HS1 for Social Gerontology and Community Mental Health majors)  
Spring One concentration area course ([SSC 496](#) HS2 for Social Gerontology and Community Mental Health majors )

#### Electives and Course Groupings

##### Introductory Courses

[APY 105](#) Introduction to Anthropology  
[APY 106](#) Introduction to Cultural Anthropology  
[APY 107](#) Introduction to Physical Anthropology  
[APY 108](#) Introduction to Archaeology

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[COM 101](#) Principles of Communication

[PHI 107](#) Ethics

[SOC 101](#) Introduction to Sociology

### Analytical Skills

#### STATISTICS COURSES

[CEP 207](#) Introduction to Statistics and Computing

[PSY 207](#) Psychological Statistics

[SOC 294](#) Basic Statistics for Social Sciences

[SSC 225](#) Statistics for Social Sciences

[STA 119](#) Statistical Methods

#### METHODS COURSES

[NUR 348](#) Evidenced Based Practice and Nursing Research (nursing double degree students only)

[PSY 250](#) Scientific Inquiry in Psychology

[SOC 293](#) Social Research Methods

[SSC 213](#) Social Research Methods

### Intermediate Courses

[PHI 337](#) Social and Ethical Values in Medicine (required)

*Two of the following:*

[APY 248](#) Human Genetics

[APY 275](#) Introduction to Medical Anthropology

[APY 276](#) Introduction to Ethnomedicine

[COM 202](#) Intercultural Communication

[COM 217](#) Communication in Organizations

[COM 223](#) Principles and Methods of Interviewing

[COM 225](#) Interpersonal Communication

[GGS 225](#) Violence in a Gendered World

[GGS 238](#) Women, Work, and Family

[HIS 215](#) Death in America

[JLS 131](#) The Family and the Law

[LAI 205](#) Introduction to Child Development and Learning or [NUR 250](#) Human Growth and Development

[SOC 206](#) Social Problems

[SOC 211](#) Sociology of Diversity

[SSC 209](#) Case Management

[SSC 210](#) Skill Development in Human Service

[SSC 390](#) Human Services Administration

### Human Biology Courses

[ANA 113](#) Human Anatomy

[APY 345](#) Comparative Primate Anatomy and [APY 346](#) Primate Dissections

[BIO 129](#) Perspectives in Human Biology (required for students pursuing the joint health and human services/School of Social Work degree; offered fall only)

[BIO 130](#) Perspectives in Human Biology

[BIO 200](#) Evolutionary Biology

[PGY 300](#) Human Physiology

### Concentration Area Courses

#### SOCIAL GERONTOLOGY

*Two of the following:*

[PSY 427](#) Adult Development and Aging (force by special arrangement)

[SOC 304](#) Sociology of Aging

[SSC 363](#) The Aging Process

[SSC 407](#) Healthcare and the Elderly

*Two of the following:*

[CEP 401](#) Introduction to Counseling

[CEP 404](#) Introduction to the Rehabilitation of Substance Abuse and Addiction

[CEP 410](#) Introduction to Grief and Loss

[SOC 308](#) Sociology of the Life Course

[SOC 313](#) Sociology of the Family

[SOC 314](#) Sociology of Gender

[SOC 322](#) Introduction to Medical Sociology

## Social Sciences Interdisciplinary

[SSC 343](#) Violence and the Family  
[SSC 365](#) The Family Process  
[SSC 413](#) Addictions Treatment  
[SSC 414](#) Grantwriting for Non-profits  
[SSC 428](#) Health Law

*Practicum (a two-semester sequence; both courses are required):*

[SSC 496](#) HS1 Human Services Intern 1 (first semester)  
[SSC 496](#) HS2 Human Services Intern 2 (second semester)

### EARLY CHILDHOOD

[CDS 301](#) Language Development in Children (offered fall only)  
[CDS 402](#) Language Disorders in Children (offered spring only; prerequisite: [CDS 301](#))  
[CEP 410](#) Introduction to Grief and Loss  
[LAI 416](#) Early Childhood Education, Theory, and Practice  
[LAI 490](#) Seminar and Practicum in Early Childhood Programs  
[LIN 355](#) Child Language Development  
[PSY 321](#) Psychology of Personality or [PSY 322](#) Abnormal Psychology or [PSY 336](#) Developmental Psychology  
[SOC 313](#) Sociology of the Family  
[SOC 314](#) Sociology of Gender  
[SOC 335](#) Sociology of Adolescence  
[SSC 305](#) Applied Child Development and Learning  
[SSC 320](#) Issues in Developmental Disabilities  
[SSC 343](#) Violence and the Family  
[SSC 365](#) The Family Process  
[SSC 413](#) Addictions Treatment  
[SSC 414](#) Grantwriting for Non-profits  
[SSC 420](#) Child Mental Health  
[SSC 496](#) HS1 Human Services Intern 1

### COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

*Each course taken may be counted only once and applied toward only one requirement (e.g., [SSC 218](#) may be applied to part A or to Part B, but not to both)*

Part A: choose one of the following:

[SSC 218](#) Issues in Mental Health (if not taken to meet requirement below)  
[SSC 320](#) Issues in Developmental Disabilities  
[SSC 413](#) Addictions Treatment  
[SSC 420](#) Child Mental Health

Part B: choose three of the following:

[CEP 401](#) Introduction to Counseling  
[CEP 404](#) Introduction to the Rehabilitation of Substance Abuse and Addiction  
[CEP 410](#) Introduction to Grief and Loss  
[CEP 453](#) Introduction to Rehabilitation  
[PSY 321](#) Psychology of Personality or [PSY 322](#) Abnormal Psychology or [PSY 331](#) Social Psychology  
[PSY 411](#) Self and Self-Esteem (by exception registration only)  
[SOC 314](#) Sociology of Gender  
[SOC 322](#) Introduction to Medical Sociology  
[SOC 335](#) Sociology of Adolescence  
[SSC 218](#) Issues in Mental Health  
[SSC 320](#) Issues in Developmental Disabilities  
[SSC 343](#) Violence and the Family  
[SSC 407](#) Health-Care and the Elderly  
[SSC 413](#) Addictions Treatment  
[SSC 414](#) Grantwriting for Non-profits  
[SSC 420](#) Child Mental Health  
[SSC 428](#) Health Law

*Practicum (a two-semester sequence; both courses are required):*

[SSC 496](#) HS1 Human Services Intern 1 (first semester)  
[SSC 496](#) HS2 Human Services Intern 2 (second semester)

## Social Sciences Interdisciplinary - B.A./M.S.W.

### Acceptance Criteria

## Social Sciences Interdisciplinary

### TO UNDERGRADUATE PORTION OF DEGREE

Minimum GPA of 2.0 overall.

Completion of prerequisite courses with a grade of C or better in each.

### TO GRADUATE PORTION OF DEGREE

Minimum GPA of 3.0 overall.

Completed eleven of fifteen courses for undergraduate major (see below)

Completed all undergraduate general education requirements.

Completed 93 undergraduate credit hours.

Have significant employment, volunteer, or internship experience in a human service setting. Students are strongly advised to take [SSC 496](#) HS1 Human Services Intern 1.

### Advising Notes

Admission to the graduate portion of the degree is competitive. Meeting minimum requirements does not guarantee admission. Prerequisite courses listed immediately below are for admission to the undergraduate portion of the program only. Students need a human biology course for successful completion of the graduate program, so they are advised to take [BIO 129](#) Human Biology to meet the biological sciences requirement for the undergraduate portion of the degree. Students must also have related work experience, an extensive volunteer background, or an internship administered through an academic program to be a viable candidate for admission to the MSW portion of the degree.

### Prerequisite Courses

[PSY 101](#) Introductory Psychology

[SSC 103](#) Introduction to Health and Human Services

### Required Courses

One introductory course\*

Two analytical skills courses (one statistics course and one methods course)\*

One biological sciences course\* ([BIO 129](#) Perspectives in Human Biology is strongly recommended)

Three intermediate-level courses, one of which must be [PHI 337](#) Social and Ethical Values in Medicine\*

Two courses from the chosen concentration area

\*See *Social Sciences Interdisciplinary-BA/Concentration in Health and Human Services* chart

### Summary

Total required credit hours for the undergraduate portion (health and human services): 33-34

See [Baccalaureate Degree Requirements](#) for general education and remaining university requirements.

Refer to the Graduate School's policies and procedures manual for requirements for masters degree candidates.

### Recommended Sequence of Program Requirements

#### FIRST YEAR

Fall [PSY 101](#), [SSC 103](#), one introductory course

Spring One statistics course, one intermediate course \*\*

#### SECOND YEAR

Fall One biological sciences course, one methods course

Spring one intermediate course\*\*, one concentration area course

#### THIRD YEAR

Fall One intermediate course\*\*, one concentration area course

Spring One internship

\*\*[PHI 337](#) Social and Ethical Values in Medicine is a required intermediate course.

In the fall semester of the third year, students should apply to the graduate portion of the degree program.

#### FOURTH AND FIFTH YEARS

Please contact the School of Social Work for information on specific requirements.

### Electives and Course Groupings

#### Concentration Area Courses

#### SOCIAL GERONTOLOGY

## Social Sciences Interdisciplinary

At least one must be from Part A:

Part A

[PSY 427](#), [SOC 304](#), [SSC 363](#), [SSC 407](#)

Part B

[CEP 404](#), [CEP 410](#), [SOC 308](#), [SOC 313](#), [SOC 314](#), [SOC 322](#), [SSC 343](#), [SSC 365](#), [SSC 413](#), [SSC 414](#), [SSC 428](#)

### EARLY CHILDHOOD

[CDS 301](#), [CDS 402](#), [CEP 410](#), [HIS 465](#), [LAI 416/SSC 416](#), [LAI 490](#), [LIN 355](#); [PSY 321](#) or [PSY 322](#) or [PSY 336](#); [SOC 313](#), [SOC 314](#), [SOC 335](#), [SSC 305](#), [SSC 320](#), [SSC 343](#), [SSC 365](#), [SSC 413](#), [SSC 414](#), [SSC 420](#)

### COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

[CEP 404](#), [CEP 410](#), [CEP 453](#); [PSY 321](#) or [PSY 322](#) or [PSY 331](#); [PSY 411](#), [SOC 314](#), [SOC 322](#), [SOC 335](#), [SSC 218](#), [SSC 320](#), [SSC 343](#), [SSC 407](#), [SSC 413](#), [SSC 414](#), [SSC 420](#), [SSC 428](#)

## Social Sciences Interdisciplinary - B.A.

### Acceptance Criteria

Minimum GPA of 2.0 overall.

Completion of prerequisite courses with a grade of C or better in each.

### Advising Notes

The language requirement is an important component of the international studies concentration. Students must display proficiency in a language through the third year as taught at UB. A student's choice of foreign language affects his choice of a regional focus area for his advanced courses in this major.

If a student has already mastered a foreign language before entering college at the level equivalent to that attained by a student at UB completing the third year course, the Romance Languages department or the Linguistics department can certify proficiency. In this case, the student must take three additional courses at the core or advanced level. See the advisor for international studies in the Office of Interdisciplinary Degree Programs regarding these situations.

Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.33 in the major. All courses taken by a student that are included in a student's chosen curriculum within the Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Programs will be used in calculation of the major GPA. For example, if a curriculum requires a student to select 2 courses from a particular section and the student completes 3 courses from that section, all courses will be used to calculate a student's major GPA.

All students must maintain a minimum UB GPA of 2.0 overall, as well as a minimum GPA of 2.0 for the most recently completed semester to remain in good standing.

Transfer students and UB students who have left the university and returned should be aware that no more than 20% of major course work may be over 10 years old. Students who have more than 20% of course work over 10 years old will be required to complete additional courses in the major.

Substitutions of specific courses may be made with the approval of the Director of Interdisciplinary Degree Programs.

### Prerequisite Courses

[PSC 102](#) Introduction to International Politics

[UGC 112](#) World Civilizations II

### Required Courses

Remaining courses in language requirement

Two introductory courses

Three core courses

Four regional focus courses

### Summary

Total required credit hours for the major (international studies): 33

*(beyond completion of language requirement)*

See [Baccalaureate Degree Requirements](#) for general education and remaining university requirements.

### Recommended Sequence of Program Requirements

## Social Sciences Interdisciplinary

### FIRST YEAR

Fall [PSC 102](#), first-semester language  
Spring [UGC 112](#), second-semester language

### SECOND YEAR

Fall Two introductory courses, third-semester language  
Spring Two core courses, fourth-semester language

### THIRD YEAR

Fall One regional focus course, one core course, fifth-semester language  
Spring One regional focus course, sixth-semester language

### FOURTH YEAR

Fall One regional focus course  
Spring One regional focus course

### Electives and Course Groupings

#### Language Requirement

Chinese: First year--[CHI 101-CHI 102](#) or [CHI 104](#) or [CHI 105](#); second year--[CHI 201-CHI 202](#); third year--[CHI 301-CHI 302](#)\*  
French: First year--[FR 101-FR 102](#) or [FR 104](#); second year--[FR 151-FR 152](#); third year--[FR 211-FR 212](#)\*  
Italian: First year--[ITA 101-ITA 102](#); second year--[ITA 151](#) and [ITA 152](#); third year--[ITA 321-ITA 322](#)\*  
Japanese: First year--[JPN 101-JPN 102](#); second year--[JPN 201-JPN 202](#); third year--[JPN 301-JPN 302](#)\*  
Korean: First year--[KOR 101-KOR 102](#); second year--[KOR 201-KOR 202](#); third year--[KOR 301-KOR 302](#)\*  
Polish: First year--[POL 101-POL 102](#); second year--[POL 203-POL 204](#); third year--[POL 305-POL 306](#)\*  
Russian: First year--[RUS 101-RUS 102](#); second year--[RUS 223-RUS 224](#); third year--[RUS 301-RUS 302](#)\*  
Spanish: First year--[SPA 101-SPA 102](#) or [SPA 104](#) or [SPA 171](#); second year--[SPA 151-SPA 152](#) or [SPA 172-SPA 241](#); third year--[SPA 207-SPA 208](#)\*

\*Students who wish to take other courses in place of the third-year courses listed here should consult with the International Studies adviser in the Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Programs.

#### Introductory Courses

[ECO 181](#) Introduction to Macroeconomics  
[ECO 182](#) Introduction to Microeconomics  
[GEO 103](#) Geography of Economic Systems  
[PSC 103](#) Politics Abroad

#### Core Courses

Two of the following:

[PSC 326](#) War and International Security  
[PSC 328](#) Economics and Foreign Policy  
[PSC 330](#) International Relations Problems  
[PSC 333](#) International Relations Theory  
[PSC 339](#) International Law  
[PSC 341](#) Political Change  
[PSC 373](#) International Futures  
[PSC 418](#) The International System  
[PSC 430](#) Human Rights

One of the following:

[GEO 330](#) Dynamics of International Business  
[GEO 333](#) Bases of World Commerce  
[GEO 334](#) International Environments and Commercial Problems

#### Regional Focus

Four of the following courses from the regional focus appropriate for the foreign language the student has chosen.

#### MODERN EUROPE (A EUROPEAN LANGUAGE)

[ECO 304](#) Socialist Economies  
[HIS 299](#) The Holocaust  
[HIS 305](#) Modern Spain, Italy, and Portugal  
[HIS 313](#) 20th Century Europe  
[HIS 315](#) German Culture and Society, 1789-1989

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[HIS 318](#) History of Ireland  
[HIS 319](#) World Between the Wars  
[HIS 325](#) Twentieth-Century Britain, 1901-1974  
[HIS 340](#) Topics in German History  
[HIS 371](#) Social History of Europe  
[HIS 388](#) Women, Gender & Sexuality in Europe - 1789 to the Present  
[HIS 400](#) Comparative Fascism  
[HIS 421](#) Topics in British History  
[HIS 423](#) Problems in Modern European History  
[HIS 475](#) War and European Society  
[POL 324](#) Poland Today  
[POL 338](#) Poland in Europe  
[PSC 327](#) The Cold War and After  
[PSC 340](#) Politics in Western Europe  
[PSC 350](#) Politics of the U.S.S.R.

### **LATIN AMERICA (SPANISH)**

[APY 403](#) Comparing Cultures Worldwide  
[HIS 302](#) Latin American Colonial History  
[HIS 322](#) Latin America: Culture and History  
[HIS 328](#) History of Brazil  
[HIS 414](#) Cuban Revolution  
[HIS 417](#) Haitian Revolution & the Atlantic World  
[HIS 433](#) Latin American Native Peoples  
[LLS 303](#) Mainland Puerto Rican Experience  
[LLS 308](#) Black Presence in Latin American Culture  
[PHI 389](#) Contemporary Latin American Thought  
[PSC 342](#) Politics of Developing Nations  
[PSC 372](#) Latin American Politics  
[PSC 438](#) Civil-Military Relations  
[SPA 327](#) Spanish Culture and Civilization  
[SPA 328](#) Spanish American Culture and Civilization

### **ASIA (AN ASIAN LANGUAGE)**

[APY 265](#) Peoples of Southeast Asia  
[APY 362](#) People and Culture of Japan  
[APY 366](#) Peoples of Asia  
[HIS 334](#) Islam/Muslim in Modern Southeast Asia  
[HIS 339](#) Pearl Harbor: Japan Goes to War  
[HIS 342](#) History of Modern South Asia  
[HIS 368](#) Modern Japan Since 1600  
[HIS 391](#) China and the World  
[HIS 485](#) Twentieth-Century China Politics  
[PSC 355](#) Asian Politics

### **AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST (ARABIC, FRENCH, OR AN AFRICAN LANGUAGE)**

[AAS 280](#) Survey of African Studies  
[AAS 358](#) Africa Diaspora  
[APY 361](#) Anthropology of the Middle East  
[APY 403](#) Comparing Cultures Worldwide  
[HIS 213](#) African History, 1800-Present  
[HIS 237](#) History of Israel and Zionism  
[PSC 342](#) Politics of Developing Nations  
[PSC 370](#) African Politics  
[PSC 371](#) Middle Eastern Politics  
[PSC 438](#) Civil-Military Relations

## **Social Sciences Interdisciplinary - B.A.**

### **Acceptance Criteria**

Minimum GPA of 2.0 overall.  
Completion of prerequisite courses with a grade of C or better in each.

### **Advising Note**

## Social Sciences Interdisciplinary

Each course taken may be counted only once and applied toward only one requirement (e.g. if [PSC 303](#) is used in section A of the advanced courses it may not be used to also meet a requirement in section B of the advanced courses). Students may use only one semester of internship toward completion of major requirements.

Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.33 in the major. All courses taken by a student that are included in a student's chosen curriculum within the Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Programs will be used in calculation of the major GPA. For example, if a curriculum requires a student to select 2 courses from a particular section and the student completes 3 courses from that section, all courses will be used to calculate a student's major GPA.

All students must maintain a minimum UB GPA of 2.0 overall, as well as a minimum GPA of 2.0 for the most recently completed semester to remain in good standing.

Transfer students and UB students who have left the university and returned should be aware that no more than 20% of major course work may be over 10 years old. Students who have more than 20% of course work over 10 years old will be required to complete additional courses in the major.

### Prerequisite Courses

[HIS 161](#) United States History I or [HIS 162](#) United States History II  
[PSC 101](#) Introduction to American Politics

### Required Courses

Two introductory courses  
Two writing skills courses  
One analytical skills course  
Seven advanced courses, one of which must be [PSC 301](#), [PSC 302](#), [PSC 303](#), or [HIS 303](#)

### Summary

Total required credit hours for the major (legal studies): 42-43

See [Baccalaureate Degree Requirements](#) for general education and remaining university requirements.

### Recommended Sequence of Program Requirements

#### FIRST YEAR

Fall [HIS 161](#) or [HIS 162](#); [PSC 101](#)  
Spring One introductory course

#### SECOND YEAR

Fall One introductory course, one writing skills course  
Spring One writing skills course, one analytical skills course

#### THIRD YEAR

Fall Two advanced courses  
Spring Two advanced courses

#### FOURTH YEAR

Fall Two advanced courses  
Spring One advanced course

### Electives and Course Groupings

#### Introductory Courses

[AAS 293](#) Race and the Law  
[APY 262](#) Anthropology and Justice  
[GGS 225](#) Violence in a Gendered World  
[HIS 216](#) Crime and Punishment in America  
[JLS 130](#) American Jury Trial  
[JLS 131](#) Family and Law  
[JLS 201](#) Introduction to Law and Legal Process  
[MFC 332](#) Paralegal Principles and Procedures  
[PHI 162](#) Law, Morality and Authority  
[PHI 238](#) Philosophy of Law  
[PSC 215](#) Law and the Political Process  
[PSC 225](#) Equality and Justice in the United States

#### Writing Skills Courses

## Social Sciences Interdisciplinary

Any 200, 300, or 400 level English course except [ENG 201](#), 301, 496, 497, 498, 499.

### Analytical Skills Courses

[CEP 207](#) Introduction to Statistics and Computing  
[PHI 115](#) Critical Thinking  
[PHI 215](#) Introduction to Deductive Logic  
[PSC 200](#) Empirical Political Science  
[PSC 408](#) Basic Statistics for Social Science  
[PSY 207](#) Psychological Statistics  
[PSY 250](#) Scientific Inquiry in Psychology  
[SOC 293](#) Social Research Methods  
[SOC 294](#) Basic Statistics for Social Sciences  
[SSC 213](#) Social Research Methods  
[SSC 225](#) Statistics for Social Sciences  
[STA 119](#) Statistical Methods

### Advanced Courses

A. Choose one of the following:

[HIS 303](#) U.S. Constitution: Its Origins and Early Development  
[PSC 301](#) Cases in Civil Liberties  
[PSC 302](#) Protecting Civil Liberties  
[PSC 303](#) Constitutional Law

B. Choose Six of the following:

[HIS 303](#) U.S. Constitution: Its Origins and Early Development (if not used in part A)  
[HIS 480](#) Topics in Early American Legal and Constitutional History  
[PHI 338](#) Law and Morality  
[PHI 340](#) Law and Responsibility  
[PSC 301](#) Cases in Civil Liberties (if not used in part A)  
[PSC 302](#) Protecting Civil Liberties (if not used in part A)  
[PSC 303](#) Constitutional Law (if not used in part A)  
[PSC 304](#) Legislative Politics  
[PSC 305](#) Judicial Politics  
[PSC 308](#) Organizational Theory and Political Institutions  
[PSC 339](#) International Law  
[PSC 430](#) Human Rights  
[PSC 470](#) Legal Political Theory  
[SOC 307](#) Criminology  
[SOC 317](#) Criminal Justice Systems  
[SOC 319](#) Juvenile Justice  
[SOC 337](#) Sociology of Punishment  
[SOC 373](#) Sociology of Law  
[SOC 405](#) Sociology of Deviance  
[SSC 406](#) Law and the Environment  
[SSC 428](#) Health Law  
[SSC 496](#) COM Community Internship (one semester only)

## Social Sciences Interdisciplinary - B.A.

### Acceptance Criteria

Minimum GPA of 2.0 overall.  
Completion of prerequisite courses with a grade of C or better in each.

### Advising Notes

Students who plan to pursue graduate study in urban planning and design are advised to take the following courses: [PD 120](#) Introduction to Urban Environments, [PD 212](#) Urban and Environmental Planning, [PD 301](#) Perspectives on Land Use and Development, [PD 312](#) Design of Cities.

No more than 3 courses from any one department may be used toward completion of the advanced level courses.

Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.33 in the major. All courses taken by a student that are included in a student's chosen curriculum within the Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Programs will be used in calculation of the major GPA. For example, if a curriculum requires a student to select 2 courses from a particular section and the student completes 3 courses from that section, all courses will be

## Social Sciences Interdisciplinary

used to calculate a student's major GPA.

All students must maintain a minimum UB GPA of 2.0 overall, as well as a minimum GPA of 2.0 for the most recently completed semester to remain in good standing.

Transfer students and UB students who have left the university and returned should be aware that no more than 20% of major course work may be over 10 years old. Students who have more than 20% of course work over 10 years old will be required to complete additional courses in the major.

### Prerequisite Courses

[PSC 101](#) Introduction to American Politics

[SOC 101](#) Introduction to Sociology

### Required Courses

Three introductory courses

Two core courses

Two analytical skills courses (one statistics course and one research methods course)

Five advanced courses, including no more than three courses from any one department

### Summary

Total required credit hours for the major (urban and public policy): 45-46

See [Baccalaureate Degree Requirements](#) for general education and remaining university requirements.

### Recommended Sequence of Program Requirements

#### FIRST YEAR

Fall [PSC 101](#), [SOC 101](#)

Spring One introductory course

#### SECOND YEAR

Fall One introductory course, one analytical skills course

Spring One introductory course, one analytical skills course

#### THIRD YEAR

Fall One core course, one advanced course

Spring One core course, one advanced course

#### FOURTH YEAR

Fall Two advanced courses

Spring One advanced course

### Electives and Course Groupings

#### Introductory Courses

[ECO 181](#) Introduction to Macroeconomics

[ECO 182](#) Introduction to Microeconomics

[ECO 209](#) Introduction to Urban Economics

[GEO 103](#) Geography of Economic Systems

[PD 120](#) Introduction to Urban Environments

[SOC 206](#) Social Problems

#### Core Courses

[GEO 366](#) Urban Systems Geography (if not taken to meet advanced requirement)

[PD 212](#) Urban and Environmental Planning

[PSC 310](#) Public Administration

[PSC 312](#) Urban Politics

[PSC 314](#) Public Policy Making

#### Analytical Skills

##### STATISTICS

[CEP 207](#) Introduction to Statistics and Computing

[PSY 207](#) Psychological Statistics

[SOC 294](#) Basic Statistics for Social Sciences

[SSC 225](#) Statistics for Social Sciences

[STA 119](#) Statistical Methods

## Social Sciences Interdisciplinary

### METHODS

[PSY 250](#) Scientific Inquiry in Psychology

[SOC 293](#) Social Research Methods

[SSC 213](#) Social Research Methods

### Advanced Courses

*Note: Students may take no more than three courses from the same department.*

[APY 427](#) Comparative Urbanism

[ECO 303](#) Economics of Poverty

[GEO 366](#) Urban Systems Geography (if not taken to meet core requirement)

[GEO 367](#) Urban Social Geography

[GEO 418](#) Population Geography or [SOC 329](#) Population Problems

[GEO 419](#) Transportation and Society

[PD 301](#) Perspectives on Land Use and Development (pre-requisite: [PD 212](#))

[PD 312](#) Design of Cities

[PSC 308](#) Organizational Theory in Political Institutions

[PSC 315](#) American Political Economy

[SOC 315](#) Sociology of City Life

[SOC 321](#) Race and Ethnic Relations

[SOC 328](#) Social Stratification

[SOC 331](#) Sociology of Poverty

[SOC 348](#) Urban Sociology

[SOC 381](#) Contemporary Protest Movements

[SSC 317](#) Environmental Politics

[SSC 414](#) Grantwriting for Non-profits

[SSC 496](#) COM Community Internship

## Social Sciences Interdisciplinary - Minor

### Acceptance Criteria

Minimum GPA of 2.0 overall.

Completion of prerequisite course with a grade of C or better.

### Advising Notes

Only one course applied to any other major or minor may be applied to meet the course requirements of this minor.

Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.33 in the minor. All courses taken by a student will be used in calculation of the minor GPA. For example, if a section of curriculum requires a student to select 2 courses and the student completes 3 courses from that section, all courses will be used to calculate a student's minor GPA.

All students must maintain a minimum UB GPA of 2.0 overall, as well as a minimum GPA of 2.0 for the most recently completed semester to remain in good standing.

Transfer students and UB students who have left the university and returned should be aware that no more than 20% of major course work may be over 10 years old. Students who have more than 20% of course work over 10 years old will be required to complete additional courses in the major.

### Prerequisite Courses

[SSC 118](#) Introduction to Environmental Studies

### Required Courses

One course from social science core

Two courses from natural sciences core

One course from each of the environmental tracks

One additional upper level course

### Summary

Total required credit hours for the minor (environmental studies): 26

### Electives and Course Groupings

## Social Sciences Interdisciplinary

### SOCIAL SCIENCES CORE

[PHI 334](#) Environmental Ethics  
[SSC 213](#) Social Research Methods OR [SOC 293](#) Social Research Methods  
[SSC 406](#) Law and the Environment  
[SSC 442](#) Environmental Movements

### NATURAL SCIENCES CORE

[BIO 200](#) Evolutionary Biology (offered fall and summer only)  
[SSC 315](#) Field Ecology

### ENVIRONMENTAL TRACKS

#### Environmental Policy

[GEO 470](#) Integrated Environmental Management  
[PD 301](#) Perspectives on Land Use and Development (pre-requisite: [PD 212](#))  
[SOC 446](#) Environmental Sociology  
[SSC 317](#) Environmental Politics  
[SSC 326](#) Great Lakes Ecology  
[SSC 360](#) Environmental Impact Statements  
[SSC 414](#) Grantwriting for Non-Profits  
[SSC 419](#) Wilderness

#### Environmental Resources

[GEO 350](#) Landform Field and Lab Techniques  
[GEO 352](#) Introduction to Soils  
[GEO 356](#) Forest Ecology  
[GEO 435](#) Conservation Biogeography  
[GEO 445](#) Restoration Ecology  
[SSC 360](#) Environmental Impact Statements  
[SSC 385](#) Energy, Environment and Society  
[SSC 493](#) Ecology of Unique Environments

#### Environmental Education

[GEO 444](#) Advanced Earth System Science  
[SSC 238](#) Science, Religion and Nature  
[SSC 414](#) Grantwriting for Non-profits  
[SSC 448](#) Animals, Zoos and Ecology  
[SSC 479](#) Environmental Education Field Studies (offered summer only)  
[SSC 496](#) MEP Environmental Education Practicum II (offered summer only)  
[SSC 493](#) The Ecology of Unique Environments

### ADDITIONAL UPPER LEVEL COURSE

[SSC 496](#) ENV Environmental Internship  
OR  
Any additional course from any environmental track

### ASI 100: University Honors Seminars

**Credits:** 3

**Semester(s):** Fall, Spring

**Type:** SEM

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Restricted to students in the University Honors College; offered under specific titles that vary from semester to semester. Usually satisfies general education requirements, as well as honors requirements.

### ASI 200: University Honors Seminar

**Credits:** 3

**Semester(s):** Fall, Spring

**Type:** SEM

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Restricted to students in the University Honors College; offered under specific titles that vary from semester to semester. Usually satisfies general education requirements, as well as honors requirements.

### ASI 300: University Honors Seminar

**Credits:** 3

**Semester(s):** Fall, Spring

**Type:** SEM

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

## Social Sciences Interdisciplinary

Restricted to students in the University Honors College; offered under specific titles that vary from semester to semester. Usually satisfies general education requirements, as well as honors requirements.

### ASI 400: University Honors Seminar

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall, Spring  
**Type:** SEM

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Restricted to students in the University Honors College; offered under specific titles that vary from semester to semester. Usually satisfies general education requirements, as well as honors requirements.

### SSC 100: Careers in Human Services

**Credits:** 2  
**Semester(s):** Fall  
**Type:** LEC

Explores the range of professional and graduate school opportunities in human services and related fields.

### SSC 103: Introduction to Health and Human Services

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall, Spring  
**Type:** SEM

Studies the health and human service system in the United States and locally, as it has been affected by history, changing values, and changes in the economic and political environment. Particularly emphasizes the gerontological, childhood, and community mental health service systems.

### SSC 118: Introduction to Environmental Studies

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall, Spring  
**Type:** LEC

Involves an interdisciplinary approach to environmental issues. Explores ecological concepts, human environment, air and water pollution, pesticides, solid waste handling, mineral and energy resources, the nuclear fuel cycle, population and food resources, and environmental control.

### SSC 209: Case Management

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Spring  
**Type:** LEC

An applied skills course for the delivery of human services. Considers the roles and functions of case management and various vulnerable client groups as target populations. Involves analyzing cases for client needs and comprehensive service planning. Practice competency, quality of care, and ethical standards are

major concerns of the course. Small group activities and community-based interviews are important student learning experiences.

### SSC 210: Skill Development in Human Service

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall  
**Type:** SEM

Introduces specific techniques and skills employed in human services careers.

### SSC 213: Social Research Methods

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall, Spring  
**Type:** LEC

Introduces procedures by which social scientists gather, analyze, and interpret information about the social world. Particularly emphasizes the use of campus-based resources for social service research.

### SSC 218: Issues in Mental Health

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall, Spring  
**Type:** SEM

Identifies community mental health service components and explores trends and issues in the delivery of mental health services.

### SSC 225: Statistics for Social Sciences

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall, Spring  
**Type:** LEC

Provides a foundation in statistical techniques for interpreting quantitative social data, including binomial and normal distributions, the Chi-Square test, hypothesis testing, and regression analysis.

### SSC 238: Science, Religion, and Nature

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall  
**Type:** LEC

An environmental philosophy course that explores the impact of religion and science upon our perceptions of nature. Involves diverse studies in the areas of mythology, Eastern traditions, Western mysticism, Shamanism, the Gaia hypothesis, and environmental issues. Also includes a weekend workshop focused upon nature attunement, survival skills, and ecological studies.

### SSC 305: Applied Child Development and Learning

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall, Spring  
**Type:** LEC

Integrates theory and current research with practical aspects of

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child rearing and family health. Explores developmental processes and behavior of young children as individuals and in group settings.

### SSC 315: Field Ecology

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall, Spring  
**Type:** LEC

A field-oriented course that explores the ecology of diverse ecosystems. Classes are conducted both on and off campus, and focus on interpretive experiences in the areas of botany, zoology, geology, herpetology, ornithology, and general ecology.

### SSC 317: Environmental Politics

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Spring  
**Type:** LEC

Focuses on the relationship between environmental problems and the political process. Explores definitions of an environmentally sustainable society. Then we attempt to answer the question of "how to get there from here." This involves developing a theory of social change by examining a number of case studies. We study local environmental controversies from a political perspective through firsthand involvement or guest speakers. We also look at national environmental conflicts, such as the backlash against mainstream environmentalism created by the "Wise Use" movement and contemporary political forces championing property rights and states' rights.

### SSC 320: Issues in Dev. Disabilities

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall, Spring  
**Type:** SEM

Explores causation, prevention, advocacy, housing, education, employment, and community services. Defines career opportunities in this area.

### SSC 326: Great Lakes Ecology

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Spring  
**Type:** SEM

The Great Lakes hold nearly 20% of all the available fresh water on the planet. They provide drinking water, hydroelectricity, and both economic and recreational opportunities to millions who live around their shores. This class provides an understanding of the Great Lakes, from their formation to the important role they play in the political and ecological systems of North America. Focuses on historical and ecological aspects, as well as current political and policy issues surrounding the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence ecosystem. Students learn about the geology, biota, ecology, management, and social and political aspects of the Great Lakes, especially the lower lakes (Erie and Ontario). The course uses a multi-faceted ecosystem approach to diverse topics involved with understanding these complex ecological systems.

### SSC 337: Social-Ethical Values in Medicine

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall, Spring  
**Type:** LEC

Applies ethical theories to analysis of important moral problems in health care and medicine. Same as [PHL 337](#).

### SSC 343: Violence and the Family

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall, Summer  
**Type:** LEC

Addresses issues in violence and violence prevention with sections on theoretical definitions and historical context. Topics include the social context of violent behavior in families, child abuse and neglect, abusive parenting, violence against women, abuse of the elderly, violence in communities of color, and the media's influence on the development of antisocial behavior. Explores special problems of child protection services and the justice system's approach toward domestic violence.

### SSC 360: Environmental Impact Statements

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall  
**Type:** SEM

Examines the preparation of environmental impact statements (EIS) in response to federal and state requirements. Explores the mechanics of preparing and evaluating the EIS, as well as considering alternative courses of action.

### SSC 363: The Aging Process

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Spring  
**Type:** LEC

Introduces the aging process. Explores physiological and clinical aspects.

### SSC 365: The Family Process

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall, Spring  
**Type:** LEC

Considers the family: What is it? How does it work? How does it fail to work? Provides both United States and cross-cultural perspectives. Explores the theoretical foundation of family therapies.

### SSC 385: Energy, Environment, and Society

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall  
**Type:** LEC

Focuses on the relationship between energy use and the associated impact on the environment and society. Explores our dependence upon traditional energy resources such as oil, coal, nuclear and natural gas as well as renewable energy resources such as geothermal, wind, solar, etc. Examines solutions to the

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difficult process of changing current energy consumption trends.

### SSC 390: Human Services Administration

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall, Spring  
**Type:** SEM

Examines the practical aspects of managing a human services organization. Discusses the basic functions of management, including planning, budgeting, personnel, and organizational development. Presents these themes around such functions as team management, the consumer as customer, innovation, and creativity in attaining excellence.

### SSC 391: Cognitive Science Colloquium

**Credits:** 1  
**Semester(s):** Fall, Spring  
**Type:** LEC

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Acquaints students with ongoing research in the range of disciplines affiliated with cognitive science. Primarily requires attendance at the weekly colloquium and symposium series of the Center for Cognitive Science. Requires students to read any relevant literature that has been publicly announced prior to the upcoming colloquium or symposium.

### SSC 406: Law and the Environment

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall, Spring  
**Type:** LEC

Studies statutory and case law relating to pollution control, natural resources management, government regulation of land use, and the process and logic of decision making in governmental and legal institutions.

### SSC 407: Health Care and the Elderly

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Spring  
**Type:** SEM

Provides students an opportunity to explore relevant issues in dealing with an elderly population in the health-care arena. Special focus on the frail elderly and aged with chronic medical conditions. Points of interest include incapacitation, consents, confidentiality, ancillary and other services, rites of passage, the health-care team, managing the difficult patient, lethality assessments, family/professional relationships, health-care settings and intercultural communication.

### SSC 413: Addictions Treatment

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Spring  
**Type:** LEC

### SSC 414: Grant Writing for Non-Profits

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Spring  
**Type:** LEC

Prepares student in human services, environmental studies, and urban and public policy for grant development. Overview of fundraising among non-profits, development of grant-writing strategies, and how to research and create grant proposals in a competitive market. Extensive proposal writing and composition. Integrated with current, ongoing internships if students simultaneously pursue a practicum in Health and Human Service ([SSC 496](#)) or and Environmental Internship ([SSC 496](#)). Students not pursuing a practicum or internship will adopt and research a non-profit organization appropriate to their field of study.

### SSC 419: Wilderness

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Spring  
**Type:** SEM

Focuses on wilderness and biocentrism. Explores the idea of wilderness along three pathways. Part 1 deals with the history of biological wilderness and philosophical wilderness from Spinoza to Leopold to Snyder. Part 2 covers biological and other wilderness qualities. Part 3 examines the social movements related to wilderness and biocentrism. Also explores environmental ethics and morals. Investigates proposals for wilderness restoration, preservation, and expansion. A close examination of indigenous cultures' wilderness beliefs accompanies our study.

### SSC 420: Child Mental Health

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall, Spring  
**Type:** SEM

Examines the human service system as it affects the mental health needs of children; also addresses specific needs of special groups.

### SSC 428: Health Law

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall, Spring  
**Type:** SEM

Explores legal aspects of human services focusing on the constitutional right to privacy, the right to die, involuntary hospitalization and treatment of the mentally disabled, and entitlements. Covers family law, the rights of the elderly and the disabled, and laws concerned with special education.

### SSC 431: Topics in Human Services

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** SEM

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Allows students to explore up-to-date information and current debates in their chosen field. Topic titles and offerings vary from semester to semester. Students should check with the Office of Interdisciplinary Degree Programs to determine how the course may be used to fulfill major requirements.

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### SSC 432: Topics in Legal Studies

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** SEM

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Allows students to explore up-to-date information and current debates in their chosen field. Topic titles and offerings vary from semester to semester. Students should check with the Office of Interdisciplinary Degree Programs to determine how the course may be used to fulfill major requirements.

### SSC 433: Topics in Environmental Studies

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** SEM

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Allows students to explore up-to-date information and current debates in their chosen field. Topic titles and offerings vary from semester to semester. Students should check with the Office of Interdisciplinary Degree Programs to determine how the course may be used to fulfill major requirements.

### SSC 434: Topics in Urban and Public Policy

**Credits:** 3  
**Type:** SEM

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Allows students to explore up-to-date information and current debates in their chosen field. Topic titles and offerings vary from semester to semester. Students should check with the Office of Interdisciplinary Degree Programs to determine how the course may be used to fulfill major requirements.

### SSC 441: Wildlife and Wildlands Management

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall  
**Type:** LEC

Wildlife and Wildlands Management will focus on the application of ecological principles to studying and managing wildlife populations with emphasis on habitat management. This course serves as an introduction to wildlife ecology and management and focuses on the wildlife of North America. The course begins with a brief examination of the history of wildlife management and wildlife policy in North America. The majority of the class will focus on important wildlife species, wildlife ecology, population biology, and other subjects of importance to wildlife management. Special problems such as endangered species preservation, genetic diversity conservation, predator management, control of nuisance and alien species, and other non-game species will be covered. We will discuss case histories and current issues of wildlife management on public and private lands. Science, of which wildlife conservation is a part, allows us to understand how living systems function. This knowledge further allows us to determine our role in maintaining

healthy ecosystems. We also consider the attitudes of humans toward wildlife and their demands and impacts on North America's wildlife resources.

### SSC 442: Environmental Movements

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Spring  
**Type:** SEM

Provides a comprehensive analysis of the environmental movement in the United States. Rather than focusing on whether the protection of the environment is "right" or "wrong" the course critically examines the past, present and future of the environmental movement including Conservation, Preservation, Deep Ecology, Environmental Justice, Ecofeminism and Ecotheology. The course will examine the methods used by grassroots, environmental organizations. Throughout the course what is discussed will be applied to several local environmental concerns.

### SSC 448: Animals, Zoos, and Ecology

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Fall  
**Type:** LEC

*Held at the Buffalo Zoo.*

Introduces the study of animal behavior. Explores natural behaviors and the factors affecting those behaviors by covering such topics as the evolution of behavior, the nervous and endocrine systems, biological rhythms, social systems, reproductive behavior, and more. Course participants examine and understand animal behavior through lectures, readings, short projects, and direct observation of the animal populations on zoo grounds.

### SSC 479: Environmental Education Field Studies

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Summer  
**Type:** LAB

A one-week field-based course involving a teacher training program in the areas of field ecology, environmental analysis, and conservation biology. Students participate in both lecture and laboratory experiences designed to train them as field ecologists as well as environmental educators. Conducted in residence at the Woodlands Environmental Education Center. Linked to internship opportunities; see [SSC 496](#) for information.

### SSC 493: Ecology of Unique Environments

**Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s):** Spring, Summer  
**Type:** LAB

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Involves a week-long field ecology intensive at unique and threatened environments throughout the United States. Participants attend a wide variety of interpretive programs regarding the history, ecology, and politics of these environments. The IDP office announces potential expeditions for January and/or July/August.

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### **SSC 496: Internship**

**Credits:** 1-6

**Semester(s):** Fall, Spring, Summer

**Type:** TUT

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Community internship, health and human services internship, or environmental studies internship. See the appropriate SSC advisor for details. A special section of this course is offered during summer session as the second semester practicum to [SSC 479](#) Environmental Education Practicum.

### **SSC 499: Independent Study**

**Credits:** 1-4

**Semester(s):** Fall, Spring

**Type:** TUT

*The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.*

Various instructors offer independent study. Check with the Office of Interdisciplinary Degree Programs each semester.