Degree Requirements: Social Science Education PhD

The Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with a major in Social Science Education prepares scholars to work as educational researchers and expert practitioners focusing on significant issues in the teaching and learning of history and the social studies. Our graduates pursue careers at research and teaching universities, school districts, state government, and research organizations.

Students in Social Science Education take the interdepartmental core courses for all students in the Curriculum and Instruction degree, major courses specific to Social Science Education and related courses across the College of Education and university, extensive preparation in research methods, and dissertation research. This curriculum entails a minimum of 65 credit hours.

### Degree Guidelines

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| **Interdepartmental Core** (including Seminars) | 11 credit hours | These five courses are required:  
- EDG 6221: Curriculum Theory  
- EDF 5548: Philosophy of Teaching and Learning  
- EDF 5935: Teacher Policy & Reform  
- Two semesters of EEX 6935: Doctoral Seminar from the following choices:  
  - Action Research  
  - Grant Writing  
  - Online Teaching and Learning  
  - Program Evaluation |
| **Major Field of Study Core** (Social Science Education) | 15 credit hours | To be planned in conjunction with the academic advisor. |
| **Research Methods** | 15 credit hours | Chosen from among courses such as:  
- EDF 6475: Qualitative Methods in Educational Research  
- EDF 5481: Methods of Educational Research  
- EDF 5449: Survey Research Methods  
- EDF 5400: Basic Descriptive and Inferential Statistics  
- EDF 5461: Introduction to Program Evaluation |
| **Dissertation Research** | 24 credit hours | Includes the completion of a comprehensive exam, dissertation, and oral defense of the dissertation.  
- SSE 6980: Dissertation |