School of Social Sciences

The social sciences are concerned with the study of people, individually and in groups and collectivities. Social scientists ask such questions as: How are groups formed? How do people produce and distribute goods? Why do cities grow, and why do some cities decay? What are the causes of war, of racial discrimination, of revolutions? What role does law play in our society? And, how can we improve our quality of life?

Thus, the major concern of the social sciences is the testing of ideas about social, political, and economic institutions. The methods of study and research may range from quiet introspection to participant observation in a community setting to the manipulation of computerized data using advanced statistical techniques. Yet in this great diversity there remains a shared commitment to the description, explanation, and prediction of human behavior -- to understanding. And increasingly, social scientists have added a commitment to action: applying their ideas to real-world situations.

Programs and General Courses

The School of Social Sciences has six degree-granting programs: Crime and Justice Studies, Economics and Finance, Geography, Government and Politics, Public Administration, and Sociology. Within each of these programs, students may specialize in areas that complement their interests and career plans, such as urban studies, political economy, law and society, and comparative studies.

Minor Areas of Study

The School of Social Sciences offers minors in Crime and Justice Studies, Economics and Finance, Geography, Government and Politics, Public Administration, and Sociology. Minors are described following each major.

Related Minor Areas:

Minor in Gender Studies (18 hours)
The Gender Studies minor is 18 semester hours. The courses consist of GST 2300, two courses chosen from GST 3301, GST 3302, GST 3303, and nine other hours chosen from AMS 3300, AMS 3318, AMS 4379, BIS 4V04, GOVT 3353, GOVT 3355, GOVT 3356, GOVT 3357, GOVT 4333, GOVT 4334, GOVT 4338, GOVT 4354, GOVT 4363, HST 3324, HST 3366, HST 3371, ISAH 3330, ISAH 3394, ISGS 3312, ISGS 4311, ISGS 4320, LIT 3327, LIT 3380, PSY 3334, PSY 3338, PSY 4345, PSY 4346, SOC 3302, SOC 3343, SOC 3352, SOC 3355, and SOC 4355.

Minor in Spanish/Hispanic Area Studies (18 hours)
Six semester hours of college-level Spanish and at least six semester hours in Social Science courses with a specific focus on Spain and/or Latin America, and six hours of such courses in Arts and Humanities. See the College Master for a list of approved courses.

Social Studies Teacher Certification

Teacher certification is offered in Composite Social Studies, Economics, Geography, Government, and History. Each teaching field requires 24 hours in that field, while the composite requires 48 hours. Specific course requirements are available in the Teacher Development Center or the Office of the College Master in the School of Social Sciences.

Social Science Core Requirements

All undergraduates receiving degrees in the School of Social Sciences must have taken and passed a core of courses designed to provide breadth and an interdisciplinary perspective beyond any individual social science discipline. These courses include:
• Three semester hours in economics (normally ECO 2302 Principles of Microeconomics or ECO 2301 Macroeconomics);
• Three semester hours in sociology
• SOCS 3303 Introduction to Social Statistics
• SOCS 3103 Social Statistics Laboratory
• IS 3336 Culture Regions, or some other Social Science course with a comparative or international focus, such as CJS 3319, ECO 3370, ECO 4360, ECO 4362, ECO 4382, GOVT 3328, GOVT 3350, GOVT 4320, ISSS 3347, ISSS 3349, or ISSS 4366
• GOVT 3325 American Public Policy
• CJS 3301 Theories of Justice, or some other Social Science course with a distributive justice emphasis, such as GOVT 3353/SOC 3353, GOVT 4364/SOC 4364, SOC 4356, SOC 4361, ECO 4320/PA 4313, GOVT 4334/SOC 4334 or GOVT 4333/SOC 4333

Fast Track Baccalaureate/Master's Degrees

Undergraduate Social Science majors (Economics and Finance, Geography, Government and Politics, Public Administration, and Sociology) with a strong academic record (3.0 or above) are encouraged to enter the Fast Track program, which allows students to take graduate courses for undergraduate credit while at the same time satisfying requirements for a master's degree in Applied Economics, Geographic Information Sciences, Applied Sociology, or Public Affairs. Qualified seniors may take up to 15 credit hours of graduate courses during their senior year. Students enrolled in the Fast Track must maintain a 3.0 grade point average and earn grades of B or better in graduate courses taken. Students who are interested in the Fast Track should talk with the College Master and complete an application form prior to the final 30 credit hours of work for the B.A. or B.S. degree.

Economics and Finance (B.A., B.S.)

Economists study how people make choices in life when scarcity limits what is available. They look at a society's financial, industrial, and labor organizations; its distribution of income and ownership rights; its governmental activities; and its political and economic philosophies, and analyze how these and other factors influence the goods an economy produces, the resources it uses in production, and the distribution of its output. They also look at how incentives affect decisions relating to human behavior, such as whether to obey the law, get married, or have children.

Economic analysis leads to explanations, predictions, and policy suggestions. How are wages and prices set? Why do some cities boom while others decline? Why do we have an energy crisis? How should we use our exhaustible resources? How will consumers and corporations react to a tax cut? How can the crime rate be reduced? If we are to use our resources efficiently, what antitrust and government regulations should be enforced? What can be done to reduce inflation and unemployment? To prevent excess pollution? To achieve economic growth? To distribute income more equitably? In examining these sorts of questions, economics helps us to understand more clearly the choices available to us and the consequences of our decisions.

Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Finance Degree Requirements (120 hours)

I. Core Curriculum Requirements: 42 hours

A. Communication (6 hours)
   3 hours Communication (RHET 1302)
   3 hours Communication Elective (GOVT 3325)²
B. Social and Behavioral Sciences (15 hours)
   6 hours Government (GOVT 2301 and 2302)
   6 hours History (HST 1301 and 2301)
   3 hours Social and Behavioral Sciences Elective (recommended SOC 1301 or 2319)²
C. Humanities and Fine Arts (6 hours)
   3 hours Fine Arts (AP 1301)
   3 hours Humanities (A&H 1301)
D. Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning (6 hours)
   3 hours Mathematics (at or above the level of College Algebra)
   3 hours Quantitative Reasoning (SOCS 3303)
E. Science (9 hours including at least one course with a substantial laboratory component)

1 Curriculum Requirements can be fulfilled by other approved courses from accredited institutions of higher education. The courses listed in parenthesis are recommended as the most efficient way to satisfy both Core Curriculum and Major Requirements at U.T. Dallas.

II. Major Requirements: 46 hours

Major Preparatory Courses (6 hours)
   ECO 2301 Principles of Macroeconomics*
   ECO 2302 Principles of Microeconomics*
   SOC Elective

Major Core Courses (22 hours)
   ECO 3304 Basic Techniques for Economic Research
   ECO 3310 Intermediate Microeconomics
   ECO 3311 Intermediate Macroeconomics
   GOVT 3325 American Public Policy
   SOCS 3103 Social Statistics Lab
   SOCS 3303 Social Statistics

Three of the following:
   ECO 4320 Public Sector Economics
   ECO 4333 Environmental Economics
   ECO 4340 Labor Economics
   ECO 4345 Industrial Organization
   ECO 4360 International Trade
   ECO 4362 Development Economics
   ECO 4382 International Finance

And one of the following:
   CJS 3319 Comparative Justice Systems
   ECO 3370 Global Economy
   ECO 4360 International Trade
   ECO 4362 Development Economics
   ECO 4382 International Finance
   GOVT 3328 International Relations
   GOVT 3350 Comparative Politics
   ISSS 3336 Culture Regions
   ISSS 3347 World’s Advanced Economies
   ISSS 3349 World Resources and Development
   ISSS 4366 Japanese Organization and Management

Major Related Courses (18 hours)
   18 hours Economics and Finance upper-division ECO courses

2 A Major requirement that also fulfills a Core Curriculum requirement. Hours are counted in Core Curriculum above.
3 Students wishing to pursue Master’s or Ph.D. degrees in economics should consult their advisor about appropriate mathematics and quantitative methods courses.
* Indicates a prerequisite class to be completed before enrolling for upper-division classes in Economics and Finance.

III. Elective Requirements: 32 hours
Advanced Electives (6 hours)

All students are required to take at least six hours of advanced electives outside their major field of study. These must be either upper-division classes or lower-division classes that have prerequisites.

Free Electives (26 hours)

This requirement may be satisfied with lower- and upper-division courses from any field of study. Students must complete at least 51 hours of upper-division credit to qualify for graduation.

Minor in Economics and Finance (18 hours)

For a minor in Economics and Finance, students must take ECO 2301, ECO 2302, either ECO 3310 or ECO 3311, one of the following: ECO 4320, ECO 4333, ECO 4340, ECO 4345, ECO 4360, ECO 4362, or ECO 4382, and six hours of ECO electives. Electives may be any upper-division course with the ECO prefix (with the exception of ECO 4V97, ECO 4V98 or ECO 4V99).

Specified Course Descriptions

A&H 1301 (HUMA 1301) Exploration of the Humanities (3 semester hours) An introduction to the concept of cultural tradition through the study of selected works of literature, philosophy, music, and visual art. Emphasis on the relations among various forms of cultural expression and developing students' ability to interpret complex artistic works in their historical, cultural, and intellectual contexts. General education core course. (3-0) S

AP 1301 (ARTS 1301) Exploration of the Arts (3 semester hours) This course introduces students to the physical and intellectual demands required of the author, the performer, and the visual artist. This introduction includes, but is not limited to, the student's production of a creative project as well as written assessments of art and performance. (3-0) Y

CJS 3319 Comparative Justice Systems (3 semester hours) A survey of the differing policies, practices, and procedures of crime and justice cross-nationally. Special emphasis will be devoted to U.S. / Mexico comparisons, while additional emphasis will be placed on such comparisons as U.S. / Canada and U.S. / England. (3-0) Y

ECO 2301 (ECON 2301) Principles of Macroeconomics (3 semester hours) An introduction to theories of the determination of national production and income, interest rates, inflation, and unemployment. Other topics include the banking system, the balance of payments, economic growth and development. (3-0) S

ECO 2302 (ECON 2302) Principles of Microeconomics (3 semester hours) An introduction to theories of the behavior of markets. Topics include the theory of demand and supply, market structure, resource markets, international interdependence in commodity markets, the role of government policy and regulation. (3-0) S

ECO 3304 Basic Techniques for Economic Research (3 semester hours) An introduction to the primary methods used in economic research. Topics include information technology, computer software, mathematics and statistics for economists. This course is designed to provide a foundation for all other upper-level economics and finance courses. Prerequisite: College level statistics (STAT 1342 or SOCS 3303). (3-0) Y

ECO 3310 Intermediate Microeconomic Theory (3 semester hours) The study of theories of demand, production, competition, markets, and welfare. Implications of theory for purposes of public policy prescriptions are given particular emphasis. Prerequisite: ECO 2302 or permission of instructor. (3-0) S

ECO 3311 Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory (3 semester hours) A study of the determinants of national income, employment, interest rates, and the price level, including theories and evidence regarding the influence of monetary and fiscal policies on the economy. Prerequisites: ECO 2302 and ECO 2301 or permission of instructor. (3-0) S

ECO 3370 The Global Economy (3 semester hours) Considers the changing relationships of population, resources, and the economy, the transformation of classical spatial economies, and the processes producing increasing globalization. Particular attention is paid to technological change and to the dynamics of world trade and investment. This course is also recommended for students who are not economics majors. (Same as GEOG 3370.) (3-0) T

ECO 4320 Public Sector Economics (3 semester hours) A study of the economics of the public sector, including taxation, public expenditures, and fiscal policy. Examines the theoretical foundation for government intervention in the economy, and the incentive effects of government policies on work, investment, and the spending of income. (Same as PA 4313.) Prerequisite: ECO 3310. (3-0) R

ECO 4333 Environmental Economics (3 semester hours) A study of people and their environment, emphasizing the social
and economic consequences of development and pollution. Alternative public policies for dealing with environmental impacts are explored. Prerequisite: ECO 2302. (3-0) T

**ECO 4340 Labor Economics and Human Resources** (3 semester hours) Analyses of wage and employment determination, the role of unions and government in labor market outcomes; discussion of such issues as human capital, discrimination, occupational safety and health, and labor-market segmentation. Prerequisite: ECO 3310. (3-0) T

**ECO 4345 Industrial Organization** (3 semester hours) Market structure, firm conduct, and social performance of industries with emphasis on firms' strategic behavior in price and nonprice competition. Topics include oligopoly pricing, strategic entry deterrence, location strategies, product differentiation, advertising, research and development, and the effect of firms' conduct on economic welfare and market structure. Prerequisite: ECO 3310. (3-0) T

**ECO 4360 International Trade** (3 semester hours) Studies international relationships among national economies with a principal focus on trade relationships. Examines theories of trade, rationale for protectionism, and the foundation of exchange markets. Prerequisite: ECO 3310. (3-0) Y

**ECO 4362 Development Economics** (3 semester hours) A study of development and economic growth, with a principal focus on less-developed countries. Includes theories and patterns of development, the role of human resources, capital resources, agriculture, and international markets. Prerequisites: ECO 2302 and ECO 3311. (3-0) Y

**ECO 4382 International Finance** (3 semester hours) Studies the international financial system, including the foreign exchange markets and the balance of payment accounts and a discussion of international monetary theory. Prerequisite: ECO 3311. (3-0) T

**GOVT 2301 (GOVT 2305) Constitutional Foundations and Political Behavior in the U.S. and Texas** (3 semester hours) This course examines the evolution and current state of political behavior and public policy making in the U.S. and Texas. Topics discussed will include the constitutions, federalism, intergovernmental relations, voting, elections, political parties, public opinion, and interest groups. (Fulfills one-half of the legislative requirement of 6 hours of American government.) (3-0) S

**GOVT 2302 (GOVT 2306) Political Institutions in the U.S. and Texas** (3 semester hours) This course explores the primary institutions of U.S. and Texas government. It examines the bureaucracy as well as the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government at the state and federal level. (Fulfills one-half of the legislative requirement of 6 hours of American government.) (3-0) S

**GOVT 3325 American Public Policy** (3 semester hours) This course examines the making of public policy in the U.S. political system. Students will examine the various public policy models and case studies related to specific policy areas. All students are required to write a policy related term paper to fulfill the University's writing requirement. (3-0) Y

**GOVT 3328 International Relations** (3 semester hours) This course explores the power relationships among national actors and organizations. Topics may include origins of the state system, international security, globalization, north-south relations, ecological security, and the implications of world demographic patterns. (3-0) R

**GOVT 3350 Comparative Politics** (3 semester hours) A comparative analysis of political life in different cultural and national settings. A consideration of different theoretical approaches to comparative politics. (3-0) T

**HST 1301 Themes and Ideas in American History** (3 semester hours) An introduction to the methods of historical inquiry through the study of selected main themes in American history. A course designed to offer students an understanding of the historical and cultural context of America in the contemporary world. Fulfills one-half of the Texas legislative requirement for six hours in American history. (3-0) T

**HST 2301 Issues in American History** (3 semester hours) Readings, commentary, and discussion aimed at varying aspects of history and culture. Fulfills one-half of the Texas legislative requirement for six hours in American history. (3-0) Y

**ISSS 3336 Culture Regions** (3 semester hours) Survey of a major region of the world as defined by a set of common cultural traditions and institutions such as Latin America, the Islamic World, Africa south of the Sahara, or South Asia. Each time the course is offered it will review both the key cultural features and the major disciplinary approaches needed to create an interdisciplinary comprehension of the region. Areas will be announced in advance, and the course may be repeated for credit when a different culture region is treated. (3-0) Y

**ISSS 3347 The World's Advanced Economies** (3 semester hours) This course examines the U.S. economy in relation to the world's advanced industrial economies using conceptual tools from several social sciences disciplines. Primary emphasis will be placed on comparative economic performances and the influences of differing models of capitalism, macroeconomic and cyclical patterns, demographics, income and employment trends, and patterns of economic integration. (3-0) T

**ISSS 3349 World Resources and Development** (3 semester hours) Analysis of resource mobilization, technological
changes, and economic development from a multidisciplinary perspective. Primary focus on the problems of the less-developed countries. Topics include: technology transfer, industrialization strategy, education policy, population growth, nutrition, and foreign aid. (3-0) R  

**ISSS 4366 Japanese Organization and Management** (3 semester hours) An examination of the structure of Japanese organizations: small and large business firms, government ministries, and multinational corporations. Consideration is also given to the relationships between the education system and labor market, and government and business. (3-0) R  

**RHET 1302 (ENGL 1302) Rhetoric** (3 semester hours) The course presents an integrated approach to writing, reading, and critical thinking by developing the grammatical, logical, and rhetorical skills necessary for university writing. All classes work in a computerized learning environment. Students are taught basic computer literacy and submit all work electronically and on paper. (3-0) S  

**SOC 1301 (SOCI 1301) Introduction to Sociology** (3 semester hours) An overview of the sociological perspective and its application to social research and social policy. (3-0) Y  

**SOC 2319 Race, Gender and Class** (3 semester hours) The study of how race, gender, and class systems are interwoven. Explores how the multiple statuses of individuals (race, gender, and class) combine to produce packages of privileges and disadvantages. Topics include the social meanings of color, sex/gender systems in historical and contemporary perspectives, theories of power, stereotyping, affirmative action, and welfare debates. (3-0) Y  

**SOCS 3103 Social Statistics Lab** (1 semester hour) A laboratory to accompany SOCS 3303. Corequisite: SOCS 3303. (1-0) S  

**SOCS 3303 Introduction to Social Statistics** (3 semester hours) This course introduces students to the basic tools of statistics and shows how they are used in the analysis of social science data. A fundamental understanding of these tools is a critical foundation for social science research in many fields. The course covers descriptive statistics, inference from samples, hypothesis testing, and the basics of regression analysis. NOTE: This course is required of all social science majors and is a prerequisite for a required course in social science research methods within each discipline (for example CJS 3304, ECO 3304, GEOG 3304, GOVT 3304, PA 3304, or SOC 3304). Prerequisite: College Algebra (MATH 1314 or equivalent). (3-0) S