



## **Foundation: Social and Behavioral Sciences**

The social and behavioral sciences examine the human condition from various perspectives including the study of individuals, communities, institutions, social structure, culture, and international relations. The methods, theories, and empirical findings of the social and behavioral sciences are essential to public discourse and constitute a basis for self-reflection, critical evaluation, public and social policy decisions, and social and cultural changes.

Students select two courses from different disciplines. Each course introduces the content and methods of a social or behavioral science field. Courses are concerned with the development of principles that explain: A) individual thought, action, and experience, B) collective thought and action, C) group experience, D) the interactions between people in the context of small groups, communities, institutions, states, and societies, or E) the functioning of social systems.

### **Knowledge Student Learning Outcomes**

Students will:

1. Explain how knowledge in the social and behavioral sciences is created and applied.
2. Explain major approaches, methods, theories, and substantive findings of the field.
3. Evaluate and apply concepts and theories from the social and behavioral sciences to real-life examples.

### **Skills Student Learning Outcome 1 (choose one of the following):**

Graduates are proficient in:

- a) Critical Thinking: Comprehensively evaluate issues, ideas, artifacts, or events before forming a conclusion; or
- b) Quantitative Literacy: Work effectively with numerical data; or
- c) Information Literacy: Identify the need for information; access, evaluate, and use information effectively, ethically, and legally.

### **Skills Student Learning Outcome 2 (choose one of the following):**

Graduates are proficient in:

- a) Problem Solving: Design and evaluate an approach to answer an open-ended question or achieve a desired goal; or
- b) Ethical Reasoning: Apply ethical principles and codes of conduct to decision making; or
- c) Oral Communication: Effectively prepare and deliver a formal oral presentation.  
*{Students must give individual formal presentations; group presentations are acceptable if every student presents}*