

LOWER DIVISION GE HOSTED BY THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES (Updated: 10-9-13)

B. Natural Sciences & Mathematics

B1. PHYSICAL SCIENCES

Geography (GEOG) 201: Global Environmental Systems

This course presents a broad survey of how the earth works. It focuses on the processes within, and the relationships between, the four global sub-systems: the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere. The course examines how physical, chemical, and biological functions create local, regional, and global climate and landscape patterns. It also explores the links between human activities and changes in climate, vegetation patterns, and landform processes. The course includes weekly two-hour lab sessions in which students participate in field-based data collection exercises and conduct scientific analyses. Satisfies GE Area B1 (Physical Science).

B2. BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Anthropology (ANTH) 201: Introduction to Biological Anthropology

This course is an introduction to the evolutionary biology of human and nonhuman primates. The course focuses on evolutionary perspectives on form and function, behavior, population, and social structure to reconstruct human evolution and explain human adaptations. Satisfies GE Area B2 (Biological Sciences).

D. Social Sciences

D1. INDIVIDUAL & SOCIETY

Anthropology (ANTH) 203: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

Examination of the anthropological approach to the study of human behavior. Exploration of human dependence on learned, socially transmitted behavior through consideration of ways of life in a broad range of societies. Satisfies GE, Area D1 (Individual and Society).

Criminal Justice (CCJS) 201: Criminal Justice & Public Policy

A systematic analysis of the effectiveness and influence of criminal justice policy and practice throughout the criminal justice system. The focus is on the development and implementation of crime control policy. Satisfies GE Area D1 (Individual and Society).

Psychology (PSY) 250: Introduction to Psychology

Theories, research, and applications that constitute psychology. An important goal is to help students become informed consumers of psychological knowledge. Prerequisite to upper-division courses in the major for students who enter Sonoma State University as first-time freshmen and students who transfer into psychology from other majors at Sonoma State. Satisfies GE Area D1 (Individual and Society).

Sociology (SOCI) 201: Introduction to Sociology

A general overview of the concepts, theories, research methods and findings of sociology. The purpose is to train students to view the world through a sociological perspective. Satisfies GE Level D1 (Individual and Society).

Sociology (SOCI) 263: Sociology of Race & Ethnicity

This course examines race and ethnic relations in the US from a theoretical, historical, and comparative perspective. Explores the emergence of racial and ethnic minorities through such historical processes as colonialism, slavery, and immigration. Studies the current relations among racial and ethnic groups in the US. Satisfies GE Area D1 (Individual and Society), Ethnic Studies

Women's & Gender Studies (WGS) 255: Introduction to Queer Studies

This interdisciplinary course offers an introduction to the field of Queer Studies by analyzing the role of race, gender, sexuality, and nationalism in the social construction of modern gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and queer (GLBTQ) identities. Students also learn of queer theoretical approaches to politics, culture, and society. Satisfies GE Area D1.

D2. WORLD HISTORY & CIVILIZATION

Geography (GEOG) 203: Human Geography

The course introduces students to a spatial perspective of cultural, economic, political, demographic, and environmental processes. We review the deep historical origins of many social processes and examine how they continue to influence our contemporary experience. We also study how these processes change as they move across geographic space and encounter other cultures and places. Satisfies GE Area D2 (World History and Civilization).

History (HIST) 201: Foundations of World Civilization

An introduction to the early, classical, and medieval civilizations that have most influenced the modern world. Developments (from prehistory to 1500 C.E.) include the Eastern traditions of India, China, and Japan; the world of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam; the classical Mediterranean civilizations; tropical Africa; and the medieval and Renaissance cultures of the emerging West. Required of all history majors. Satisfies GE Area D2 (World History and Civilization).

History (HIST) 202: Development of the Modern World

An introduction to modern and contemporary history from 1500 C.E. to the present. Course material includes the impact of world expansion on the Americas, Africa and Asia; the growth of nationalism and the national state; industrial, political, and social revolutions worldwide; the wars of the 20th century; and decolonization and the conclusion of the Cold War. Required of all history majors. Satisfies GE Area D2 (World History and Civilization).

D3. UNITED STATE HISTORY

History (HIST) 241: History of the Americas to Independence

A comparison of the English, Spanish, and Portuguese colonies in America, from the conquest to independence. Topics include: Native Americans, European background, colonial government, religion, economic policies, social relations, slavery, art and literature, independence movements, and nation building. Satisfies GE Area D3.

History (HIST) 242: History of the Americas Since Independence

A comparison of the development of the United States after independence with that of Latin America. Topics include: colonial legacies, political leadership, expansion and conflict, regionalism, economic development, reform and revolution, church and state, race relations, education, and inter-American relations. Satisfies GE Area D3.

History (HIST) 251: History of the United States to 1877

A general survey of the major developments in U.S. history from the European discovery and colonization of the Western Hemisphere through Reconstruction. Required of all history majors. Satisfies GE Area D3 (U.S. History), and the state code requirement in history.

History (HIST) 252: History of the United States Since 1865

A general survey of the major developments in U.S. history from the end of Reconstruction to the present day. Satisfies GE Area D3 (U.S. History) and the state code requirement in history.

D4. U.S CONSTITUTION AND CALIFORNIA STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Political Science (POLS) 200: American Political System

An examination of American politics and governmental institutions. Introduces students to the political system and how to participate in it, should the need arise. Satisfies the code requirements in American Constitution and California state and local government. Satisfies GE Area D4 (U.S. Constitution and State and Local Government).

Political Science (POLS) 202: Issues in Modern American Politics

Leaders and issues in American political life considered in relation to major policies and movements, e.g., progressivism, isolationism, the New Deal, and containment. Open to majors and minors in political science. Meets code requirements in American Constitution and California state and local government. Satisfies GE Area D4 (U.S. Constitution and State and Local Government).

D5. CONTEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

Anthropology (ANTH) 200: Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology

This introduction to the anthropological study of language surveys core topics in linguistics (e.g., phonetics, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics) and the relationship of language to social, cultural, and psychological factors. Nonverbal communication, evolution of language abilities, and historical linguistics are included, with linkages to the other subfields of anthropology. Satisfies GE Area D5.

Environmental Studies & Planning (ENSP) 200: Global Environmental Issues

Lecture/discussion, 3 hours. An introduction to environmental studies and planning, including: humans in relation to the global ecosystem; an overview of problems of energy use, pollution, resource depletion, population growth, food supply, urbanization, climate change, and biodiversity; and the search for solutions and future prospects. Satisfies GE Area D5 (Contemporary International Perspectives).

Geography (GEOG) 202: World Regional Geography

This course explores 4-5 world regions from a holistic perspective, examining their economic, political, demographic, cultural, and environmental landscapes with considerable historic depth. The course also considers how each region fits within a larger global political and economic system, and how their roles have changed, particularly with globalization. Satisfies GE Area D5 (Contemporary International Perspectives).

Political Science (POLS) 201: Ideas and Institutions

An analysis of the basic political values and their impact on society. Students will be introduced to the relationship between values, ideology, and the political process. Political science majors are expected to take this course, which stresses written expression, during their first year in the department. Satisfies GE Area D5 (Contemporary International Perspectives).

E. The Integrated Person

Women's & Gender Studies (WGS) 280: Women's Bodies: Health and Image

This course examines research and theory about the health and body image concerns of women across race, ethnicity, sexuality, and class throughout the life cycle. This includes health advocacy, gendered representations, women's health movements, the gender politics of medical research, and sexual and reproductive health. Satisfies GE Area E.

Women's & Gender Studies (WGS) 285: Men and Masculinity

This course examines construction of masculinity across axes of race, sexuality, class, nation, and ability. Utilizing a multidisciplinary perspective, this course addresses various theories of masculinity and masculinity's impact on peoples lives in areas such as relationships, media representation, work, culture, development, and health. Satisfies GE Area E.