

End-of-Program Review Workshop June 2012
Social Science Across the curriculum 2006-2011
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Overview and Essential Questions

In this summary, we examined the presence of social science in the curriculum using the End-of-Program Review five- year results. Between 2006 and 2011, 77% of programs included some Social Science content. Approximately a third of those programs offered Social Science at an introductory-only level and a tenth at an advanced-only level. In looking at the data more closely, we attempted to answer these questions:

1. Given that Social Science is a broad domain, which sub-areas are being offered?
2. To what extent and at what level are the Social Sciences offered in each planning unit?

Social Sciences Offered at Evergreen

Social Sciences disciplines offered, as reported in the 2006-2011 End of Program Review survey, included the following: Anthropology, Business, Cultural Studies, Communications, Economics, Education, Feminist/Gender/Women's Studies, Law, Political Economy, Political Science, Public Policy, Psychology, Social Justice, and Sociology. The table below provides a more detailed look at the frequency at which various fields within the social sciences are offered.

Table 1. Areas/Fields Designated in 2006-2011 End of Program Survey Where Social Science Was Taught Extensively

Areas/Fields	Number of times term appeared
Sociology	87
Psychology	79
Social Justice	72
Economics	66
Anthropology	48
Business/Management/Finance	41
Political Science	34
Political Economy	26
Law/Criminal Justice	13
Education/Schooling/Critical Pedagogy	12
Communications	7
Ethnography	6
Cultural/Ethnic Studies	6
Gender/Feminist/Women's Studies	6
Communications Public Policy	6
Community Studies	4
Leadership	4
Urban Studies	4
Family Studies	1
Labor Studies	1
Social Work	1

Extent and Level of Social Sciences Offered: Key Findings

The planning unit offering Social Science programs most often and most frequently at an advanced level is SPBC. However, all planning units offer Social Sciences in a majority of their programs. Some specifics are shared below:

Table 2: Frequency and Extent of Social Sciences Taught by Planning Unit in a Typical Year (2007-2008)

Planning Unit	Percent of programs offering social science to some extent	Percent of programs offering social sciences extensively	Percent of programs offering advanced and extensive social sciences
Society, Politics, Behavior, Change	100%	92%	50%
Evening Weekend Studies	80%	50%	10%
Culture Text and Language	80%	33%	16%
Inter Area	79%	43%	15%
Core	75%	25%	0%
Expressive Arts	69%	15%	0%
Scientific Inquiry	64%	9%	0%
Environmental Studies	58%	17%	0%

Reflections

It is not clear that the data sources used here are fully accurate in portraying the availability of the Social Sciences in the Evergreen curriculum. However, we believe that the data does support some important reflections. First, the breadth of Social Science offerings appears to be narrow, with such central fields as anthropology and communications relatively poorly represented. Second, although the Social Sciences are very well represented at the introductory level, there appears to be a relative lack of social science programs being offered at an advanced level. Thirdly, there are also new curricular trends taking place where some program offerings are increasing such as in education and communications. As a result, these last two examples may have implications for hiring priorities in the near future (continuing and/or long-term adjunct faculty).

Data Sources (Institutional Reports)

[Social Science Report 2006-11](#)

[Trends in the Level of Social Sciences 2006-11](#)

[Trends in the \(Social Science\) Presence of Divisional Areas and Learning Activities, in Programs 2006-11](#)

[End-of-Program Review 2010-11 \(Social Sciences in Programs\)](#)