

# Application for Social and Behavioral Science Menu

## Guidelines For All General Education Courses

1. All general education courses must be 100-level or above.
2. General education courses should present a breadth of knowledge, not focusing on skills, techniques, and procedures specific to a particular occupation or profession.
3. Individual courses will fulfill only a single general education requirement.
4. Courses free of prerequisites are preferred. Applications to add courses with prerequisites must provide additional evidence that the course contributes to a student's breadth of knowledge and is not specific to a particular occupation or profession.
5. Each course may appear on a maximum of two menus that accept applications (arts and humanities, cultural literacy, life and physical sciences, and social and behavioral sciences).

## Social and Behavioral Science Description

Courses within this domain help students examine behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events to understand the complexities of social systems.

## Instructions

Complete this form and submit it with a course syllabus and approval chart to the University General Education Council. Faculty submitting an application should be prepared to perform annual assessment for their course. The assessment will be based on the rubric submitted as part of this course application.

|                                                                                                                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Subject code, course number, and title of course:</b>                                                                            |  |
| <b>Terms offered:</b>                                                                                                               |  |
| <b>Catalog description:</b>                                                                                                         |  |
| <b>Course prerequisites:</b>                                                                                                        |  |
| <b>Cross-listed courses:</b><br><small>*Note: Many gen ed courses are cross-listed between the Abilene and Dallas campuses.</small> |  |
| <b>Other general education menus on which the course appears or you are applying for:</b>                                           |  |

## Description of Menu Fit

Please describe how your class fits into the Social and Behavioral Sciences Menu (200 words or less).

## Course Content

Using your syllabus as evidence, demonstrate that either the majority of course content or the majority of graded student work adheres to the Social and Behavioral Sciences description above (200 words or less).

## Prerequisites

If the course has prerequisites, provide evidence that the course contributes to a student's breadth of knowledge. Also provide evidence that the course content is not specific to a particular occupation or profession (200 words or less).

## Relevant Outcomes

At a minimum, a course applying to the Social and Behavioral Science menu must address at least one performance indicator from each of the following areas:

- Social and Behavioral Sciences Subject Matter
- A2: Listen to, understand, and critically evaluate rhetorical claims.
- C1: Evaluate widely disparate sources of information and competing evidence to form their own reasoned positions.
- C2: Analyze quantitative data, published writing, or observable phenomena to draw informed conclusions.

Ideally, assessment will occur within one or two exams/assignments. Please indicate which exams or assignments will be used for each performance indicator. Provide assignment prompts if available.

| Area to Be Assessed | Assessment Artifact |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| SBS subject matter  |                     |
| Outcome A2          |                     |
| Outcome C1          |                     |
| Outcome C2          |                     |

Please use the following rubric to perform assessment each year. If a performance indicator is not assessed, please write "Not Assessed" in the "Meets Expectations" section. The last two pages have rubric examples for your reference; these pages may be deleted before submitting your application.

## Social and Behavioral Science Subject Matter

| Students will be able to:                                                                                                   | Shortcomings | Meets Expectations | Points of Excellence |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Understand and/or investigate behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, events, and social systems |              |                    |                      |

## Student Learning Outcome A2 (select at least one)

| Students will be able to:                             | Shortcomings | Meets Expectations | Points of Excellence |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Understand intent of source                           |              |                    |                      |
| Interpret source within rhetorical context            |              |                    |                      |
| Evaluate relevance of source within multiple contexts |              |                    |                      |

## Student Learning Outcome C1 (select at least one)

| Students will be able to:                                  | Shortcomings | Meets Expectations | Points of Excellence |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Compare and contrast multiple viewpoints on a topic        |              |                    |                      |
| Develop and express an evidence-based viewpoint on a topic |              |                    |                      |
| Synthesize information from multiple sources               |              |                    |                      |

## Student Learning Outcome C2

| Students will be able to:                                                | Shortcomings | Meets Expectations | Points of Excellence |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Read and interpret data in a form that is appropriate for the discipline |              |                    |                      |

### Example Shortcomings

- Students answer fewer than 75% of test questions correctly
- Students provide inaccurate or incomplete response to essay prompts
- Students fail to reference source material in defense of their own position, or misuse source material
- Students take ideas/information from only a single source to form a position

### Example Interpretations for Meets Expectations

- Students correctly answer 75% or more of test questions focused on Social and Behavioral Sciences subject matter
- Students respond accurately and completely to an essay prompt targeting Social and Behavioral Sciences subject matter
- Students accurately paraphrase source material in their own words
- Students use source material to defend their own position
- Students take ideas/information from multiple sources to form a position
- Students correctly answer questions about data
- Students accurately draw conclusions about data

### Example Points of Excellence

- Students correctly answer 90% or more of test questions focused on the subject matter above
- Student response to prompt is especially thorough and/or imaginative
- Student response to prompt successfully integrates knowledge from other courses
- Students recognize the conflict between multiple sources and build a position that solves that conflict

# Example Rubric

## Social and Behavioral Science Subject Matter

| Students will be able to:                                                                                                          | Shortcomings                                                             | Meets Expectations                                                    | Points of Excellence                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Understand and/or investigate behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, events, and social systems</b> | Students correctly answer fewer than 75% of SBS test questions in Exam 1 | Students correctly answer 75% or more of SBS test questions in Exam 1 | Students correctly answer 90% or more of SBS test questions in Exam 1 |

## Student Learning Outcome A2 (select at least one)

| Students will be able to:                                    | Shortcomings                                                             | Meets Expectations                                                           | Points of Excellence                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Understand intent of source</b>                           | Students have errors in their paraphrasing of source material in Essay 2 | Students accurately paraphrase source material in their own words in Essay 2 | N/A                                                                                     |
| <b>Interpret source within rhetorical context</b>            | Students ignore or misrepresent context of a source in Essay 2           | Students identify relevant aspects of context for a source in Essay 2        | Students correctly use the context of a source to explain their own position in Essay 2 |
| <b>Evaluate relevance of source within multiple contexts</b> |                                                                          | Not assessed.                                                                |                                                                                         |

## Student Learning Outcome C1 (select at least one)

| Students will be able to:                                         | Shortcomings                                                 | Meets Expectations                                                                                  | Points of Excellence                                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Compare and contrast multiple viewpoints on a topic</b>        |                                                              | Not assessed.                                                                                       |                                                                                                       |
| <b>Develop and express an evidence-based viewpoint on a topic</b> | Students cite evidence from one or fewer sources in Essay 2. | Students cite evidence from two or more sources that effectively supports their position in Essay 2 | Students cite evidence from four or more sources that effectively supports their position in Essay 2. |
| <b>Synthesize information from multiple sources</b>               |                                                              | Not assessed.                                                                                       |                                                                                                       |

## Student Outcome C2

| Students will be able to:                                                       | Shortcomings                                                                  | Meets Expectations                                                                          | Points of Excellence                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Read and interpret data in a form that is appropriate for the discipline</b> | Students answer fewer than 50% of test questions on data correctly in Exam 1. | Students answer the majority of test questions related to reading data correctly in Exam 1. | Students answer 80% or more of test questions related to reading data correctly in Exam 1. |