

Program Review Summary Template

3.7 Academic Program Review

Social Sciences Associate in Arts Degree, Program Code 0264

Based on the thorough internal or external program review addressing all criteria in policy, a comprehensive report should be possible within ten or fewer pages. This program review template is provided to assist institutions in compiling the program review information, which is to be presented to the institutional governing board prior to submission to the State Regents. Executive Summaries should be possible within two pages using the provided template (Program Review Executive Summary Template).

Description of the program's connection to the institutional mission and goals:

The Social Sciences Associate in Arts degree program supports Rose State College's mission to provide a quality higher education to a diverse population, through open-admission practices. This degree program offers flexibility in course scheduling and course selection to meet much of its degree requirements. This allows for degree completion by individuals who might otherwise struggle to meet more structured and limited degree requirements. The requirements for this degree allow students to select from courses that emphasize the importance of diversity and interdisciplinarity in understanding and addressing the needs and issues of individuals, communities, and society at large. This degree also prepares students to continue their education through transfer to baccalaureate programs, thereby promoting the lifelong learning goal of our institution.

3.7.5 Process (Internal/External Review):

Previous Reviews and Actions from those reviews:

Analysis and Assessment (including quantitative and qualitative measures) noting key findings from internal or external reviews and including developments since the last review:

The prior program review established the creation of a Women's Studies option and a Native American Studies option under the Social Sciences degree. This was in addition to the General option and the Counseling/Social Work option that already existed under the Social Sciences degree plan. Since this last program review, several changes have been made to the program options based on collaboration with area universities regarding transferability and articulation agreements for these areas of study. At the time of this review, there is only the Social Sciences Associate in Arts degree, with no options, and there are no plans to add any options in the future.

- The Women's Studies option has been changed into a Gender Studies option that is now housed under our Sociology Associate in Arts degree program. The course work, degree option name change, and the placement under a Sociology degree plan are in line with how this program option exists at baccalaureate programs nationwide.
- The Native American Studies option has been moved under our History Associate in Arts degree plan. With continuous review of curriculum and transferability, it was realized that the Native American studies option requirements were very much in line with the History degree plan and course offerings. The shifting of the Native American Studies option from the Social Sciences degree plan to the History plan

allowed us to direct students to a more focused area of study to benefit their learning and transfer experiences.

- The Counseling/Social Work option has been moved under our Sociology Associate in Arts degree program. In working with state universities toward transferability of the Counseling/Social Work option into baccalaureate degree programs, faculty realized that using the Sociology degree as the basis for the general education and degree requirements was much more successful in fulfilling the baccalaureate Counseling or Social Work degree requirements than allowing students to pursue varying course work.

A. Centrality of the Program to the Institution's Mission:

The Social Sciences Associate in Arts degree program supports Rose State College's mission to provide a quality higher education to a diverse population, through open-admission practices. This degree program offers flexibility in course scheduling and course selection to meet much of its degree requirements. This allows for degree completion by individuals who might otherwise struggle to meet more structured and limited degree requirements. The requirements for this degree allow students to select from courses that emphasize the importance of diversity and interdisciplinarity in understanding and addressing the needs and issues of individuals, communities, and society at large. This degree also prepares students to continue their education through transfer to baccalaureate programs, thereby promoting the lifelong learning goal of our institution.

B. Vitality of the Program:

B.1. Program Objectives and Goals:

The goal of the Social Sciences Associate in Arts Degree is to provide students the foundation necessary to transfer to a related baccalaureate degree program at a 4-year college or university.

Specific objectives include providing students with:

1. A broad-based introduction to the Social Sciences;
2. An understanding of a variety of specific areas of the Social Sciences to gain a sense of how they interrelate; and
3. A general education foundation from which to learn to communicate, think critically, and analyze problems.

B.2 Quality Indicators (including Higher Learning Commission issues):

- The Social Sciences program at Rose State College produces an acceptable number of majors and graduates on a yearly and five-year-average basis. Each year approximately 31 students declare Social Sciences as their major, and the five-year average graduation rate is 10 students.
- Through extensive curriculum reviews, periodic updates of Division Course Syllabi and program goals, continuing education and pedagogical analyses, and collaborations with other institutions via the Course Equivalency Project, the Rose State College faculty

maintains an evergreen Social Sciences program that prepares students to transfer to four-year institutions as seamlessly as possible.

- The Social Sciences program provides students with well-trained, experienced full-time and adjunct professors whose expertise cuts across a wide spectrum of major fields and sub-fields within their disciplines. Faculty teaching and research expertise includes, but is not limited to, History, Gender Studies, Political Science, Sociology, Family Services and Child Development, Criminal Justice, and Psychology.
- Full-time and adjunct professors in the Social Sciences disciplines frequently participate in panel discussions, conference presentations, offer guest lectures, and submit original research to academic publications. Rose State College faculty also serve as consultants for various academic and community entities throughout Oklahoma. Examples include but are not limited to the Oklahoma History Center, various state and local historical associations, religious groups, nonprofit organizations, and school boards.
- Social Sciences faculty continue to work closely with students in the Rose State College Honors Program. One member of the history faculty currently serves as the co-director of the Honors Program.
- The Social Sciences Division faculty at Rose State College take pride in cultivating vibrant, interdisciplinary programs. Social Sciences faculty maintain collaborative relationships with faculty members from other disciplines from across campus. These partnerships frequently produce academic materials, community presentations, and curriculum proposals that benefit the students at Rose State College as well as the institution
- Social Sciences courses are offered in a variety of pedagogical styles, including face-to-face lecture, on-line, hybrid, interactive television, and tele-course formats. The program's reach extends beyond campus, as students from Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma correctional facilities, and many local high schools enroll in Social Sciences courses offered at Rose State College.

B.3. Minimum Productivity Indicators:

Time Frame (e.g.: 5 year span)	Head Count	Graduates
2012-2013	48	13
2013-2014	33	17
2014-2015	27	7
2015-2016	26	9
2016-2017	21	4
	5 year average -- 31	5 year average -- 10

B.4. Other Quantitative Measures:

- a.** Number of courses taught exclusively for the major program for each of the last five years and the size of classes:

List or attach list of courses

No specific classes have been created or taught exclusively for the Social Sciences Associate in Arts degree program.

- b.** Student credit hours by level generated in all major courses that make up the degree program for five years:

Not applicable.

- c.** Direct instructional costs for the program for the review period:

There are no instructional costs associated with the Social Sciences Associate in Arts degree. All courses that students can take to complete this degree's requirements are currently taught across numerous academic Divisions for other degree program requirements.

- d.** The number of credits and credit hours generated in the program that support the general education component and other major programs including certificates:

Not applicable.

- e.** A roster of faculty members, faculty credentials and faculty credential institution(s). Also include the number of full time equivalent faculty in the specialized courses within the curriculum:

Faculty	Credential	Institution that granted degree
Not applicable.		

- f.** If available, information about employment or advanced studies of graduates of the program over the past five years:

Not available.

g. If available, information about the success of students from this program who have transferred to another institution:

RSC Majors FY12 to FY16 Sent to National Student Clearinghouse					
Majors Sent to Clearing House	Sent	Found	Transferred	Transferred/Sent	Transferred and Graduated from Transfer School
0264 Soc. Sci	426	243	209	49%	93

Data tabulated by the Community College Research Center suggests that almost 81% of students who enroll in a community college intend to earn a baccalaureate degree, yet only 33% of these students actually transfer to a university within six years. Additionally, of that 33% of students who transfer successfully, only 42% of them earn their baccalaureate degree, meaning that 14% of an original class entering a community college complete their baccalaureate degree. Using this data for comparison, the number of Rose State College Social Sciences Program transfers, at 49%, and the number of transfer students who earned an advanced credential, at 44%, places the program's success rate for transfers at or well above the national rates in these categories.

B.5. Duplication and Demand:

In cases where program titles imply duplication, programs should be carefully compared to determine the extent of the duplication and the extent to which that duplication is unnecessary. An assessment of the demand for a program takes into account the aspirations and expectations of students, faculty, administration, and the various publics served by the program. Demand reflects the desire of people for what the program has to offer and the needs of individuals and society to be served by the program.

B.5. Duplication and Demand Issues:

Address Duplication:

Not applicable.

Address Demand:

The knowledge and skills cultivated through the Social Sciences Associate in Arts degree program are essential for the well-being of society. This degree program promotes an awareness of societies as the connections between individuals and institutions, in order to discover the causes behind many of the social issues both benefiting and harming individuals, families, communities, and the world. The curriculum requirements for a Social Sciences degree contribute to the development of strong critical thinking and communication skills, as students gain insights on historical and current developments through numerous disciplinary perspectives. Students then learn to assess information and communicate their knowledge through various pedagogical techniques and applications. The knowledge and skills gained by

students through a Social Sciences degree program are valuable to society as such students are equipped to understand and either address or at least prevent the escalation of many of the world's most serious challenges in institutions like families, education, politics, the economy, and medicine.

B.5.a. Detail demand from students, taking into account the profiles of applicants, enrollment, completion data, and occupational data:

The students who are pursue this program tend to be undecided on their major but seeking a solid foundation in Social Sciences. Some of the students in this program over the review period have needed this degree for a professional promotion or to gain entry into an occupation. Other students completing this program have used it to transfer to a baccalaureate program.

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.5.b. Detail demand for students produced by the program, taking into account employer demands, demands for skills of graduates, and job placement data:

The demand for students produced through the Social Sciences Associate in Arts degree program is strong. Emerging public research shows that employers are increasingly interested in the knowledge and skills produced through a Social Sciences degree. Such research shows that while employers can train new employees in specific job-related knowledge, they are finding higher success rates with Social Sciences graduates who are strong in oral and written communication, interpersonal relationships, teamwork, research analysis, critical thinking, problem solving, organization, innovation, application, and ethics (Association of American Colleges and Universities; the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems; Business Insider; Higher Education Statistics Agency; National Association of Colleges and Employers). Students with a Social Sciences academic background can find employment across career fields, including education, social work, management, law, and research.

B.5.c. Detail demand for services or intellectual property of the program, including demands in the form of grants, contracts, or consulting:

The Social Sciences Associate in Arts degree program has not been involved with grants, contracts, or consulting during this review period.

B.5.d. Detail indirect demands in the form of faculty and student contributions to the cultural life and well-being of the community:

While there are no specific Social Sciences degree program faculty, the faculty who do teach the courses taken by Social Sciences degree students and the students in this degree program contribute to the cultural life and well-being of Rose State College and the community through their involvement in learning about and increasing awareness of social issues and the value of diversity in all efforts. Faculty and Social Sciences program students participate in student life and community events, as well as in efforts to raise funds and gather resources for individuals, families, and organizations needing support.

B.5.e. The process of program review should address meeting demands for the program through alternative forms of delivery. Detail how the program has met these demands:

The Social Sciences Associate in Arts degree consists of a majority of course requirements that can be completed in numerous forms of delivery, including on-ground, hybrid, and online. These courses are also available across all semesters and through every different session, including 2-week, 8-week, and 16-week semester sessions.

B.6. Effective Use of Resources:

Resources include financial support, (state funds, grants and contracts, private funds, student financial aid); library collections; facilities including laboratory and computer equipment; support services, appropriate use of technology in the instructional design and delivery processes, and the human resources of faculty and staff.

Students in the Social Sciences Associate in Arts degree program benefit from many resources at Rose State College. Students can request financial aid offered through state, federal, and private grants, loans, and scholarships. Students have regular access to computer labs across campus, as well as to computers in Social Sciences Division classes through 4 laptop carts with 20 laptops each. The Social Sciences Building has been renovated since the last program review, providing a nicer learning environment for students. The newly renovated Learning Resources Center (LRC) offers numerous physical and electronic resources to support student learning and research, including computers, study rooms, databases, books, and periodicals. Students also have access to free campus tutoring and a campus writing center for most classes in which they are enrolled. Students further benefit from free personal counseling and student success services. Students further gain guidance through Division-specific academic advising.

*Low Producing Program Reviews follow a different format and template.

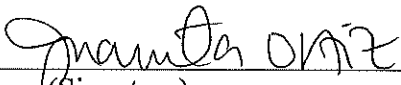
Institutional Program Recommendations: (describe detailed recommendations for the program as a result of this thorough review and how these recommendations will be implemented, as well as the timeline for key elements)

Recommendations	Implementation Plan	Target Date
Maintain or increase the number of majors in the Social Sciences Associate in Arts degree program.	Update the existing marketing panel card and other materials to better promote the worth of a Social Sciences Associate in Arts degree. Provide promotional information to campus' undecided majors to potentially bring them to declaring a Social Sciences major.	8/30/2020

Increase the number of graduates from the Social Sciences Associate in Arts degree program.	<p>Share updated marketing and transfer materials with students who have declared a Social Sciences major to encourage their Associate in Arts degree completion.</p> <p>Have academic advisors check in with Social Sciences majors each semester to connect them with advising and resources as needed for retention and degree completion.</p>	8/30/2020
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Summary of Recommendations:

	Department	School/College	Institutional
Possible Recommendations:			
Expand program (# of students)	20-25 student majors, 10 program graduates		
Maintain program at current level			
Reduce program in size or scope			
Reorganize program			
Suspend program			
Delete program			

Department/
Program Head 
(Signature)

Date 11/30/17

Dean 
(Signature)

Date 11/30/17