

Winthrop University

Social Studies Education

The social studies education program is housed in the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies. The Bachelor of Arts in social studies education equips you to teach social studies at the high school level. The program includes a core of courses that explore the social studies content areas and a core of courses in education. In addition, you will select one of the social studies disciplines for further concentration. Starting the second semester you are at Winthrop, social studies teacher candidates have numerous field experiences in the public school environment that culminate with two semesters of internship.

Quick Facts

45 social studies education majors

148 average number of openings per year for social studies teachers in South Carolina.

4.3 average number of social studies positions in South Carolina unfilled at the start of the school year



Margaret Wilson Gillikin, Ph.D.
Program Director, Social Studies Education

Social studies education is an ideal major for you if you have a love of history and the social sciences and want to share your excitement with students at the secondary school level. In this major, a strong emphasis is placed on helping you to form an intellectual community with other social studies majors while gaining practical, hands-on experiences in the classroom and in-depth content knowledge.

Degree Programs

**Bachelor of Arts
in Social Studies Education**

Concentrations in:

**History
Political Science
Psychology
Economics
Sociology & Anthropology**

“Early and consistent opportunities to work with youth in a professional setting is, in my opinion, the greatest opportunity.”

- Desiree LaFreniere '16

Co-Curricular Experiences Open To All Social Studies Education Majors

- History Day Volunteers
- Phi Alpha Theta
- Peer Tutoring Opportunities
- Undergraduate Research
- Study Abroad

Extra-Curricular Activities Open To All Social Studies Education Majors

Social Studies Club

Freshman Class Schedule

ACAD 101	Introduces first-year students to the concepts, resources, and skills necessary for successful higher learning and facilitates students' adjustment to the learning academy.
WRIT 101	Introduces students to college-level, thesis-driven, research-based writing. Focus on planning, organizing, and developing persuasive essays.
HIST 211	Surveys political, diplomatic, economic, social, intellectual and ethnic developments in the United States through Reconstruction with attention to development of the Federal Constitution.
GEOG 101	Explores human adjustment to the physical environment. The geographic factors in the distribution of population and the growth of civilization.
EDUC 101	Allows students to develop and implement observation and analysis skills used by teachers to make instructional decisions. Course content focuses on observing events related to technology, literacy, student engagement, and classroom climate in diverse school settings.
SOCL 101	Analyzes the types, extent, and causes of social problems; policies and programs directed toward their resolution.

"I have received a great deal of preparation and support throughout while pursuing my degree."

- Beth McDonald '16

Scholarship Opportunities

Colonial Dames of South Carolina Scholarship - South Carolina, Teaching of History Scholarship - Awarded for the best unit plan written by a student enrolled in the social studies methods course that addresses the teaching of South Carolina history and focuses on the principles of patriotism, individual freedom, and liberty while representing a broad perspective that does not advocate any particular political viewpoint.

Hayes Scott Heavner Scholarship - Awarded to a rising sophomore, junior, or senior planning to teach social studies. Preference is given to those planning to coach.

For more information: www.winthrop.edu/cas/socialstudieseducation



"My coursework at Winthrop allows me to have the confidence to deliver lessons with creativity and personality."

-Mary Margaret Guilbault '16

Potential Careers In Social Studies Education

Graduates are certified in Social Studies with the state of South Carolina. Reciprocity available with most states.

Social Studies Certification includes: History, Geography, Economics, Psychology, Sociology, and Government for grades 9-12.

Middle-level certification available with additional course work.

Careers outside of public school teaching: Education director/coordinator for museums or historical attractions.

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