

**SEMINOLE STATE COLLEGE  
ASSOCIATE IN ARTS FOR SOCIAL SCIENCES (215)  
Program Review Executive Summary**

**Date of Review:** Fall 2019

**Recommended Date of Next Review:** Fall 2024

**Centrality to Institutional Mission:**

The SSC mission empowers all students for academic success, personal development, and lifelong learning. First, the goals of the Social Science program at SSC promote these qualities by providing students with knowledge, skills, and abilities that may be utilize throughout their academic and professional careers, as well as in their personal lives. Second, the program encourages the celebration of diversity and global issues, which is one of SSC’s C.O.R.E. values (Compassion, Opportunity, Respect, and Excellence). Finally, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the growth rate for occupations requiring training in the Social Sciences is expected to increase by approximately 7% over the next ten years, it will be of continuing importance that Seminole State College offer this program to prepare students to enter the workforce.

**Program Objectives and Goals:**

Students in the SSC Social Science program are trained to:

- Demonstrate knowledge related to functioning in society.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the roles of history, culture, and the arts within civilization.

**Quality Indicators Such As:**

- Student Learning Outcomes
- Effective Teaching
- Effective Learning Environments
- Capacity to Meet Needs and Expectations of Constituencies

- **Student Learning:** Student performance on Social Science course post-tests have shown significant percentage increases over pre-test performance each year of the review period for all outcomes except for the most recent year. This may be the result of personnel changes in the program.
- **Effective Teaching:** Social Science instructors use assessment results to review practices and make action plans to address possible weaknesses, test new ideas, and plan for future successes.
- **Effective Learning Environment:** All instructors have embraced new classroom technology, online instruction and content, as well as various approaches to help with student retention and success.

**Productivity for Most Recent 5 Years**

**Number of degrees:**

14-15: 27  
15-16: 24  
16-17: 24  
17-18: 11  
18-19: 7

**Declared Majors:**

	major	total
F 14	215	76
S 15	215	75
F 15	215	71
S 16	215	79
F 16	215	77
S 17	215	62
F 17	215	62
S 18	215	63
F18	215	27
S19	215	25

**Other Quantitative Measures Such As:**

- Number of Courses for Major
- Student Credit Hour in Major
- Direct Instructional Costs

**Number of Courses for Major:** 24

**Student Credit Hours in Major:** 15,459 for review period (Includes non-major enrollees)

**Direct Instructional Costs:** \$4,037,564 for review period (Total for Social Sciences Division)

<p>– <b>Roster of faculty members including the number of FTE faculty in the specialized courses within the curriculum</b></p>	<p><b>Faculty Roster:</b> Marta Osby, MA; Jeffrey Christiansen, MA; Steve Bolin, PhD.; Christal Knowles, MS; Sam Rivera, MS.</p>
<p><b>Effective Use of Resources</b></p>	<p>The Social Sciences division takes advantage of many resources available to students at SSC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilizing both print materials as well as online databases to which the Boren Library subscribes.</li> <li>• The college’s online instructional delivery platform—Brightspace.</li> <li>• In-class technology that includes internet access, smartboards, PowerPoint presentations, audio and video presentations, and Zoom.</li> <li>• Numerous computer labs available to students, including a new lab in the Milt Philips Social Sciences Building starting fall 2019.</li> <li>• Offering a broad array of course format opportunities including day, evening, 8-week, intersession, online, and Zoom courses.</li> <li>• The program developed a rotating course schedule to include new classes to ensure students in the program complete it in a timely manner.</li> <li>• Since the last program review the Social Sciences program changed its degree program creating a Social Sciences AA degree with two possible areas of emphasis in either History/Government or Sociology as options for students.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Strengths and Weaknesses</b></p>	<p><b>Strengths:</b> One of the greatest strengths of the Social Science program is the seasoned and experienced faculty. Another strength of the program is the large number and variety of courses offered. Most of these courses are basic requirements for most degrees. This gives the Social Sciences an opportunity to expose students to study within this major. The courses have had a large number of students over the last five years.</p> <p><b>Weaknesses:</b> The central weakness of the degree program is its inability in the past to recruit students to declare Social Science as a major despite the large number of students taking courses in this area.</p>
<p><b>Recommendations</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase enrollment of Social Science majors by 2.5% each academic year for the next two years.</li> <li>• Better inform the public—including high school recruiters—information pertaining to Social Science courses and majors.</li> <li>• Stress employment statistics and the number of employment positions in the job market for Social Science.</li> <li>• Work to graduate more of those who do select this major.</li> <li>• Increase student enrollment and participation in Social Science courses.</li> <li>• Hire full time Political Science Instructor and Sociology Instructor</li> </ul>