



## **gtPATHWAYS CONTENT CRITERIA: SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES**

- GT-SS1: ECONOMIC OR POLITICAL SYSTEMS
- GT-SS2: GEOGRAPHY
- GT-SS3: HUMAN BEHAVIOR, CULTURE, OR SOCIAL FRAMEWORKS

### **State-level Goal:**

Collectively, the general education requirements in social and behavioral sciences are designed to help students acquire a broad foundation in social science knowledge and ability to apply this understanding to contemporary problems and issues. Specifically the social and behavioral sciences requirement helps students:

1. apply social and behavioral science tools, approaches, and skills to complex social and global issues
2. analyze how individuals, groups, communities, or cultures relate or interact with each other and/or the natural world

### **Content Criteria for Designating a Social or Behavioral Science Course as gtPathways:**

The content of a gtPathways social or behavioral science course shall be designed to provide content knowledge in one of the following areas:

- 1. Economic or Political Systems (GT-SS1).** Students should be able to:
  - a. Demonstrate knowledge of economic **or** political systems;
  - b. Use the social sciences to analyze and interpret issues; and
  - c. Explain diverse perspectives and groups.

**OR**

- 2. Geography (GT-SS2).** Students should be able to:
  - a. Demonstrate understanding of how multiple factors and processes contribute to the nature of landscapes, identities, and regions;
  - b. Apply social science tools and perspectives to analyze and interpret issues;

**OR**

- 3. Human Behavior, Culture, or Social Frameworks (GT-SS3).** Students should be able to:
  - a. Develop knowledge of human behavior, including learning, cognition, and human development; **or** cultural or social frameworks/theories that explore and compare issues and characteristics of individuals, groups, communities, or cultures;
  - b. Use tools, approaches, and skills from social and behavioral sciences to analyze and interpret issues; and
  - c. Understand diverse perspectives and groups.



**Competency Criteria for Designating a Social or Behavioral Science Course as gtPathways:**

All GT-SS1 courses shall include:

- gtPathways competency in Critical Thinking, including student learning outcomes 1, 2, 3 & 5.
- gtPathways competency in Civic Engagement, including student learning outcomes 1 & 4.

All GT-SS2 & SS3 courses shall include:

- gtPathways competency in Diversity & Global Learning, including student learning outcomes 1, 2 & 3.
- gtPathways competency in Critical Thinking, including student learning outcomes 1, 2 & 5.

**Additional Requirements for Designating a Social or Behavioral Science Course as gtPathways:**

A course in the social and behavioral sciences must show evidence of significant high impact educational practices such as writing-intensive assignment, collaborative learning, immersive learning, community/civic engagement, or research.

**Maximum number of credits in social sciences that will be guaranteed to transfer:**

At least 3 credit hours will be guaranteed to transfer in the gtPathways curriculum. An additional 3 credits from any course in categories SS1, SS2 or SS3 can be guaranteed to transfer ***IF*** the student is requesting no more than 6 credits of guaranteed transfer courses in the Arts & Humanities category of the gtPathways curriculum (a maximum of 15 credits is guaranteed to transfer from the combined categories of Arts & Humanities, History, and Social and Behavioral Sciences).

**Ian's note: I revised the language above to reflect already agreed upon numbers of social & behavioral science credits guaranteed to transfer. If any questions, see:**

<http://highered.colorado.gov/Academics/Transfers/gtPathways/curriculum.html>