Bachelor of Social Sciences – Social Policy and Community Building (major and minor)

The Department of Social Work and Social Administration (SWSA) offers a range of courses which can be taken in conjunction with other units in the Faculty to make up the social sciences degree. We use 150 hours of student learning activity (including both contact hours and all other forms of student learning activity) as the norm for a 6-credit course, but the contact hours and output requirements for different groups of courses vary according to the learning modes employed. Each 6-credit course consists of 30-39 contact hours. The courses should be of interest to students who wish to learn about the needs and problems of people, the provision of social services in a society, and who may wish to pursue a career in management, administration, related to various social policy areas such as health, welfare, education, labour, urban planning in various human services settings in either public or private organizations.

1. Introductory courses (6 credits)

These first-year courses introduce students to different social science disciplines in order to provide them a broad social science education before students progress to an advanced level of professional training in social work. Teaching normally takes the form of one 2-hour lecture and one 1-hour tutorial or seminar each week throughout a regular 13-week semester. Assessment is by various methods including 1 written term paper in about 2,000 words, 1 group project with powerpoint presentation in 1,000 words, and/or a final examination in about 2,000 words, totaling about 5,000 words (40-50% coursework, 50-60% exam).

2. Core disciplinary courses (6 credits)

Different kinds of standard 6-credit courses are offered as core disciplinary courses in the social sciences multidisciplinary majors or minors. Teaching normally takes the form of one 2-hour lecture and one 1-hour tutorial or seminar each week throughout a regular 13-week semester. Assessment is by various methods including 1 individual or group project with powerpoint presentation in about 1,000 words, 1 term paper in about 2,000 words, and/or 1 mid-term quiz, and/or a final exam in about 2,000 words (40-100% coursework, 0-60% exam).

3. Elective disciplinary courses (6 credits)

Different kinds of standard 6-credit courses are offered either as elective courses in the social sciences disciplinary or multidisciplinary majors or minors. Teaching normally takes the form of one 2-hour lecture and one 1-hour tutorial or seminar each week throughout a regular 13-week semester. Assessment is by various methods including 1 individual or group project with powerpoint presentation in about 1,000 words, 1 term paper in about 2,000 words, and/or 1 mid-term quiz, and/or a final exam in about 2,000 words (40-100% coursework, 0-60% exam).

4. Social Sciences elective courses (6 credits)

To make up the required credits to fulfill the major requirements, students are required to enroll in different kinds of standard 6-credit courses offered in the social sciences disciplinary or multidisciplinary majors or minors. Teaching normally takes the form of one 2-hour lecture and one 1-hour tutorial or seminar each week throughout a regular 13-week semester. Assessment is by a combination of essays, projects, presentations, totaling about 5,000 words, and/or a final exam (40-100% coursework, 0-60% exam).