

DEFINITION FROM MHEC: Social & Behavioral Sciences

The social and behavioral sciences examine the psychology of individuals, the ways in which individuals and other segments of society behave, function, and influence one another. They include, but are not limited to, subjects which focus on history and cultural diversity; on the concepts of groups, works, and political systems; on the applications of qualitative and quantitative data to social issues; and on the interdependence of individuals, society, and the physical environment. The minimum expectation is one course (minimum 3 credit hours) each from at least two disciplines.

Social Science courses are divided into two parts: In PART ONE, students must select one course from either the Cultural-Historical section or the Behavioral Sciences section. In PART TWO, students must select one course from the Diversity section.

Upon successfully completing a general education course in **Cultural-Historical Science**, students will be able to:

1. recognize the components of history and culture that influence the Western world;
2. analyze cultures different from our own and develop an understanding of alternatives to our culture;
3. analyze the impact of art, science and/or technology within a large cultural or historical context;
4. analyze the relevance of religion, race, class, gender, and ethnicity to world problems.

Upon successfully completing a general education course in Behavioral Science, students will be able to:

1. analyze and apply methods of collecting, analyzing, interpreting, and presenting quantitative data;
2. identify and analyze the role of data in evaluating alternatives and making decisions;
3. identify ethical issues relevant to the discipline;
4. analyze the relevance of religion, race, class, gender, and ethnicity to the economic, social and political life of the United States and the world as appropriate to the discipline.