History and Social Science (Social Studies) 6-12 Education*

*This document is available in both pdf and doc formats

Admission  MAEd Program  Application

Introduction

Virginia Tech offers a fifth year secondary social studies teacher licensure program in which students earn a Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction in the College of Human Resources and Education.* Students interested in teaching history and social science (social studies) at the 6-12 level should complete an undergraduate major in one or more of the following: history, social science, political science, geography and/or economics, as well as course work across the disciplines listed.

The program requires a minimum of 15 months to complete.

The program is NCATE approved and meets the National Council for the Social Studies guidelines. The Virginia Tech licensure program has reciprocity with 35 + states and/or territories.
*(This program may also be taken as a 2 year program)

Informational Meetings

Each fall and spring History and Social Science Education faculty conduct meetings to explain the program. Ask your advisor for information. Prospective students should begin to attend these meetings in their advisor sophomore or junior year.

Curriculum

The Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction program includes coursework in educational foundations, methods of teaching social studies, educating exceptional learners, instructional technology and cognate courses addressing such issues as multiculturalism, diversity, and reading in the content area. Fieldwork includes a field experience during the fall semester and student teaching internship during the spring semester. Students admitted to the program are required to complete 9-12 hours of education coursework before beginning the field experience in the fall.

Admission
Prospective students are asked to complete a "history and social science licensure program application" below. Students should also apply to the graduate school (3.00 GPA required for regular admission status). Current undergraduates may be considered for dual status admission during the last semester of undergraduate course work.

**Two letters of reference, and passing scores on Praxis 1 (GRE exam is not required) are required**. Students are required to pass the Praxis I (Academic Skills Assessment) before entering the program and Praxis II (Subject Assessment/Specialty Area Test) before applying for licensure in Virginia.

**Check the Center for Teacher Education website to learn more about Praxis I as well as Learning Plus, a tutorial that is available to assist in preparation for the exam. Contact Ms. Roberta Snelling, licensure assistant, at 231-5920 or rsneling@vt.edu for more information, and visit the Center office at 225 War Memorial Hall for registration materials.**

Prospective students are asked to complete a “History and Social Science Education Licensure Program” application during the first semester of their senior year (see attached). Students should also apply to the graduate school (3.00 GPA required for regular admission status) and may be considered for dual status admission during the last semester of undergraduate coursework. Students normally begin the graduate program in the spring semester as dual status or regular status, or the summer as regular status.

Application deadline: October 15 for spring/summer admission or until space in the program is filled.

Acceptance to this program is competitive upon receiving applications; eligible applicants will be called for an interview.

**Academic Content Hours for Licensure**

In preparing to meet history and social science licensure requirement in Virginia students should hold a degree in one of following history, social science, geography, political science, or economics and have courses distributed in the following areas:

- History: (minimum 18 hours or equivalent)
- Political science: (minimum 18 hours or equivalent)
- Geography: (minimum 9 hours or equivalent)
- Economics: (minimum 6 hours or equivalent)

Transcript evaluations for required content are conducted prior to admission.
NB: In making your decisions as to which courses to take please work with your undergraduate advisors to make sure you are fulfilling your degree requirements. Table 1 identifies courses or equivalent experiences that are strongly suggested for teaching in the secondary history and social science classroom.

Table 1: Suggested Content Area Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>History (18 hours)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Political Science (18 hours)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geography (9 hours)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economics (6 hours)</td>
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**MUST INCLUDE**

* American history,
* Virginia history,
* English history,
* World history

**SUGGESTED**

* Historical methods
* Non-western history

**SUGGESTED**

* United States politics & gov't.
* political theory
* research methods in political science
* world politics and economy
* comparative government and politics
* politics of race, ethnicity and gender
* Congress
* the Presidency
* judicial process
* state and local government

**SUGGESTED**

* human geography
* geography of global economy
* world regions
* physical geography
* world politics and economy
This fifth year degree program is designed to prepare history and social science (social studies) teachers at the 6-12 level. Students will complete a Virginia approved teacher licensure program in conjunction with the MAED Degree. The number of hours required for the licensure program is 39-42 graduate credits; undergraduate students may take 4000 level courses to meet licensure requirements before entering the graduate program if they are Dual Status. All graduate students must submit a plan of study that is approved by the program advisor.

I. Foundations: (6 hours minimum)

* EDCI 4124 Psychological Foundations of Ed. for preserve teachers (3SH)
* EDCI 5104 Schooling in American Society or approved substitute (3SH)

II. Research: (3 hours minimum)

EDRE 5404 Foundations of Educational Research and Evaluation (3SH)
EDCI 5784 Introduction to Qualitative Research (3SH)
EDCI 5784 Teacher as Inquirer (3SH)

III. Concentration: (24 hour minimum)

* EDCI 5742 Graduate Seminar in Education I: Teaching Social Studies in the secondary school (3SH)
* EDCI 5964 Field Studies in Education (fall semester) (3SH)
* EDCI 5744 Graduate Seminar in Education II: Teaching Social Studies in the secondary school II (3SH)
* EDCI 5754 Internship in Education (spring semester) (9SH)

* EDCI 5554 Educating Exceptional Learners across the Lifespan (3SH)

EDCI 5314 Educational Applications of Microcomputer Use (3SH)

EDRE 5964 Secondary Curriculum (3SH)

EDRE 5484 Middle School Curriculum (3SH)

* EDCI 5264 Comprehending Processes and Reading in the Content Areas (3SH)

EDCI 5784 Constructivism in Education (3SH)

EDCI 5784 Doing Digital History and Social Studies (3SH)

EDCI 5784 Research in Social Studies Education (3SH)

IV. Cognate: (6 hours minimum)

Here you are encouraged to choose 6 hours outside of this department to pursue other interests relating to social studies. Within the department courses such as Doing Digital History, Research in Social Studies Education, Constructivism in Education, Educating Exceptional Learners, Multiculturalism & Education and Comprehending Processes and Reading in the Content Areas may be used as cognate courses upon approval by your advisor. Courses will be taken to best suit the content needs of the teachers enrolled in the program.

*Indicates courses required for licensure. Other courses are designed to go toward graduate credit hours for the MAED and may be chosen with approval from your advisor.

For more information, contact:

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Social Studies Education
313 War Memorial Hall
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Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA 24061-0313
(540) 231-8332
hicks@vt.edu

Application for Admission
History and Social Science (Social Studies) Education Licensure Program
Write a 2-3-page essay in which you discuss why you want to be a Social Studies teacher. Consider any experiences you have had working with young people and characteristics that you possess which would make you a good teacher. Please type (double spaced).