Society, Identity and Justice

2022-2023 Exploratory Pathway Guide

The Society, Identity and Justice pathway gives students the opportunity to explore societal institutions and various identity groups while thinking critically about human behavior and social forces. Students will develop analytical skills focusing on how people create, maintain and are affected by definitions of race, gender, class, culture and disability and other social locations. Students interested in this pathway will engage in areas such as politics, public services, policymaking, civic engagement, public administration, social advocacy, and law.

Related Key Industries: Health & Wellness; Creative Industries

Pathway Majors and Concentrations

- Africana Studies
  - Secondary Education - Social Studies Licensure
- Anthropology
- Chicana/o Studies
  - Secondary Education - Social Studies Licensure
- Communication Studies
- Criminal Justice and Criminology
- Cybersecurity
- Early Childhood Education
- Economics
  - Secondary Education - Social Studies Licensure
- Elementary Education
- Gender, Women and Sexualities Studies
- Geography
- Human Development and Family Studies
- Human Services
  - Addiction Studies
  - High-Risk Youth Studies
  - Mental Health Counseling
  - Nonprofit Studies
  - Trauma
- History
  - Secondary Education - Social Studies Licensure
- Individualized Degree Program
- Political Science
  - Secondary Education - Social Studies Licensure
- Psychology
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Special Education

Exercise: Identifying Interest Areas

Using the list of majors and concentrations above try to identify 3 to 5 majors you’d like to explore:
- Circle the majors in this pathway that (at first glance) sound the most appealing to you.
- Cross out the majors that you have no interest in at all.
- Are there any majors or concentrations that you haven’t circled or crossed out? Are there any majors that you’d like to learn more about in order to make a decision? Put a star next to those and let your Exploratory Advisor know about these majors.

EXPLOR. ENGAGE. ELEVATE.
Foundational Skills ...

- Written Communication + .................................................. 6
  - CO 1 and CO 2 or
  - CO 2 and CO 3

- Oral Communication ......................................................... 3
  - COMM 1010 Presentational Speaking or
  - COMM 1100 Fundamentals of Oral Communication

Strongly recommended for students who are interested in majors in this pathway.

- Quantitative Literacy + ...................................................... 3
  - MTH 1080 Math for Liberal Arts or
    - MTH 1081 & 1082 Math for Liberal Arts w/ Lab
  - MTH 1210 Introduction to Statistics
  - MTH 1610 Integrative Math I

Discover Ideas (breadth) ...

- Historical .............................................................................. 3

- Arts and Humanities .............................................................. 6

- Social and Behavioral Sciences ............................................. 6

- Natural and Physical Sciences .............................................. 6

Expand your Views ...

- Global Diversity++ ............................................................... 0 - 3

- Multicultural Graduation Requirement++ ............................. 0 - 3

English and Math Placement +

Math and English placement at MSU Denver depend on a variety of factors. Work with your Exploratory Advisor to determine which courses for the Written Communication and Quantitative Literacy requirements are appropriate for you or to determine if you will need additional assessments to place you in the right sequence of courses.

More information on our Math and English Placement policies can be found on the Office of Testing Services website.

Using General Studies to Explore

General studies coursework is one way (of many) to explore your options for a major (and even a minor!). In some cases, majors may have specific general studies "supporting" course requirements which limit the ability to fully explore your options using just general studies requirements. Working with an Exploratory Advisor can help you with developing a strategy for using these requirements to explore your options in a way that is meaningful to you while keeping you on track to graduate within a reasonable time frame.

Check out the General Studies website for a complete list of General Studies options. Be sure to consult with your advisor before registering for classes!

Multicultural and Global Diversity Requirements++

The Global Diversity (GD) and Multicultural (MC) Graduation requirements can be satisfied through the general studies breadth requirements. Courses listed on the General Studies sheet with a (GD) or (MC) notation next to the course title will satisfy one of these two requirements in addition to the general studies category the class is listed under.

Check out the General Studies website for a complete list of Global Diversity and Multicultural options.

Exercise: Understanding Requirements

Using the University Catalog’s Academic Program outlines and the general studies outline above, identify any specific general studies requirements that might be required or recommended for the majors you are considering. Record your findings using the strategic planning matrix on page 4.

Things to think about: Are there any commonalities? What are the major differences?
When planning your schedule for this pathway you should consider taking a mix of general studies courses and exploratory courses (commonly referred to as gateway courses). Below is a list of recommended exploratory courses to consider. We normally recommend taking 3 general studies classes and 2 exploratory courses with a 15+ credit schedule, 1 exploratory course if taking a 12-credit schedule. Circle the courses that sound most appealing to you. Detailed course descriptions are available in the online University Catalog.

### Recommended Exploratory Pathway Courses

**General Studies Courses**
- AAS 1010 Introduction to Africana Studies
- AAS 1130 Survey of African History
- AAS 2100 Women of Color
- ANT 1310 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
- ANT 1650 Ancient Civilizations
- ANT 2330 Cross-Cultural Communication
- ANT 2400 Women’s Folklore and Folklife*
- CHS 1000 Introduction to Chicana/o Studies
- CHS 2010 Survey of Chicana/o Literature*
- CHS 3100 Social Justice and Activism in the Chicana/o Community*
- COMM 2010 Gender and Communication
- COMM 2200 Introduction to Interpersonal Communication
- COMM 3000 Diversity and Communication in the U.S.
- CJC 1010 Introduction to Criminal Justice
- CJC 1450 Introduction to Corrections
- ECO 2010 Principles of Macroeconomics*
- ECO 2020 Principles of Microeconomics*
- ENG 2513 Disability Rhetorics*
- GEG 1000 World Regional Geography
- GEG 1300 Introduction to Human Geography
- GWS 1001 Introduction to Gender, Women’s and Sexualities Studies
- GWS 1200 Multicultural Study of Sexualities and Genders*
- GWS 1550 Introduction to Transgender Studies
- GWS 1600 Women in World History
- GWS 3260 Gender, Social Justice and the Personal Narrative*
- HSP 1010 Introduction to Human Services
- PSC 1010 American National Government
- PSC 1020 Comparative Politics
- PSC 1030 Multicultural Politics for Non-Majors
- PSC 2230 Introduction to International Relations
- PSC 2240 Global Challenges in the 21st Century
- PSY 1001 Introduction to Psychology
- SOC 1010 Introduction to Sociology
- SWK 1010 Introduction to Social Work
- SWK 1050 How to Change the World
- SOC 2010 Social Problems

**Gateway Courses- these are not general studies courses, but they are great exploratory options for programs in this pathway**
- AAS 2000 Social Movements and the Black Experience*
- AAS 2200 Politics and Black People*
- ANT 2350 African Peoples and Cultures
- ANT 2360/CHS 2000 Living Culture and Language of the Mexican and Chicano*
- COMM 2030 Intercultural Communication*
- COMM 2040 Team and Group Communication*
- ECE 2100 Introduction to Early Childhood Education
- ECE 2310 Families and Communities: Advocacy and the Law
- ECO 1040 A Citizen’s Guide to Economics
- EDU 1111 Education within Diverse Communities
- EDU 2111 Becoming an Elementary Teacher*
- GEG 2300 Geographic Analysis of Social Issues*
- GEG 3360 Economic Geography*
- HSP 2010 Introduction to High-Impact Nonprofit Orgs
- GWS 3170 Social Justice, Self, and Citizenship*
- PSC 3150 Law and Society
- SED 2200 Diversity and Multicultural Education
- SED 3600 Exceptional Learners in the Classroom
- SOC 3220 Prejudice and Discrimination
- SOC 3430 Gender and Society
- SOC 3550 Sociology of Law

* Has a required prerequisite class. Check with your Exploratory Advisor for guidance on these courses.