

Ways of Knowing in the Social Sciences

Mission:

Through analysis and value-based interaction we know and understand the social sciences approach to the human condition made in the likeness of God; the scientific study of human beings at the individual and societal levels.

Goals and Objectives:

Goal 1: Students will develop analytical skills and knowledge in the search for truth via the social sciences.

Objectives for courses in this category may include:

- Introduce content, methods, and history of thought in the discipline
- Introduce classic disciplinary theory and major paradigms
- Introduce the social sciences and locate the discipline within them
- Apply the disciplines' ways of knowing to the content of the course

Goal 2: Students will engage in value-based interaction with social science course material.

Objectives for courses in this category may include:

- Bring Christian values to the understanding of course material
- Read and interpret empirical literature supportive of the discipline
- Consider the social processes of the discipline
- Consider ethical implications and limitations in the social sciences
- Discuss subjective experience as a vehicle for understanding personal vocation
- Engage in conversation around disciplinary theory and faith

Goal 3: Students will demonstrate knowledge, understanding and learning in the social sciences.

Objectives for courses in this category may include:

- Use practical activities to allow for integration and reflection
- Apply knowledge to recognize, analyze, and address relevant problems
- Articulate the meaning and significance of past and present events and actions
- Understand the social dimensions of knowledge

Course Criteria:

1. Courses should address all three goals via any combination of objectives suggested here.