

Applicant Name: _____

Admission Content Preparation Review Worksheet - Social Studies Teacher Preparation Program

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) and the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) have each articulated minimum requirements for the subject matter preparation of prospective secondary social studies teachers. Our graduate teacher preparation programs assume that this preparation has been achieved (at least for the most part) during your undergraduate work. Therefore, at admissions we need to perform a review to determine whether you have already met all these subject matter requirements or, if that is not the case, what coursework and/or other experiences you would need to complete before graduation in order to meet these requirements.

While our faculty is ultimately responsible for this evaluation, we want to give you first the opportunity to document that you have met most, or possibly all, of the subject matter requirements. Sometimes course titles and numbers alone (as they appear in official transcripts) may be deceiving. Having taken those courses, you are in the best position to know which courses – or other experiences - should “count” towards fulfilling specific content requirements.

Therefore, we are asking you to **complete Part A and Part B of this worksheet to the best of your ability and bring it with you to your admission interview**. Do not worry if you have questions about what specific topics really mean and/or where certain courses should be listed – you will have the opportunity to ask these questions at the interview and then modify/add to the worksheet as needed. If needed, at the interview you will also be able to further explain how you completed the worksheet and/or to support your decisions with relevant documentation (e.g., course descriptions and syllabi of relevant courses, specific projects or assignments within a course, etc.).

This form includes three parts:

- Part A articulates the relevant New York State certification requirements in terms of subject matter coursework, and asks you to list information about all the courses you have taken in the subject matter(s) you are going to teach. This section of the worksheet will help the reviewer evaluate the extent to which you have already met these certification requirements.

- Part B articulates what your professional organization believes teachers should know about the subject matter they teach – that is, the specific areas within social studies with which you should be familiar by the time you begin teaching. In this case, we ask you to identify courses and other relevant experiences that contributed to your preparation with respect to each of the “themes” identified by NCSS, as well as your assessment of the strength of your preparation in that area at this point in time.
- Part C will be completed by the interviewer after your admission interview. Here the interviewer will record his/her final recommendations about what additional subject matter coursework and/or other experiences – if any – you will need to complete, if admitted, before you can be recommended for teaching certification.

(A) New York State Requirements

New York State requires teacher candidates seeking certification in Middle Childhood or Adolescence Education as specialists in social studies to have completed at least 30 credits of coursework in social studies or related subjects, of which at least 21 credits should be in history and geography of the United States, and including preparation in economics and government. Furthermore, the Warner School expects this coursework to have been completed with a GPA of 2.5 or above.

To help us evaluate the extent to which you have already met these requirements, please list in the table below all the college-level courses related to social studies that you have already completed, or will have completed by the time you start the teacher preparation program, along with all the other information requested. Please also indicate coursework related to one or more of the following areas: history (by putting “H” in the first column); geography (by putting “G” in the first column); economics (by putting “E” in the first column); and government (by putting “Z” in the first column). If you are not sure what a specific course should “count” for, put a question mark (?) in the first column.

Undergraduate degree & major: _____

Institution: _____

Overall GPA: _____

(B) Professional Organization Recommendations

The National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) has identified a number of interdisciplinary themes within social studies in which social studies teachers should be proficient in order to teach effectively. These themes have been identified in the first column of the table below, along with possible related areas of coursework.

For each of these themes, please indicate in the second column any of the courses listed in Part A that addressed it; if there are experiences other than coursework that contributed to your learning about this theme, please indicate them in this column as well (e.g., using this content knowledge in other courses; teaching this content; independent reading/research; work experience, etc.).

Please note that proficiency with respect to content knowledge in each of the areas identified below is a graduation, not an admission, requirement. There will be some opportunities offered in your methods courses to deepen your content preparation in at least some areas – either through class activities or by selecting a specific focus in independent and/or group projects. Applicants can also be requested to take some additional content courses in conjunction with their program, when needed to address some critical gaps. Therefore, do not worry if at this stage you need to leave some areas in the table blank.

Finally, in the third column we ask you to provide a self-evaluation of how confident you feel about your preparation in each of the areas identified as important by NCSS, using the following scale:

- 1:** Little to no knowledge of this content – *in which case additional coursework covering this content is likely to be required.*
- 2:** Content is relatively familiar – *in which case it is likely that additional readings and experiences in this area, but no additional coursework, will be required.*
- 3:** Sufficiently confident about this content.
- 4:** Very well versed in this content.

Theme:	Relevant coursework or other experiences:	Self-rating	Interviewer's comments & rating
1. Culture & Cultural Diversity: Anthropology Cultural Studies Gender Studies Diversity Studies Studies about Religion	<i>(Fully addressed in EDU442-Race, Class, Gender & Disability in American Education)</i>		
2. Time, Continuity & Change: American History World History Non-Western History <i>(must include each)</i>			
3. People, Places & Environments: Geography Regional Studies Environmental Studies			

Self-rating scale: **1:** Little to no knowledge of this content. **2:** Content is relatively familiar. **3:** Sufficiently confident about this content. **4:** Very well versed in this content.

Theme:	Relevant coursework or other experiences:	Self-rating	Interviewer's comments & rating
4. Individual Development & Identity: Psychology	<i>(Fully addressed in ED415-Adolescent Development & Youth Culture)</i>		
5. Individuals, Groups & Institutions: Sociology Social Issues Group Studies (e.g., women, men, religious groups) Gender Studies Diversity Studies Institutional Studies (e.g., Schooling)			
6. Power, Authority & Governance: Political Science Foreign Policy Political Issues			

Self-rating scale: **1:** Little to no knowledge of this content. **2:** Content is relatively familiar. **3:** Sufficiently confident about this content. **4:** Very well versed in this content.

Theme:	Relevant coursework or other experiences:	Self-rating	Interviewer's comments & rating
7. Production, Distribution & Consumption: Economics Marketing			
8. Science, Technology & Society: Environmental Studies Media Studies Philosophy w/ this focus Sociology w/ this focus History w/ this focus Ethical Issues in Medicine	<i>(Addressed in part in EDU499-Integrating Social Studies & Technology)</i>		

Self-rating scale: 1: Little to no knowledge of this content. **2:** Content is relatively familiar. **3:** Sufficiently confident about this content. **4:** Very well versed in this content.

Theme:	Relevant coursework or other experiences:	Self-rating	Interviewer's comments & rating
<p>9. <i>Global Connections:</i> Area Studies Non-Western Studies Environmental Policy Studies International Relations Foreign Policy Communication Policy Studies Comparative Government Human Rights (Dis)Armament/ Militarization Studies Comparative Religions</p>	<p><i>(Addressed in part in EDU433-Integrating Social Studies & Literacy)</i></p>		
<p>10. <i>Civic Ideals and Practices</i> Local Government Public Policy Studies Political Behavior Political Philosophy, Thought & Ideals Political Parties</p>	<p><i>(Addressed in part in EDU432-Theory & Practice in Teaching & Learning Social Studies, EDU 462-Implementing Innovation in Social Studies Education, and EDU433-Integrating Social Studies & Literacy)</i></p>		

Self-rating scale: **1:** Little to no knowledge of this content. **2:** Content is relatively familiar. **3:** Sufficiently confident about this content. **4:** Very well versed in this content.

(C) Summary Evaluation -- TO BE COMPLETED LATER BY THE INTERVIEWER

Based on the information and documentation you have provided, as well as the discussion that took place during the admission interview, the interviewer will determine which of the following categories apply to your situation:

___ The applicant’s previous coursework and experiences meet and/or exceed all NYS and professional organization requirements. No additional experience is required.

___ The applicant’s previous coursework and experiences, combined with the experiences that will take place as part of our teacher preparation program, will be sufficient to meet all NYS and professional organization minimum requirements by graduation. No additional coursework in the subject matter is required, although the candidate is recommended to do some independent work to strengthen his/her understanding of the following content areas:

___ The applicant’s previous coursework and experience, combined with the experiences that will take place as part of our teacher preparation program, are not yet sufficient to meet all NYS and professional organization minimum requirements. The following additional coursework and experiences will need to be completed to meet these requirements:
