EDUCATION, BS: SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATION

The Social Studies 4-12 Education certification is available for students who plan to teach students in upper elementary, middle, and high school. Social Studies candidates participate in hands-on, classroom-based field and student teaching experiences in urban area upper elementary, middle, and high schools. Candidates who satisfactorily complete the program requirements also meet the Wisconsin teacher certification requirements for teaching Broad Field Social Studies in grades 4-12.

Students at this level of certification may add the following licenses while pursuing or after obtaining their Social Studies licensure as their initial certification:

- Bilingual
- English as a Second Language
- World Languages

Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
General Education Requirements		30
Program Requirements *		96
Total Credits		**126**

* Some program-required courses are approved as GER

Preparatory Coursework

Based on individual placement results, some students may be required to complete preparatory coursework before enrolling in the courses listed here. This may include English language or composition preparation, developmental math, introductory chemistry, and/or student support courses for students participating in the First Year Bridge program.

General Education Requirements (GER)

UW-Milwaukee has General Education Requirements (https://catalog.uwm.edu/policies/undergraduate-policies/#generaleducationtext) that must be met in order to earn a bachelor's or associate degree. They include at minimum 30 credits (10 courses) in six categories that are designed to assure basic student competencies and provide a broad body of knowledge as a context for specialization.

Some degree requirements may fulfill GERs. Please review the requirements and consult with your academic advisor.

Code	Title	Credits
General Education Categories and Credits		
Civics and Perspectives (CP)		6
Communication and Literacy (CL)		6
Humanities and Arts (HA)		6
Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning (MQR)		3
Natural Science and Wellness (NSW/NSWL)		6
Social and Behavioral Science (SBS)		3
Total Credits		**30**

Advance to Professional Sequence

Students must meet certain criteria and apply to their specific licensure program in addition to admission to UWM. Please see information about minimum credits, GPA, and other requirements at Advance to Professional Sequence. (p. 2)

Program Core

Program core is comprised of foundational courses and should be completed prior to beginning the professional education semesters.

Code	Title	Credits
Choose one:		3
CES 210	Introduction to Conservation and Environmental Science (GER-NSW) SR-2	
GEOG 350	Conservation of Natural Resources SR-2	
COMMUN 103	Public Speaking (pass with a C or better (GER-CL)	3
CURRINS 300	Introduction to Teaching: Colloquium and Fieldwork (pass with a C or better)	3
ED POL 375	Cultural Foundations of Education SR-3(b-f)	3
Total Credits		**12**

SR-2 Statutory Requirements-Environment
SR-3(b-f) Statutory Requirements-3 (b-f)

Content Area Requirements

The following content coursework must be completed prior to advance to the Social Studies Education program Professional Sequence (in addition to the requirements listed under the Advance to Major tab).

Code	Title	Credits
History		
HIST 101	Western Civilization: Ancient World to 1500 (GER-HA or CP)	3
or HIST 131	World History to 1500	
HIST 102	Western Civilization: 1500 to the Present (GER-HA)	3
or HIST 132	World History Since 1500	
HIST 151	American History: 1607 to 1877 (GER-SBS)	3
HIST 152	American History: 1877 to the Present (GER-SBS)	3
Select 9 credits of HIST level 300 or higher.		9
Political Science		
POL SCI 104	Introduction to American Government and Politics (GER-CP)	3
POL SCI 105	State Politics (or other POL SCI 100 level or above)	3
Geography		
GEOG 110	The World: Peoples and Regions (GER-SBS)	3
Sociology/Psychology		
PSYCH 101	Introduction to Psychology (GER-SBS)	3
SOCIOL 101	Introduction to Sociology (GER-SBS)	3
Economics		

ECON 103	Principles of Microeconomics (GER-SBS)	3
ECON 104	Principles of Macroeconomics (GER-SBS)	3
Total Credits		**42**

Professional Sequence

A grade of C or better is required in professional sequence coursework in order to advance in the program. Professional sequence coursework should be completed after advance to the Social Studies Education program Professional Sequence. Students must earn a minimum GPA of 2.75 in all professional education courses.

Code	Title	Credits
Spring 1		
CURRINS 321	Introduction to the Teaching of Social Studies	1
CURRINS 323	Teaching of Social Studies:	2
CURRINS 516	Field Work in Middle School SR-8	3
CURRINS 545	Reading in the Content Areas: Middle, Junior, and Senior High School	3
ED PSY 330	Introduction to Learning and Development	3
ED POL 534	Students Placed At Risk: Deconstructing Risk, Defining Promise	3
Fall 1		
CURRINS 415	Preliminary Student Teaching: SR-8	3
CURRINS 523	Current Issues and Practices in the Teaching of Social Studies SR-1, SR-4	3
CURRINS 541	Principles and Methods of Teaching ESL SR-3(b-f)	3
ED POL 535	Educating Students Placed At Risk: Pedagogies of Engagement	3
EXCEDUC 531	Inclusion for Secondary Educators: Humanities, the Arts, Foreign Language SR-7	3
Spring 2		
CURRINS 423	Student Teaching in Social Studies ‡, SR-5, SR-8	12
Total Credits		**42**

‡ Students must complete an application to request/be assigned a student teaching placement. To be approved for placement, additional criteria must be met. See Benchmarks (p. 3) for details.

SR-8 Statutory Requirements-Professional Responsibilities

SR-1 Statutory Requirements-Cooperatives

SR-4 Statutory Requirements-Conflict Resolution

SR-3(b-f) Statutory Requirements-Equity (b-f)

SR-7 Statutory Requirements-Children with Disabilities

SR-5 Statutory Requirements-Teacher Responsibilities

Requirements for Graduation (https://catalog.uwm.edu/policies/undergraduate-policies/#academicpoliciestext)

For information on credit, GPA, and other requirements for graduation, see UWM Degree Requirements (https://catalog.uwm.edu/policies/undergraduate-policies/).

Second Degree Pathway

Students follow the same pathway as first-degree students with the exception of COMMUN 103, CURRINS 300, and GER.

Post-Baccalaureate Pathway

Students follow the same pathway as first-degree students with the exception of COMMUN 103, CURRINS 300, and GER.

Additional Requirements for Certification

- Successfully complete the content knowledge requirement for your program through one of the following:
  - Minimum 3.0 GPA in content coursework.
  - Passing score on the Praxis Subject Assessment Exam: Social Studies: Content Knowledge.
- Earn a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 in all UWM and transfer courses.
- Demonstrate successful completion of the Pedagogical Knowledge Assessment (PKA).
- Meet all applicable Wisconsin statutory and testing requirements.
- Complete approved coursework in the history, culture, and tribal sovereignty of American Indian tribes and bands located in Wisconsin, met through one of the following:

Code	Title	Credits
AIS 276	Introduction to American Indian Literature: (topic: History, Literature & Sovereignty of Wisconsin Tribes (GER-CP) SR-3(a)	3
ANTHRO 213	American Indian Peoples of Wisconsin (GER-CP) SR-3(a)	3
ENGLISH 276	Introduction to American Indian Literature: (topic: History, Literature & Sovereignty of Wisconsin Tribes (GER-CP) SR-3(a)	3
HIST 263	North American Indian History Since 1887 (GER-CP) SR-3(a)	3
ACT 31: History, Culture and Sovereignty Rights of Wisconsin Indians Workshop SR-3(a)		
Or an approved equivalent		

SR-3(a) Statutory Requirements-Equity (a)

Advance to Major

Advance to Professional Sequence

Advance to the Social Studies Education program Professional Sequence requires satisfactory completion of the requirements listed below.
For more information about the application process, visit our website (https://uwm.edu/education/academics/social-studies/).

- Earning a passing grade in ENGLISH 102 (or equivalent); or placing out of taking ENGLISH 102 by earning a suitable score on a test as determined by the English Department.
- Math Placement Level 30, or a grade of C or higher in any 100-level Math course (excluding MATH 194 or MATH 199) or MATH 111/PHILOS 111.
- Pass COMMUN 103 with a C or better (except Second Degree and Post Baccalaureate students).
- Pass CURRINS 300 with a C or better (except Second Degree and Post Baccalaureate students).
- A 2.5 minimum cumulative GPA in all UWM and transfer courses at the time of admission application.
- A 2.75 cumulative GPA in all Content Area courses (economics, geography, history, psychology, political science, and sociology) listed in the program requirements.
- Meeting with faculty advisor to review admission application.
- For post-baccalaureate and second degree candidates, a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.

Criminal Background Check

Criminal Background Check (CBC). For all students, a background check shall be completed no more than 6 months prior to the date of admission (advance to professional sequence) into the educator preparation program. The background check shall include a review of criminal conduct at the state and federal levels.

Benchmarks

Student Teaching

Students must complete an application to request/be assigned a student teaching placement. Student teaching deadlines (February or April) are posted on the Office of Clinical Experiences website (https://uwm.edu/education/academics/clinical-experiences/).

To be approved for placement, you must meet the following criteria:

- Be advanced to professional requirements.
- Completion of all required coursework.
- Cumulative GPA of a minimum 2.5.
- Minimum of 2.75 GPA in all Professional Sequence courses taken thus far.
- Have a GPA of 3.0 or better in the Content Area courses, OR Pass the Praxis Subject Assessment exam: Social Studies.
- Removal of all F or I grades in courses required for the program.
- TB test ***results*** submitted to the Office of Clinical Experiences.
- Updated Criminal Background Check submitted to the Office of Clinical Experiences.

Student Advising and Support Services

At the College of Community Engagement and Professions (CCEP), your success is our priority. Our dedicated student advising and support services team is here to help you navigate your academic journey, from your first semester through graduation.

Whether you're exploring majors, planning your course schedule, or preparing for your career, our advisors offer personalized guidance tailored to your goals. You'll also find a range of support services designed to help you thrive—academically, personally, and professionally. We're committed to providing a welcoming, inclusive environment where every student feels seen, supported, and empowered to succeed.

For more information, visit the CCEP Student Advising & Support Services website (https://uwm.edu/community-engagement-professions/about/student-advising-support-services/).
Email: ccep-advising@uwm.edu | **Phone:** 414-229-4707

Graduate Advising

If you are a School of Education graduate student, you may schedule an appointment with your faculty advisor by contacting your faculty advisor directly. Faculty contact information can be found in the Directory (https://uwm.edu/education/directory/). Your faculty advisor will be listed in your PAWS account.

Honors in the Department of Teaching and Learning

Departmental Honors are granted to students who have achieved a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or above, based on a minimum of 40 graded UWM credits earned prior to the final semester.

College of Community Engagement and Professions Dean's Honor List

GPA of 3.50 or above, earned on a full-time student's GPA on 12 or more graded credits in a given semester.

Honors College Degree and Honors College Degree with Distinction

Granted to graduating seniors who complete Honors College requirements, as listed in the Honors College (https://catalog.uwm.edu/honors-college/) section of this site.

Commencement Honors

Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or above, based on a minimum of 40 graded UWM credits earned prior to the final semester, will receive all-university commencement honors and be awarded the traditional gold cord at the December or May Honors Convocation. Please note that for honors calculation, the GPA is **not** rounded and is truncated at the third decimal (e.g., 3.499).

Final Honors

Earned on a minimum of 60 graded UWM credits: Cum Laude - 3.500 or above; Magna Cum Laude - 3.650 or above; Summa Cum Laude - 3.800 or above.