

# COLLEGE OF EDUCATION



Faculty, staff and students  
strive to prepare and be professionals who are:

## *Competent*

equipped with the knowledge, skills  
and technological expertise to help  
all individuals learn and develop

## *Committed*

dedicated to the ethical practices and collaboration  
that serve as the foundation of a diverse  
and intellectually vibrant society

## *Reflective*

devoted to analyzing their own past practices  
in ways that fuel ongoing learning  
and improve future practices

*A Keystone in Building a Better Future for All*



AUBURN  
UNIVERSITY

Auburn University is an equal opportunity educational institution/employer.

<b>Auburn University Course Syllabus</b>
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**1. Course Number: CTSE 4210****Course Title:** Social Science Concepts and Methods**Credit Hours:** 3 Semester Hours**Prerequisites:** 15 hrs. in social sciences (2000 level or above) and pending internship**Corequisites:** None**2. Term:** Spring 2014**Day/Time:** T/H, 8-9:15 a.m.**Instructor:** John W. Saye

5054 Haley Center

844-6891, [sayejoh@auburn.edu](mailto:sayejoh@auburn.edu)**Office Hours:** T/H: 9:30-11 a.m. and by appointment**3. Texts or Major Resources:**

- Banks, J.A. (1999) *Teaching Strategies for the Social Studies: Inquiry, Valuing, and Decision Making*. New York: Longman.
- Glade, M. E. & Giese, J. R. (1988) *The American Revolution: Crisis of Law and Change*. Boulder, CO: Social Science Education Consortium.
- 4210 Course Packet (Available in Auburn Bookstores)
- Assigned readings on current public issues and their application to the social science disciplines

**4. Course Description:** CTSE 4210 is designed to assist pre-service teachers in organizing social science disciplinary knowledge into an integrated framework that is meaningful, useful, and relevant to high school students. Such a framework will encourage the development of citizens who can make reasoned decisions about the public good that are grounded in a commitment to democratic ideals.**5. Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Examine the general structure, key concepts, major generalizations, and methods of inquiry of the various social science disciplines.
2. Analyze the commonalities across social science disciplines.
3. Identify the major issues and challenges within and across social science disciplines today.
4. Apply substantive and analytic social science concepts to investigations of persisting public problems in the world, the nation, and the state.
5. Connect historical themes and persisting global and national problems to developments in Alabama and local communities.
6. Analyze interrelationships of economic, political, psychological, and technological forces in shaping societies and cultures.
7. Develop proficiency in using an analytic framework both orally and in writing to address questions about the nature of democratic citizenship.

**6. Course Content and Schedule:**

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| Week 1 | Course introduction. Social Science vs. Social Studies: Adapting Social Science knowledge and methods for teaching middle and secondary social studies. Rationale for an analysis of public issues perspective. |
| Week 2 | Substantive and analytic concepts: Definitional and Value Claims. Foundational Principles of American Government & a democratic society   |
| Week 3 | Substantive and analytic concepts: Factual Claims: Adequacy & Reliability Issues  |
| Week 4 | Standards for Assessing Discussion of Public Issues. Evaluating Arguments.<br>Substantive Problem Area Case Study/ Disciplined Discussion: Equality   |
| Week 5 | Social Science Content Area Overview/Disciplined Seminar: History. <b>Public Issues Paper topic approved.</b>   |
| Week 6 | Social Science Content Area Overview: History Application Exercise. <b>Public Issues Paper outline due.</b>   |
| Week 7 | Substantive Problem Area Case Study/ Disciplined Discussion: Property.  |

- Week 8 Social Science Content Area Overview/Disciplinary Seminar: Geography  
 Week 9 Substantive Problem Area Case Study/ Disciplined Discussion: Consent.  
 Week 10 Social Science Content Area Overview/Disciplinary Seminar: Political Science.  
 Week 11 Social Science Content Area Overview: Political Science.  
 Week 12 Substantive Problem Area Case Study: Political Campaigns & Voter Behavior  
 Week 13 Substantive Problem Area Case Study/ Disciplined Discussion: Welfare-Security. **Public Issues Paper due.**  
 Week 14 Substantive Problem Area Case Study/ Disciplined Discussion: Morality-Responsibility. Social Science Content Area Overview: Sociology & Anthropology.  
 Week 15 Social Science Content Area Application Problem/Disciplinary Seminar: Economics. Course evaluation.  
 Week 16 Final Exam (5/1, 8:00-10:30 am)

## 7. Assignments & Evaluation

Task	Due Date	% of Course Grade
<b>I. Leading &amp; Assessing Disciplined Discussion</b>		
1. Discussion leader: Disciplinary Seminar	On-going	part of PPI (II below)
2. Disciplined discussion of case study / overview	On-going	15
<b>II. Professional Development</b>		
Professional performance in all course activities (PPI)	On-going	15
<b>III. Social Science Analysis of a Selected Public Issue</b>		
1. Public Issue topic outline	02/11/14	10
2. Public Issue Analysis paper	04/10/14	30
<b>III. Final Examination</b>	05/02/14	30

## 8. Rubrics and Grading Scale:

Letter Grades will be assigned on the basis of: **A** (Exemplary): 90-100 points; **B** (Competent) : 80 - 89 points; **C** (Approaching Competence): 70 - 79 points; **D** (Minimal): 60 - 69 points; **F** (Unsatisfactory) : below 60 points. Students must satisfy all course objectives to pass the course. Detailed rubrics and models will be provided for each assignment listed in #7 above.

- A. Professionalism: As faculty, staff, and students interact in professional settings, they are expected to demonstrate professional behavior as defined in the College's conceptual framework. These professional commitments or dispositions are listed below:

- Engage in responsible and ethical professional practices
- Contribute to collaborative learning communities
- Demonstrate a commitment to diversity
- Model and nurture intellectual vitality

Professionalism in Social Science Education courses is a **Core Proficiency**. Specific professional expectations include:

- a. Students are expected to participate in all class discussions and in all exercises as described in the Professional Performance Index. Students must receive at least an "Approaching Competence (C)" assessment of proficiency on the Professional Performance Index to exit the course.
- b. Assignments are due on announced dates. Unexcused late assignments are unacceptable.
- c. Attendance is required. Punctuality is essential. Those with more than one unexcused absence can receive no more than a "D" for the course. Three unexcused tardies are the equivalent of an absence. E-mail or phone and leave a message at my office number above if you are going to miss class.

### **Professional Performance Index (PPI): Descriptive Evaluation Criteria** **For Use in Assessing Contributions to Class Activities & Professionalism**

#### **Exemplary**

- |        |    |  |
|--------|----|--|
| 93–100 | A  | Exceptional organization and performance in all facets of the course.                  |
| 90–92  | A– | Defines own standards beyond those established. Work reflects serious consideration of |

readings and shows substantial variety and significant creativity. Demonstrates ability to ask pertinent questions as well as answer them. Demonstrates holistic view of the subject and of high school students in instructional decisions. Significant leadership in contributing to content of class sessions.

### **Competent**

87–89	B+	Formulates useful questions. Shows creativity.
83–86	B	Physically and mentally alert to standards. Places subject in context of social studies content courses. Answers questions independently.
80–82	B–	Draws some parallels to other experiences and readings.

### **Approaching Competence**

76–79	C+	Participates with cueing.
70–75	C	Physically and mentally present. Passive acceptance of subject.

### **Minimal**

60–69	D	Inability to understand or accept basic standards. Physically and/or mentally absent too often.
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### **Unsatisfactory**

59	F	Massive indifference to standards of professional behavior and scholarship or professional negligence in a laboratory experience.
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## **9. Class Policy Statements:**

- A. **Participation:** As detailed above under Professionalism above, students are expected to participate in all class discussions and participate in all exercises. Assignments are due on announced dates. Unexcused late assignments are unacceptable. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor if assignment deadlines are not met. Students are responsible for initiating arrangements for missed work. Students must satisfy all course objectives to pass the course.
- B. **Excused Absences:** Students are granted excused absences from class for the following reasons: Illness of the student or serious illness of a member of the student's immediate family, the death of a member of the student's immediate family, trips for student organizations sponsored by an academic unit, trips for University classes, trips for participation in intercollegiate athletic events, subpoena for a court appearance, and religious holidays. Students who wish to have an excused absence from this class for any other reason must contact the instructor in advance of the absence to request permission. The instructor will weigh the merits of the request and render a decision. When feasible, the student must notify the instructor prior to the occurrence of any excused absences, but in no case shall such notification occur more than one week after the absence. Appropriate documentation for all excused absences is required. Please see the *Student Policy eHandbook* for more information on excused absences ([http://www.auburn.edu/student\\_info/student\\_policies/](http://www.auburn.edu/student_info/student_policies/)).
- C. **Make-Up Policy:** Arrangement to make up missed work due to properly authorized excused absences must be initiated by the student within one week of the end of the period of the excused absences(s). Except in unusual circumstances, such as the continued absence of the student or the advent of university holidays, make-up work will be completed within two weeks of the date that the student initiates arrangements for it. Except in extraordinary circumstance, no make-up work will be arranged during the last three days before the final exam period begins.
- D. **Disability Accommodations:** Students who need accommodations are asked to electronically submit their approved accommodations through AU Access and to arrange a meeting during office hours the first week of classes, or as soon as possible if accommodations are needed immediately. To set up the meeting, please contact the instructor by e-mail. If you have not established accommodations through the Office of Accessibility, but need accommodations, make an appointment with the Office of Accessibility, 1228 Haley Center, 844-2096 (V/TT).
- E. **Honesty Code:** All portions of the Auburn University student academic honesty code (Title XII) found in the *Student Policy eHandbook* will apply to this class. All academic honesty violations or alleged violations of the SGA Code of Laws will be reported to the Office of the Provost, which will then refer the case to the Academic Honesty Committee.
- F. **Course contingency:** If normal class and/or lab activities are disrupted due to illness, emergency, or crisis situation, the syllabus and other course plans and assignments may be modified to allow completion of the course. If this occurs, and addendum to your syllabus and/or course assignments will replace the original materials.

- G.** Cell phones and other mobile media devices should not be used during class or in field experiences. Devices should be turned off and put away during all professional meetings at AU or in the field. Laptops or iPads should not be left open throughout class but used only to access material directly related to class activities.
- H.** Texts will be heavily used in class. BRING TEXT EACH DAY.
- I.** Monitor your Auburn University e-mail account EACH DAY for class messages. Join the advising list at: <http://www.auburn.edu/pctl/community/SocialSciences/>