

Social Science Secondary Education Program
Annual Report, 2017-18

General:

This year the Social Science Secondary Education (History) Program consisted of ten students, two of them seniors. Dr. Mullgardt prepared the annual report to the ISBE, and that body approved our program for another year. We had no graduating seniors this year as one of them switched to a Curriculum Development major and the other will be student teaching this fall, supervised by Dr. Mullgardt.

Middle Grades Program, ISBE Hearing:

Dr. Mullgardt, in conjunction with Dr. Monroe and Dr. Magoulias, designed the course sequence for the new Middle Grades Secondary Education (Social Studies) program. Dr. Mullgardt selected the foundational courses for the major and brought it for approval to CAS, and Dr. Magoulias took the program proposals to COC for final approval. On June 1, Dr. Mullgardt appeared in front of the Illinois State Board of Education to answer questions about the program and see its approval through. He answered questions regarding preparing both Middle School and Secondary teachers to the liking of the ISBE and the program was approved.

History 425:

HI 425 was offered in the fall to two traditional students. Dr. Mullgardt again administered a content exam modeled on the state's 114 test to the HI425 curriculum, which not only prepares students for their state exam but also serves as a "signature assessment" as per recent stipulations by the ISBE.

Endorsements:

Dr. Mullgardt again advised Social Science Secondary Education majors to seek endorsements in either political science or psychology as they continue their coursework. As defined by the Illinois State Board of Education, a graduate can earn an endorsement in disciplines outside of history by taking 12 hours in an additional field, and by successfully passing the ISBE content exam for that area. One student has continued to pursue the endorsement in Political Science, and also plans to pursue the psychology endorsement.

Student Teaching:

No students taught in the field this year.

World History:

This year's four freshman were the first to enroll in the program with the new requirement to take both sections of World History. Dr. Kovalcik taught the pre-1500 section in the fall, and Dr. Sampson taught the post-1500 section in the spring. The addition of these classes not only better prepares our students for the World History

portion of the 114 content exam, it also makes them better teachers and makes our program more competitive with peer institutions that offer these courses.

Study Guide:

Currently, the Illinois 114 content exam offers a brief study guide to help candidates prepare for this exam, with about 25 example questions. Dr. Mullgardt and Cindie Zelhart hired two student workers to create test banks for the English and History exams based on questions they researched online. The sixty-eight page English test bank has been completed and emailed to Karly Grice for her advisees, and Dr. Mullgardt has on file the 146 page history test bank for future Social Science Secondary Education candidates. This test bank supplements the other materials he has gathered over the years.