

Social Science Secondary Education Program
Annual Report, 2014-2015

General:

This year the Social Science Secondary Education (History) Program consisted of 10 students, 3 having graduated last year and 3 leaving Millikin. Dr. Mullgardt emailed each prospective incoming student for the 2015-2016 year. He also prepared the annual report to the ISBE, and that body approved our program for another year. When Dr. Mullgardt took his sabbatical in the spring of 2015, Dr. Tim Kovalcik advised History Education majors.

Student Teaching:

In the fall term one senior student completed her observations at Eisenhower high school. Dr. Mullgardt observed her teach one lesson, one that she recorded as part of the School of Education's pilot program to prepare majors for the new EdTPA state requirement. That student will complete her teaching this fall, and will be observed and assessed by Dr. Mullgardt and the cooperating teacher. Dr. Mullgardt volunteered to take the 40 hour training program in the Danielson method of teacher observation evaluation, one adopted by the Millikin School of Education.

History 425:

Dr. Mullgardt added 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. To make the course's content more clear and to conform to the demands of the NCSS for 2017 re-accreditation, CTEP approved changing the name from "Methods in Teaching History" to "Methods of Teaching and Assessment in the Social Studies." In the fall of 2015 Dr. Mullgardt will see the name change through CAS and CoC.

Endorsements:

Dr. Mullgardt 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 decided to pursue the endorsement in Political Science, and Dr. Mullgardt will talk to this year's incoming students about this avenue.

Re-accreditation:

The program will be up for re-accreditation by the National Council for the Social Studies in 2017. Dr. Mullgardt has reviewed the steps and requirements for re-accreditation, and has spoken with Dr. Magoulias about minor changes to evaluation forms to align their language to the NCSS. He has informed Dr. Monroe of the new C3 teaching framework the NCSS published, one that places renewed emphasis on civics education. As the Illinois General Assembly is now considering two bills making civics education mandatory at the high school level, Dr. Mullgardt has shared his belief with Dr.

Monroe that in order to better prepare our teachers, and meet NCSS standards, the History and Political Science department should expand its Political Science faculty.