

**ACADEMIC ROADMAP**  
 Social Studies Education 7-12 (BS)  
 Fall 2026

**Freshman Year (30 credits)**

FIRST SEMESTER

Course Title	Catalog Number	Prerequisite(s)
College Writing I	CWP 101	
History of American Life I	HIS 106	
Foundations of Western Civilization or Europe Since 1500 or Twentieth-Century Europe	HIS 115 or HIS 116 or HIS 117 or	
General Education Elective: Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning		
Elective		

**Notes and recommendations:**

- Seek advisement from your major department advisor every semester even if you are being advised by other academic advisors.
- Regularly review your audit in Degree Works.
- Do not fall below full-time (12 credits) status in any semester if you receive financial aid.
- Visit the Academic Center for Excellence to receive support for math, writing, or general tutoring; create study groups.

SECOND SEMESTER

Course Title	Catalog Number	Prerequisite(s)
College Writing II: Argumentation and Research	CWP 102	CWP 101
History of American Life II	HIS 107	
Foundations of Western Civilization or Europe Since 1500 or Twentieth Century Europe	HIS 115 or HIS 116 or HIS 117	
Introduction to Psychology (pre-req for PSY 357)	PSY 101	
General Education Electives: Natural Sciences and Scientific Reasoning		

**Notes and recommendations:**

- Seek advisement from your major department advisor every semester even if you are being advised by other academic advisors.
- Regularly review your audit in Degree Works.
- Consider dual majors, minors and dual teaching certificates.
- If you are a dual major, make sure social studies education is listed as your first major.
- Do not fall below full-time (12 credits) status in any semester if you receive financial aid.
- If you are receiving the Excelsior Scholarship, you must successfully complete 30 credits per year. If you complete 12 credits one semester, you need 18 credits the other semester.
- Research and apply for campus scholarships via the Campus Application Portal for Scholarships (CAPS) and the department website.
- Visit the Academic Center for Excellence to receive support for math, writing, or general tutoring; create study groups.

## Sophomore Year (60 credits)

### THIRD SEMESTER

Course Title	Catalog Number	Prerequisite(s)
Educational Psychology: Middle and Secondary Education	SPF 303	
The Economic System or Principles of Macroeconomics or Principles of Microeconomics	ECO 101 or ECO 201 or ECO 202	
World Civilizations I	HIS 230	
Introduction to American Government and Politics or US Civil Liberties	PSC 102 or PSC 320	
Elective		

#### Notes and recommendations:

- Seek advisement from your major department advisor every semester even if you are being advised by other academic advisors.
- Regularly review your audit in Degree Works.
- Consider dual majors, minors and dual teaching certificates.
- If you are a dual major, make sure social studies education is listed as your first major.
- Do not fall below full-time (12 credits) status in any semester if you receive financial aid.
- If you are receiving the Excelsior Scholarship, you must successfully complete 30 credits per year. If you complete 12 credits one semester, you need 18 credits the other semester.
- Research and apply for campus scholarships via the Campus Application Portal for Scholarships (CAPS) and the department website.
- Visit the Academic Center for Excellence to receive support for math, writing, or general tutoring; create study groups.
- Review the Buffalo State Teacher Certification Office website to become acquainted with all the teacher certification requirements such as teacher workshops, exams, and fingerprinting.
- Consider Phi Alpha Theta: National History Honor Society membership.
- Research and consider study away and abroad opportunities; attend study away fairs.
- Consider applying for a campus-funded undergraduate research opportunity.
- Consider taking part in the Student Research and Creativity Conference (SRCC).
- Visit the Career and Professional Education Center (CAPE) to learn about all their services.

### FOURTH SEMESTER

Course Title	Catalog Number	Prerequisite(s)
Introduction To Secondary Teaching	SSE 200	
Nature and Needs of Individuals with Special Needs or Foundations of Teaching Adolescents with Disabilities	EXE 100 or EXE 372	
Research and Writing Seminar	HIS 300	
Teaching Literacy in Middle and Secondary Schools	EDU 416	
Elective		

#### Notes and recommendations:

- Seek advisement from your major department advisor every semester even if you are being advised by other academic advisors.
- Regularly review your audit in Degree Works.
- Consider dual majors, minors and dual teaching certificates.
- If you are a dual major, make sure social studies education is listed as your first major.
- Do not fall below full-time (12 credits) status in any semester if you receive financial aid.
- If you are receiving the Excelsior Scholarship, you must successfully complete 30 credits per year. If you complete 12 credits one semester, you need 18 credits the other semester.
- Research and apply for campus scholarships via the Campus Application Portal for Scholarships (CAPS) and the department website.
- Visit the Academic Center for Excellence to receive support for math, writing, or general tutoring; create study groups.

- Review the Buffalo State Teacher Certification Office website to become acquainted with all the teacher certification requirements such as teacher workshops, exams, and fingerprinting.
- Consider Phi Alpha Theta: National History Honor Society membership.
- Research and consider study away and abroad opportunities; attend study away fairs.
- Consider applying for a campus-funded undergraduate research opportunity.
- Consider taking part in the Student Research and Creativity Conference (SRCC).
- Visit the Career and Professional Education Center (CAPE) to learn about all their services.

## Junior Year (90 credits)

### FIFTH SEMESTER

Course Title	Catalog Number	Prerequisite(s)
Adolescent and Young Adult Development	PSY 357	PSY 101
Historical and Philosophical Foundations of Social Education or The Teaching of History	SSE 402 or SSE 407	
World Regional Geography	GEG 300	
Upper Division US, Canadian, or Latin American History		
Elective		

#### Notes and recommendations:

- Seek advisement from your major department advisor every semester even if you are being advised by other academic advisors.
- Regularly review your audit in Degree Works.
- Consider dual majors, minors and dual teaching certificates.
- If you are a dual major, make sure social studies education is listed as your first major.
- Do not fall below full-time (12 credits) status in any semester if you receive financial aid.
- If you are receiving the Excelsior Scholarship, you must successfully complete 30 credits per year. If you complete 12 credits one semester, you need 18 credits the other semester.
- Research and apply for campus scholarships via the Campus Application Portal for Scholarships (CAPS) and the department website.
- Visit the Academic Center for Excellence to receive support for math, writing, or general tutoring; create study groups.
- Review the Buffalo State Teacher Certification Office website to become acquainted with all the teacher certification requirements such as teacher workshops, exams, and fingerprinting.
- Consider Phi Alpha Theta: National History Honor Society membership.
- Research and consider study away and abroad opportunities; attend study away fairs.
- Consider applying for a campus-funded undergraduate research opportunity.
- Consider taking part in the Student Research and Creativity Conference (SRCC).
- Consider Kappa Delta Pi: International Honor Society in Education membership.
- Complete some New York State required teacher workshops.
- Use the services offered by the Career and Professional Education Center (CAPE) to create your resume and search for related job and internship opportunities.

### SIXTH SEMESTER

Course Title	Catalog Number	Prerequisite(s)
History and Government of New York State	HIS 415	
Methods and Materials in Teaching High School Social Studies	SSE 309	SSE 200
Teaching and Evaluating Writing or Adolescent Literacy	ENG 309 or EDU 417	
Upper Division Asian, African, or Middle Eastern History		
Elective		

**Notes and recommendations:**

- Seek advisement from your major department advisor every semester even if you are being advised by other academic advisors.
- Regularly review your audit in Degree Works.
- Consider dual majors, minors and dual teaching certificates.
- If you are a dual major, make sure social studies education is listed as your first major.
- Do not fall below full-time (12 credits) status in any semester if you receive financial aid.
- If you are receiving the Excelsior Scholarship, you must successfully complete 30 credits per year. If you complete 12 credits one semester, you need 18 credits the other semester.
- Research and apply for campus scholarships via the Campus Application Portal for Scholarships (CAPS) and the department website.
- Visit the Academic Center for Excellence to receive support for math, writing, or general tutoring; create study groups.
- Review the Buffalo State Teacher Certification Office website to become acquainted with all the teacher certification requirements such as teacher workshops, exams, and fingerprinting.
- Consider Phi Alpha Theta: National History Honor Society membership.
- Research and consider study away and abroad opportunities; attend study away fairs.
- Consider applying for a campus-funded undergraduate research opportunity.
- Consider taking part in the Student Research and Creativity Conference (SRCC).
- Consider Kappa Delta Pi: International Honor Society in Education membership.
- Complete some New York State required teacher workshops.
- Use the services offered by the Career and Professional Education Center (CAPE) to create your resume and search for related job and internship opportunities.

**Senior Year (120 credits)**

## SEVENTH SEMESTER

Course Title	Catalog Number	Prerequisite(s)
Methods and Materials in Teaching Middle School Social Studies	SSE 303	SSE 200, SSE 309
Computer Technology in the Social Studies Classroom	SSE 370	
Human Geography or Geography of New York State or Urban Geography or Geography of Asia or Geography of the United States and Canada	GEG 102 or GEG 206 or GEG 309 or GEG 360 or GEG 362	
Upper Division Social Science Elective		
Elective		
Elective		

**Notes and Recommendations:**

- If you are receiving the Excelsior Scholarship, Student Teaching (SSE 409/SSE 410) is only 12 credit hours, you must take 18 credit hours in the Fall to be compliant.
- Seek advisement from your major department advisor every semester even if you are being advised by other academic advisors.
- Regularly review your audit in Degree Works.
- Consider dual majors, minors and dual teaching certificates.
- If you are a dual major, make sure social studies education is listed as your first major.
- Do not fall below full-time (12 credits) status in any semester if you receive financial aid.
- Research and apply for campus scholarships via the Campus Application Portal for Scholarships (CAPS) and the department website.
- Visit the Academic Center for Excellence to receive support for math, writing, or general tutoring; create study groups.
- Review the Buffalo State Teacher Certification Office website to become acquainted with all the teacher certification requirements such as teacher workshops, exams, and fingerprinting.
- Consider Phi Alpha Theta: National History Honor Society membership.
- Research and consider study away and abroad opportunities; attend study away fairs.
- Consider applying for a campus-funded undergraduate research opportunity.
- Consider taking part in the Student Research and Creativity Conference (SRCC).
- Consider Kappa Delta Pi: International Honor Society in Education membership.
- Complete some New York State required teacher workshops.

-Use the services offered by the Career and Professional Education Center (CAPE) to create your resume and search for related job and internship opportunities.

-To graduate, you must complete a total of 120 credit hours with at least 45 upper division credits.

#### EIGHTH SEMESTER

<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Catalog Number</b>	<b>Prerequisite(s)</b>
Student Teaching of Social Studies in the Middle School	SSE 409	SSE 200, SSE 309, SSE 303 And all remaining major and minor course work
Student Teaching of Social Studies in the High School	SSE 410	SSE 200, SSE 309, SSE 303 And all remaining major and minor course work

**Notes and recommendations:**

-Complete remaining New York State required teacher workshops.

-Use the services offered by the Career and Professional Education Center (CAPE) for resume assistance and mock interviews.

-Attend Teacher Recruitment Days.

-Complete New York State Teacher Certification Exams (NYSTCE).

-Apply for graduation.

-Request letters of recommendations.

-Research graduate programs and schools; apply if applicable.

-Attend graduation.

-Sign up with the Alumni Association.