The Social Sciences focus on people as members of society. As such we seek to understand attitudes, beliefs, and social behaviors of individuals, groups, and institutions. Another important component of the social sciences is recognizing how histories, societies, and traditions influence those attitudes, beliefs, and social behaviors. Attention is devoted to how the student relates to the complex interactions among individuals, environment, and social institutions. The social sciences also promote the examination of ideologies and practices from multiple perspectives.

General Education courses in the Social Sciences enable students to:

- critically study and evaluate the research methods and theories used in the social sciences to explain interaction among individuals, groups, and institutions;
- understand how diverse peoples interact in response to their environment, history, cultural traditions, and societies;
- provide insight into the development and implementation of programs and policies designed to improve people's lives and explain theoretical structures to account for those changes.