

**Social and Behavioral Sciences
Component Area VIII
Core Curriculum Course Proposals
Rubric Cover Sheet**

This document is being provided, hopefully, to assist you as you begin the process of preparing proposals for the 2014 Core Curriculum. You can find the Core Curriculum Component Application at the Academic Affairs website under Forms:
http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/forms/Curriculum.html

The completed application, along with a copy of the course syllabus, needs to be submitted to the Core Curriculum Committee for their consideration. Each of the Component Areas has a Sub-Committee that will be studying the submissions. Each of these Sub-Committees has also developed a rubric that should assist you in understanding what they will be looking for in the applications.

The Social and Behavioral Sciences Rubric is being provided to those who desire to submit a course for Social and Behavioral Sciences Component Area. In preparing proposals for this area please consider the points below. The THECB prepared the standards that the Sub-Committee is using for the development of the Rubric. Be aware that in the end the THECB will approve or not approve the courses we submit to them.

- Read the verbiage in Application and the Rubric carefully and attempt to address thoroughly all of the issues.
- The areas covered in the Rubric are addressing the Component Area criteria, the Skill Objective requirements, and an assessment for each of these.
- Assessments must include at least one direct assessment and may include indirect assessments as well.
 - Direct assessment methods include, but are not limited to, assessment by a panel using a pre-specified scoring rubric; portfolio evaluation by designated faculty portfolio committee; embedded questions designed to measure student learning regarding program objectives; national or state standardized tests; pre/post-tests; or essays scored using rubrics established by a panel of faculty.
 - Indirect assessment methods include, but are not limited to, surveys, student peer evaluations, IDEA results, institutional data, case studies, or focus group feedback.
- In dealing with assessment it is imperative that the same assessment be applied to each section of the course being proposed. In other words it is not acceptable to have separate instructors teaching the course developing their own assessment instrument(s). The instrument(s) should be standardized or departmental in nature.
- If one wishes to use “embedded items in exams” then please be more specific. For example, one might indicate the areas from which the exam items are drawn or perhaps say that a scenario is provided and students are asked to evaluate likely outcomes.
- If essay or papers are required the method of evaluation needs to be provided.

Our goal is to assist you in the development of the application so if we can be of help please feel free to call on us. The members of the Social and Behavioral Sciences Sub-Committee are listed below.

Committee Members: Jerry Bruce (Chair), Leana Bouffard, Don Freeman, Marsha Harman, Daphne Johnson, Holly Miller, John Newbold, Tamara Waggener, Bill Wells, and Ryan Zapalac

**Social and Behavioral Sciences
Core Curriculum Courses
Rubric**

Standard: Courses in this category focus on the application of empirical and scientific methods that contribute to the understanding of what makes us human. Courses involve the exploration of behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events, examining their impact on individuals, society, and culture.

Indicator/Criteria	Below Criteria Standards (Unacceptable)	Almost Meets Criteria Standards (Needs Modification)	Meets Criteria Standards (Acceptable)	Outstanding Proposal	Notes
<p>There is a focus on the application of empirical and scientific methods.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Employ the appropriate methods, technologies, and data that social and behavioral scientist use to investigate the human condition.</i> • <i>Recognize and apply reasonable criteria for the acceptability of social research.</i> • <i>Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.</i> • <i>Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.</i> 	<p>Little or no evidence of required elements.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>There is some evidence that the application of empirical and scientific methods is a content focus.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>The evidence submitted provides sufficient evidence that the application of empirical and scientific methods is a content focus.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>There is detailed evidence that the application of empirical and scientific methods is a content focus.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	
<p>Assesses students' ability to apply empirical and scientific methods.</p>	<p>The application provides little or no evidence of direct assessment in this area.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>The proposal includes some evidence of direct assessment of the application of empirical and scientific methods.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>The proposal includes sufficient evidence of direct assessment of empirical and scientific methods.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>The proposal thoroughly provides detailed evidence of direct assessment of the application of empirical and scientific methods.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	

<p>This course explores behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Examine social institutions and processes across social structures and cultures.</i> • <i>Differentiate and analyze differing points of view.</i> 	<p>Little or no evidence of required elements.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>The evidence submitted provides some evidence that there is exploration of behavior and interactions.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>The evidence submitted supports that most elements are present; there is sufficient evidence of exploration of behavior and interactions.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>There is detailed evidence of the exploration of behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, Institutions, and cultures.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>Notes</p>
<p>Assess students' ability to demonstrate, discuss, and/or explain behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events.</p>	<p>The application provides little or no evidence of direct assessment in this area.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>There is some evidence that the application describes how the assessment directly measures the application of behavior and interactions.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>There is sufficient evidence of direct assessment of behavior and interaction.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>The application thoroughly describes in detail the direct assessment of behavior and interaction.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	

<p>This course examines the impact of these behaviors and interactions on individuals, society, and culture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Identify differences and commonalities within diverse cultures.</i> • <i>Analyze the effects of social and cultural, and global forces on the area under study.</i> • <i>Recognize and assume one's responsibility as a citizen in a democratic society by learning to think for oneself, by engaging in public discourse, and by obtaining information through the news media and other appropriate information sources.</i> 	<p>Little or no evidence of required elements.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>The evidence submitted supports that some of the elements are present for an examination of the impact of behavior and interactions.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>The evidence submitted sufficiently supports that most elements are present for an examination of the impact of behavior and interactions.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>There is detailed evidence of an examination of the impact of behavior and interactions on individuals, society, and culture.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>Notes</p>
<p>Assess the students' ability to demonstrate, discuss, and/or explain the impact of these behaviors and interactions on individuals, society, and culture.</p>	<p>The application provides little or no evidence of direct assessment in this area.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>The application provides some evidence of direct assessment of the impact of behaviors and interactions.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>The assessment directly measures the impact of behaviors and interactions sufficiently.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>The application thoroughly describes in detail how the assessment measures the impact of behaviors and interactions.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	

Core Objectives Required in Component Area VIII					
<p>Critical Thinking Skills are integrated into the content.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Creative thinking</i> • <i>Innovation</i> • <i>Inquiry</i> • <i>Analysis</i> • <i>Evaluation</i> • <i>Synthesis of Information</i> 	<p>Little or no evidence.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>There is some evidence that elements of critical thinking skills are integrated into the course content.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>There is sufficient evidence that elements of critical thinking skills are integrated into the course content.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>There is detailed evidence that critical thinking skills are integrated into the course content.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	
<p>Effective Communication Skills (written, oral & visual) integrated into the content. Including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Development</i> • <i>Interpretation</i> • <i>Expression of ideas</i> 	<p>Little or no evidence.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>There is some evidence that communication skills are integrated into the course content.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>There is sufficient evidence that communication skills are integrated into the course content.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>There is detailed evidence that the elements of communication skills are appropriately thoroughly integrated into the course content.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	Notes

<p>Empirical and Quantitative Skills integrated into the content.</p> <p><i>Manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions. Examples include but are not limited to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Research questions</i> • <i>Hypothesis</i> • <i>Verifying conclusions</i> • <i>Describe a distribution</i> • <i>Simple experiments</i> • <i>Research</i> • <i>Collect evidence</i> 	<p>Little or no evidence.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>There is some evidence that empirical and quantitative skills are integrated into the course content.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>There is sufficient evidence that empirical and quantitative skills are integrated into the course content.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>There is detailed evidence that empirical and quantitative skills are integrated into the course content.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>Notes</p>
<p>Social Responsibility integrated into the content.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intercultural competence. • <i>Knowledge of civic responsibilities</i> • <i>Ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.</i> 	<p>Little or no evidence.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>There is some evidence that social responsibility is integrated into the course content.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>There is sufficient evidence that social responsibility is integrated into the course content.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>There is detailed evidence that social responsibility elements are integrated into the course content.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">○</p>	<p>Notes</p>
<p>Overall Notes:</p>					