Certification Staffing Assignment
Social Sciences
(7-12)

Social Sciences are instructional programs that describe the substantive portions of behavior, past and present activities, interactions, and organizations of people associated together for benevolent, cultural, religious, scientific, political, patriotic, or other purposes.

Grade Level Scope of Certificate:
A person holding a valid PA certificate for Social Science is qualified to teach Social Science courses in grades 7 through 12.

Certification Assignment:
A person holding a certificate for Social Science is qualified to teach Social Science courses and programs to include areas as: anthropology; sociology; psychology; archeology; philosophy and social theory.

A person holding a Social Studies certificate may also teach the Social Science courses.

At the middle level, the Social Sciences educator will also provide Social Science instruction, adjusted to the students' abilities when below proficient.

Special Considerations:
An educator holding a certificate for Social Science or Social Studies may teach Social Science courses to special education or gifted students within the scope of the certificate.

A person holding the older single discipline certification area for Sociology may teach world or American culture courses as well as sociology courses. An educator holding the older single discipline certification area for Anthropology may teach world or American culture courses.

An educator certified in this field may provide school staff development services regarding their collegial studies/skills and may serve in the role of mentor or advisor, and may assist students in understanding the “reading” content area materials related to this subject area.
Restrictions:
An educator certified for Social Sciences is not permitted to teach Citizenship Education or social studies courses, other than sociology, anthropology, and psychology, unless also holding that certificate.

References:
Program Specific Standards and Guidelines for Certification.

22 PA Code: Chapter 4: §4.22 (c)(4)
§4.23 (c)(4)
§4.23 (e)

Chapter 49: §49.11
§49.81

PA Public School Code: §1202
§1212
§1604

Other CSPGs for Reference: Citizenship Education
Foreign Languages
School Psychologist
Special Education

THIS REVISION SUPERSEDES ALL EARLIER CSPG’S CARRYING THIS NUMBER AND/OR ADDRESSING THIS SUBJECT. PREVIOUS PRINTING DATES ON THIS SUBJECT: 3/75, 2/79, 01/81, 1/87