

**S1: Social Science Catamount Core Approval Supplemental Information Form**

Purpose and Intent: To provide supplemental information relevant to the review of proposed courses for designation as S1 and inclusion in UVM’s Catamount Core curriculum.

The Submission Process and Approval Criteria, as well as the Rubric that the Catamount Core Curriculum Committee will use to review this proposal, can be found on the following pages of this document.

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| With a well-developed syllabus, this form should take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete. |

To assist students in understanding how courses in each Catamount Core category contribute to UVM’s general education program, please include the following language in a prominent location in your syllabus (e.g. after the course description):

**S1: Social Science**

The social sciences focus on how individuals, groups, and institutions affect and interact with each other. Through systematic investigation, social scientists generate explanatory frameworks for understanding human behavior, action, and social practices. Studying social science prepares students to examine past and present social problems; to think critically about individual, local, regional, and global contexts; and to improve societal well-being.

**Course Information**

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| **Course Number:** |  |
| **Course Title:** |  |
| **Name of Faculty Member:** |  |
| **Email Address:** |  |

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| **Please indicate if this course presently meets any of the current General Education requirements listed here (check all that apply):** | \_\_\_\_D1 \_\_\_\_D2 \_\_\_\_FWIL \_\_\_\_QR \_\_\_\_SU |

[v. 2.0, 01/2023]

**Submission Process:**

The overall purpose of the submission process for all Catamount Core requirements is to maintain the integrity of the general education curriculum at UVM and to ensure that approved courses maintain alignment with the learning outcomes for the corresponding Catamount Core category. A copy of the evaluation rubric used by the review committee is provided at the very end of this form. The review process can result in one of three outcomes:

1. Approval (the course will be assigned the requested Catamount Core designation for a 5 year-period)
2. Revisions requested (the review committee may ask for changes to be made to the course or for additional information prior to approval)
3. Rejection (the course as currently constructed and/or presented in the submission materials does not meet the approval criteria designation)

The committee needs both a syllabus, and detailed information about how a course addresses the S1 outcomes in order to complete its review. Information about how the outcomes are addressed can be provided via either a brief narrative *or* detailed information in the outcomes chart below. You may choose to include both a narrative and the outcomes chart if that is helpful in providing the committee with necessary information:

1. A sample course syllabus *that includes a list of key readings and assignments* as well as the required description of the S1 category provided above, as well as listing the specific S1 outcomes your course meets;

PLUS, either a brief narrative or the completed outcomes chart, or both. Please provide specific examples of course activities and readings in your narrative or learning outcomes rubric, so that it is clear to the review committee how your course meets the course approval criteria:

1. A brief narrative (approximately one single-spaced page) that addresses the following:
   1. Briefly describe how the course meets the approval criteria below.
   2. If not including the outcomes chart below, briefly summarize relevant topics/and learning activities and how and where students’ achievement of the outcomes will be assessed (e.g. research paper; creative work; exam question; presentation).
   3. Any other contextual information that can assist the committee in its review.
2. The student learning outcomes chart provided below, indicating for each student learning outcome: activities and topics that will support their learning in this area; and the means by which student achievement of each outcome will be assessed (e.g. research paper; creative work; exam question; presentation). Information can be provided in bullet form, but should include substantive information on both topics/activities and assessment.

**To qualify to fulfill the Social Science requirement, a course must be at least 3 credits and meet *three* of the following four criteria**:

1. Students *develop an understanding* of how individuals, groups, or institutions affect and interact with each other.
2. Students *explore* theories of human behavior, experience, institutions, or social systems.
3. Students *learn about* systematic investigation in social science through the methods and processes of research, such as identifying research questions, data collection, analysis, and representation of findings.
4. Students *apply* social science approaches to the study of individual, group or institutional interactions to their understanding of specific cases, such as in a field study or similar applied contexts.

In addition, the course must address and assess student learning outcomes listed below.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

In the context of the course topic or field of inquiry, students successfully completing a course fulfilling the Gen Ed Social Science requirement will:

* Be able to draw on course topics, materials, and activities to *describe* how individuals, groups or institutions affect and interact with each other.
* Be able to *identify and demonstrate understanding of* theories of human behavior, experience, institutions, or social systems addressed in the course.
* *Recognize and evaluate* methods and processes of systematic investigation in one or more applied examples of social science research

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| **S1 Student Learning Outcomes** | **Activities/Topics** | **Assessment** |
| Be able to draw on course topics, materials, and activities to *describe* how individuals, groups or institutions affect and interact with each other. |  |  |
| Be able to *identify and demonstrate understanding of* theories of human behavior, experience, institutions, or social systems addressed in the course. |  |  |
| *Recognize and evaluate* methods and processes of systematic investigation in one or more applied examples of social science research. |  |  |