

## General Studies Request Form

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Please see the [General Studies Request Overview and FAQ](#) for information and quick answers.

New permanent numbered courses must be submitted to the workflow in [Kuali CM](#) before a General Studies request is submitted here. The General Studies Council will not review requests ahead of a new course proposal being reviewed by the Senate.

### Proposal Contact Information

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Submitter Name	Submitter Email	Submitter Phone Number
Mackenzie Boyer	mjboyer2@asu.edu	13526725524

College/School	Department/School
Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering (CES)	School of Sustainable Engineering & Built Environment (CSUSENG)

### Submission Information

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Type of submission:

New Request (Course or topic does not currently hold this designation)

Requested Effective Date

Fall 2023

### ASU Request

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Is this request for a permanent course or a topic?

Topic

Subject Code	Course Number	Units/Credit Hours
EVE	394	3

#### Topic Information

If your request is approved:

1. Topics on [omnibus courses](#) only carry designations for three consecutive semesters (excluding summer), *whether or not they are scheduled*. Once expired, a new request must be submitted.
2. Topics on **permanent courses** require mandatory review every five years.

Topic Title

Global Environmental Perspectives

Topic Description

Cross-cultural analysis of perceptions of the environment as a resource to both protect and to use, and the preferred civil and environmental engineered systems of different societies. Focusses on preferences for and environmental impacts of water treatment, wastewater treatment, solid waste disposal, and energy generation.

If this topic exists on any other courses and the sections will be combined in the schedule, please list those courses here.

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## General Studies

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### Requested Designation

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SB - Social-Behavioral Sciences

SB: Social-Behavioral Sciences

#### **Rationale and Objectives**

Social-behavioral sciences use distinctive scientific methods of inquiry and generate empirical knowledge about human behavior, within society and across cultural groups. Courses in this area address the challenge of understanding the diverse natures of individuals and cultural groups who live together in a complex and evolving world.

In both private and public sectors, people rely on social scientific findings to consider and assess the social consequences of both large-scale and group economic, technological, scientific, political, ecological and cultural change. Social scientists' observations about human interactions with the broader society and their unique perspectives on human events make an important contribution to civic dialogue.

Courses proposed for a General Studies designation in the Social-Behavioral Sciences area must demonstrate emphases on: (1) social scientific theories, perspectives and principles, (2) the use of social-behavioral methods to acquire knowledge about cultural or social events and processes, and (3) the impact of social scientific understanding on the world.

[Revised April 2014]

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Note: The following types of courses are **excluded** from the "SB" area, even though they might give some consideration social and behavioral science concerns:

1. Courses with primarily arts, humanities, literary or philosophical content.
2. Courses with primarily natural or physical science content.
3. Courses with predominantly applied orientation for professional skills or training purposes.
4. Courses emphasizing primarily oral, quantitative, or written skills.

An "SB" course should meet all of the following criteria. If not, a rationale for exclusion should be provided.

#### "SB" Criteria 1

Course is designed to advance basic understanding and knowledge about human interaction.

Identify the submitted documentation that provides evidence.

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#### Syllabus

How does this course meet the spirit of this criteria?

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Humans use- and sometimes exploit- the resources they have access to. This course advances basic understanding and knowledge about human interaction through people's responses to how the environment is managed, particularly when there are competing stakeholders. Students gain insights as to why certain groups believe and behave the way that they when interacting with the natural and built environment. The environmental issues are used a backdrop for the stage of human interactions.

Provide detailed evidence of how this course meets this criteria (i.e. where in the syllabus or other course materials).

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The course schedule within the syllabus contains a broad range of documentaries and topics to be discussed. The documentaries use storytelling to weave stakeholder experiences and opinions into their characterization of an environmental problem.

### "SB" Criteria 2

Course content emphasizes the study of social behavior such as that found in:

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Anthropology

Economics

Cultural Geography

History

Identify the submitted documentation that provides evidence.

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Syllabus

How does this course meet the spirit of this criteria?

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Global Environmental Perspectives will engage with several social and behavioral sciences such as anthropology, sustainability, cultural geography, history, and social/political policy.

Provide detailed evidence of how this course meets this criteria (i.e. where in the syllabus or other course materials).

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The documentaries provide insights into their selected stakeholders, and class lectures/discussions build upon the environmental issues presented using peer-reviewed literature from the social and behavioral science fields and popular media.

### "SB" Criteria 3

Course emphasizes:

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a. the distinct knowledge base of the social and behavioral sciences (e.g., sociological anthropological)

Identify the submitted documentation that provides evidence.

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Syllabus

How does this course meet the spirit of this criteria?

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The course provides an opportunity to study the social life and culture of a broad range of groups in order to understand the causes and consequences of their human impact on the environment. This is presented through documentaries, historical analyzes, a journal articles that used surveys and ethnographic interviews.

Provide detailed evidence of how this course meets this criteria (i.e. where in the syllabus or other course materials).

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The course aims to develop a knowledge based of social and behavioral sciences by consulting research that using the methods of inquiry dominate in the field. The lecture/discussion material uses ethnography (e.g., interviews of individual's perceptions of the pollution in their community in "Cancer Ally", Louisiana, and surveys on climate change perceptions in the agriculture sector of Great Britain) and historical analyses (e.g., the history of the value of wastewater as a resource in Japan vs. Europe, which influenced

political policy, and the history of fracking regulations as a function of public perceptions and political power in the US vs Europe).

"SB" Criteria 4

Course illustrates use of social and behavioral science perspectives and data.

Identify the submitted documentation that provides evidence.

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Syllabus

How does this course meet the spirit of this criteria?

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Lecture/discussions rely heavily on peer-reviewed social and behavioral sciences articles.

Provide detailed evidence of how this course meets this criteria (i.e. where in the syllabus or other course materials).

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The lecture material is paired with documentaries. The lecture/discussions fact-check the documentary (both the scientific facts and the experiences of those interviewed), and social and behavioral data is presented and discussed. For example, the concept of willingness to pay surveys are introduced through a study on pollution avoidance, as well as ethnographic surveys as described under Criteria 3.

Attach a sample syllabus for this course or topic, including the list of any required readings.

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[Syllabus GEP Fall 2023.pdf](#)

Attach the table of contents from any required textbook(s).

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No Response

Attach any other materials that would be relevant or helpful in the review of this request.

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No Response

## Form Submission - Proposer

Submitted for Approval | Proposer

Mackenzie Boyer - March 15, 2023 at 11:58 PM (America/Phoenix)

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### Department Approval

Approved

Mike Sever - March 16, 2023 at 8:19 AM (America/Phoenix)

Treavor Boyer

Keith Hjelmstad

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### Provost's Office Review

Approved

April Randall

Joni Lochtefeld - March 16, 2023 at 8:47 AM (America/Phoenix)

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### Social-Behavioral Sciences Committee Review

Acknowledgement Requested

Michael Mokwa - March 29, 2023 at 2:56 PM (America/Phoenix)

Invite a Re-submission with Revision: This is an interesting and relevant course. The proposal was developed and documented adequately. The syllabus was also developed and presented adequately, and it aligned with the proposal. While the course includes some considerations of interactive human behaviors and societal perspectives, we do not have enough information to judge whether the explicit study of interactive human behavior is the dominant focus in the learning experience of the students. This must be clarified, elaborated, and demonstrated more explicitly.

L. Wallace

Michele Devine

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### General Studies Council Meeting

Waiting for Approval

April Randall

Joni Lochtefeld

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### Registrar Notification

Notification

Courses Implementation

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## Implementation

### Approval

Rebecca Klein

Lauren Bates

Alisha Von Kampen

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## Proposer Notification

### Notification

Mackenzie Boyer

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## Topic Notification

### Notification

Leticia Mayer

Peggy Boivin

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