



Social Justice Studies Degree Task Force Report to the Board of Trustees

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Ethnic Studies to Social Justice Studies

- April 2016 - Academic Senate created a Social Justice/Ethnic Studies Degree/Curriculum Task Force in response to a petition presented by students to the Academic Senate to create an Ethnic Studies Degree
- March 2, 2017 – Academic passed recommendations from the Ethnic Studies Degree Task Force
 - Develop a Social Justice Studies AA-T Degree
 - As the program grows, develop a Social Justice Studies Department
 - Create a Associate's Degree Diversity Requirement
- April 2017 – Academic Senate appointed faculty to serve on the AA-T Social Justice Studies Degree Creation Task Force

Why Social Justice Studies?

- The Social Justice Studies Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) was selected as the degree for Ethnic Studies majors for the following reasons:
 - Social Justice Studies is diverse enough to provides flexibility to branch out and offer curriculum that can lead to several majors (i.e. Ethnic Studies, Gender Studies, Chicano/a Studies, African American Studies, Asian American Studies, and more)
 - Mt. SAC has several courses that already meet the requirements of the ADT curriculum
 - ADT assists the student with transferring to the CSU system, some private and out-of-state colleges and universities

Social Justice Studies Task Force

- As these degrees are interdisciplinary, it was critical that the make-up of the task force reflected faculty from several disciplines that would be included in the ADT.
 - Curriculum had to be agreed upon
 - New curriculum had to be written to meet the core requirements
 - One discipline, Sociology, was voted to be responsible for submitting the curriculum and degree to the Curriculum and Instruction Council

Where Are We Now?

- Curriculum and the degree were submitted to the Curriculum and Instruction Council May 31, 2018
- To date, the courses and degree are at Stage 5 out of 7.
- Once the degree and curriculum are approved at Mt. SAC, it will be sent to the Chancellor's Office for approval
- Once approval from the Chancellor's Office is received, we can offer the degree at Mt. SAC – expected Fall 2019

SJS Degree Program Goals and Objectives

The goal of the Associate in Arts in Social Justice Studies for Transfer degree is to prepare students to seamlessly transfer to a CSU at the junior level with the knowledge and skills relevant for the study and pursuit of social justice.

SJS Degree Program Goals and Objectives (cont'd)

Transfer students can earn a bachelor's degree in social justice or a related field such as:



- PLO must reflect our focus on and definition of social justice.



- PLO must reflect what we want students to understand.



Program Level Outcomes

The successful completion of the degree in Social Justice Studies will equip students with the core skills and knowledge needed to do the following:

- Apply a social justice framework to assess how race, class, gender, sexual orientation, citizenship status, ability and age affect access to societal resources and opportunities for advancement.
- Identify and practice the methods used to advocate for social justice at local, national, and international levels.
- Make theoretically-informed evaluations of the basic dimensions of social justice and social change.

Catalog Description

The Associate in Arts in Social Justice Studies for Transfer is an interdisciplinary program that provides students with the core knowledge and skills needed to pursue a baccalaureate degree in Social Justice or a related field. In this program, students will be introduced to the basic principles of social justice, social equity, and social change, and they will be challenged to explore and identify how deficits within the social structure—rather than deficits within marginalized individuals—are the primary cause of the inequitable distribution of and access to wealth and health, education and occupations, power and privilege.

Career Opportunities

People with degrees in SJS pursue careers in the following:

- Legislative advocacy
- Politics
- Human Services
- Law Enforcement & Law
- Community Organizations
- Education