Master’s Degree in Social Science

Student Handbook
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I. General Overview of Program

Program Description
The Master of Social Science offers students opportunities for professional enhancement in the field through exploration of timely and relevant social science issues from a variety of academic perspectives. Students create and follow a program of study coordinated by the departments of Economics, Geography, History, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice, and Women's Studies. Students have considerable freedom to build a degree tailored to their interests. The program also provides an opportunity for development and publication of a thesis. It is our expectation that graduates will gain familiarity with research, theoretical advances, applications and methodological approaches related to current topics in Social Science.

Degree Requirements
All students receiving a Master of Science in the Social Sciences graduate program must:

- Earn a minimum of thirty-six (36) credit hours over the course of their study
- Specialize within either the General or Global Analysis Track
- Complete either a thesis or a professional presentation (Global Analysis students MUST do a thesis; General Track students may choose either thesis or professional presentation)
- Show proficiency in a foreign language (Global Analysis Track students only)
- Submit a final portfolio of their work in the program. See below on p. 5.

All Towson University Graduate Students must also observe the following rules:

- Students may take no more than nine (9) credit hours at the 500 level
- Students may receive no more than two grades of C and remain in their respective program
- Master's Degree students must complete their work within a span of seven (7) years
- For more information on Towson University Graduate School's requirements, see the Graduate Catalog

While there is some overlap between the General and Global Analysis tracks, students are benefited by choosing early on which track they wish to follow.

II. The Program of Study

There are two different tracks within the program—the General Track and the Global Analysis Track—and students will choose one and follow the requirements for that specific track. The guidelines are below.

A. The General Track

This track is ideal for teachers and other professionals wishing to study the latest advancements in social science theory, methods, and substantive issues.

Required Courses (18 Core Credit Hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOSC 600</td>
<td>Interdisciplinary Approaches to Global Problems</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Note: This course is required for ALL SOSC students)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Then choose five of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOSC 601</td>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>SOSC 603</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMST 607</td>
<td>Advanced Feminist Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Elective Courses (18 Non-Core Credit Hours)

Students will take 18 elective credits within the program disciplines (Economics, Geography, History, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice, and Women’s Studies). Students must select either the thesis option or the professional presentation option for the General Track.
Thesis Option
Students will select one program discipline as their disciplinary emphasis. Students will complete twelve (12) credit hours within this discipline, six (6) of which will be thesis credits managed and supervised by an advisor from their chosen disciplinary emphasis. Students must also take an additional six (6) credit hours in disciplines other than their disciplinary emphasis. A thesis must be a minimum of fifty pages and can be submitted electronically; no hard copy is required. The thesis will be reviewed by the Program Director upon the recommendation of the student’s advisor.

- 500-700 level courses (two from selected disciplinary emphasis) (9 credits)
- 600-700 level courses (any other discipline) (3 credits)
- SOSC 898/899 Thesis (within selected disciplinary emphasis) (6 credits)

Prior to starting their theses, students must submit a Thesis Committee Approval Form which is in the appendices of this manual. A proposal does not have to be submitted before the start of the thesis, BUT is highly recommended. Additionally, make sure to download and study the Graduate School’s Thesis Guidelines as you approach the thesis stage: http://grad.towson.edu/academic/files/Guidelines.pdf.

Professional Presentation Option (Non-thesis)
As with the thesis option, students choose a discipline in which to concentrate their studies. Twelve (12) credit hours will be in the selected disciplinary emphasis while the remaining six (6) must be in disciplines other than the selected discipline. In addition to the eighteen (18) credit hours, students must deliver a peer-reviewed presentation for a university, a local or national conference organized by their track discipline, or give a presentation to an assembly of Towson University faculty and program peers.

- 500-700 level courses (within disciplinary emphasis) (12 credits)
- 600-700 level courses (from other program disciplines) (6 credits)
- Professional Presentation

Final Portfolio
Students must submit a final portfolio. Please see below, p. 5, for more information on portfolio submissions.

Exit Interview
Each graduating student must schedule an exit interview with the program director to be held no later than two weeks prior to the end of the term in which the student has applied for graduation.

B. The Global Analysis Track
This is a track of interest to students pursuing or continuing careers in human rights, international non-governmental organizations, homeland security and intelligence and policy analysis, among other fields. Unlike the General Track, there is no option for the professional presentation. Students must complete a thesis for the Global Analysis track.

Foreign Language Requirement
Students in the Global Analysis track must demonstrate language proficiency at the intermediate level. Four terms of college-level foreign language training are mandatory to complete this requirement. Requirements can also be met by passing an Equivalence Examination at the intermediate level administered by the Department of Foreign Language at Towson University. Students whose native language is one other than English should consult the Program Director.

Required Courses (15 Core Credit Hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>SOSC 603</td>
<td>The Economist's Perspective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOSC 604</td>
<td>East Asian Security Issues, 1945-Present</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMST 605</td>
<td>Women in International Context</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Electives (15 Credit Hours)
Students may take one of two approaches when choosing electives in the Global Analysis track: a regional focus and a topical focus. The regional focus allows students to focus their studies on a particular region of the world (e.g., the Middle East or
Latin America), whereas the topical focus allows students to take a broader, more topical approach, focusing for instance on inequality and power from a comparative perspective. For both foci, it should be noted, students must consult with the SOSC program director in selecting appropriate courses.

Regional Focus
Under this focus, at least three (3) of the five (5) electives, taken from the following list, must consist of courses related to the geographical region of emphasis, subject to the discretion of the program advisor.

Topical Focus
Under this focus, students may choose any five (5) courses from the list below. The program advisor will oversee the selections to maintain that thematic and topical goals are met. Note: Students may also select other electives not listed above, subject to the approval of the Director. Students should keep in mind the Graduate School's policy that only three (3) courses at the 500 level can be applied to the graduate degree.

Social Science - Global Analysis - Approved List

ANTH 530           Korea and Globalization (3)
ANTH 567           Peoples of the Middle East (3)
ANTH 568           Globalization in Cross- Cultural Perspective (3)
ANTH 569           Tradition and Revolution in Latin American Society (3)
GEOG 511           Cultural Geography (3)
GEOG 562           Geography of Africa (3)
GEOG 564           Geography of East Asia (3)
GEOG 565           Geography of the Middle East (3)
GEOG 568           Geography of Latin America (3)
HIST 511           History of Modern Southeast Asia (3)
HIST 513           Revolutionary China (3)
HIST 530           Nationalism in 20th Century East and Southeast Asia (3)
HIST 5xx           Israel/Palestine: Conflicting Past, Conflicting Presents (3)
HIST 607           Latin America and the United States (3)
HIST 621           African History through Literature (3)
PHIL 502           Philosophies of China and Japan (3)
POSC 509           Comparative Political Systems (3)
POSC 512           The Latin American Policy of the United States (3)
POSC 551           The Government and Politics of Latin America (3)
POSC 557           Seminar: Use of Force in International Law (3)
POSC 591           Seminar in Contemporary United States Foreign Policy (3)
POSC 690           Directed Research in Political Science (3)
PSYC 532           Cross-Cultural Psychology (3)
SOCI 533           Political Sociology (3)
SOSC 625-630       Topics in the Social Sciences
SOSC 787           Directed Individual Readings in Social Sciences (1-6)
SOSC 797           Directed Individual Research in Social Sciences (3)

Thesis: SOSC 897/898/899 (6 Credit Hours)
Six (6) credits are required to complete this component. Students choosing a regional focus must write their thesis in their area of regional focus. Students choosing topical focus are encouraged to pursue a thesis in their particular topical area. There is no professional presentation option for the Global Analysis track of study. Prior to starting their theses, students must submit a Thesis Committee Approval Form which is in the appendices of this manual. Additionally, make sure to download and study the Graduate School’s Thesis Guidelines as you approach the thesis stage: https://www.towson.edu/academics/graduate/office/documents/guidelines.pdf

Final Portfolio
Students must also submit a final portfolio. Please see below, p. 5, for more information on portfolio submissions.

Exit Interview
Each graduating student must schedule an exit interview with the program director to be held no later than two weeks prior to the end of the term in which the student has applied for graduation.
III. Final Portfolio Guidelines

Masters of Science in Social Science candidates are required to submit a professional portfolio in order to ensure that they have mastered program goals. Due dates for portfolios will correspond with University schedules for Masters’ Comprehensive Examinations: approximately April 1st for May graduation, July 1st for August graduation, and November 1 for January graduation. Each M.S. SOSC candidate will submit his or her portfolio to the Program Director, who will then distribute it to the advisory board members.

Portfolio Contents

1. Table of Contents: The Table of Contents should contain the following headings:
   a) Up-to-date-Resume or Vita
   b) Core Courses with Instructors and semester taken
   c) Disciplinary Specialty Courses
   d) Elective Courses with Instructors and semester taken
   e) Research and Experimentation (when applicable)
   f) Master’s Thesis summary (when applicable)
   g) Professional Project summary (when applicable)
   h) Reflective Essay

2. Written Work and Exams:
   The portfolio should be organized by course and must contain examples of graded written assignments, projects and exams submitted by the student in all courses. At the beginning of each course section, a two paragraph statement should be written which describes briefly how the student’s intellectual perspective changed or developed as a result of participating in this course.

3. Research and Experimentation: From applicable tracks.

4a. Master’s Thesis:
   Master’s Thesis Candidates must submit a five-page, typewritten summary of their Master’s Thesis. This abstract must be accompanied by a letter from the student's master’s thesis advisor.

4b. Professional Project/Presentation:
   Professional Project Candidates must submit a written copy of their professional presentation, including hardcopy of any electronic components of their presentation. Other relevant material to provide here may include an official program from the conference at which the presentation occurred or a written assessment of the project from the candidate’s project jury.

5. Reflective Essay:
   The student must write and include in the portfolio a ten-page, typewritten essay describing the student’s intellectual growth as a consequence of completion of his/her course of study. Reflection should go beyond lectures and describe life experiences over the past few years which have also contributed to their personal development as it pertains to their degree.

NOTE: Essays should be typed in Times, 12-point font and should be double-spaced. References are not necessary; however, formal conventions for writing should be maintained. Attention to spelling, grammar, sentence structure, etc. is critical.

Evaluation Criteria for Portfolios

1. Each of the listed requirements must be included in the portfolio and each must adhere to all standards described above.

2. Proper grammar, punctuation, and spelling are expected on all documents.

3. Portfolio materials should be typewritten or word-processed on 8.5 x 11inch paper and placed in a hard cover, three-ring binder. Please do not encase each separate sheet in a sheet protector. The first entry should be the Table of Contents. A labeled tab in its appropriate place in the portfolio should accompany each topic in the Table of Contents.

4. The essay will be evaluated based on attention to quality of writing and consideration of the content of the essay.

IV. Directed Individual Readings and Research

Explanation

These courses—SOSC 787 Directed Individual Readings and SOSC 797 Directed Individual Research—permit students in the Master of Science Program in Social Science to undertake individual readings and research at the graduate level in a topic not covered by existing courses. Students should choose “readings” (787) if they are interested in exploring a literature or research area and “research” (797) if they have a strong idea of exactly what topic or issue they wish to examine and research.
Prerequisites & Restrictions
Graduate standing and 18 credits of SOSC core courses. No more than 6 credits may be applied toward the degree. Students must receive consent of Program Director.

Requirements
1. Students must identify an instructor within one of the participating disciplines of the M.S. Program in Social Science to direct the course.
2. In the semester prior to enrolling in the course, the student will meet with the instructor to define a topic and to draft a list of readings.
3. Students will submit the list of agreed-upon readings and due dates for readings and written assignments to the Program Director prior to the beginning of the semester of study.
4. Reading lists must require students to read approximately 300 pages (or the equivalent of a book) per week.
5. Students must write a 25-page paper on a topic agreed upon with the instructor. Instructors may add additional weekly writing assignments.
6. Students will be graded 50% on discussions of weekly readings and 50% on final paper. (Student and instructor may renegotiate these proportions in consultation with the Program Director, however the assigned reading and written page totals must be respected).
7. As with all graded work completed during the course of study, students must include all graded written assignments in their final portfolio.
8. Students will receive whole letter grades in keeping with the graduate school policy. If students miss more than two planned discussion sessions with the instructor, they will have failed the reading discussion portion of the course.

V. Policies and Procedures

A. Program Policies and Procedures

Advising
Students are not assigned an advisor upon acceptance into the program. Questions concerning the program should be directed to the program administrative assistant (see program faculty and staff contact info), or the Director of the MS Social Science program. It is the goal of the faculty to assist students in completing the program and mastering their chosen area of study. This is a joint effort between faculty and students. It is expected that the students make appointments to meet with faculty, or advisors, at least once a semester, especially if on the thesis track. Advisors may also request to meet with their advisees if they suspect issues that affect the student’s ability to function in a professional manner during classes or during the course of study.

Students are expected to be thoroughly familiar with the Graduate Catalog and meet University and/or program deadlines for registration, graduation, and course/exam “sign-ups” as specified.

E-Mail Addresses and Correspondence
Once you have enrolled, you will be provided with a Towson ID user name and e-mail account. It will be in the form of: <last name#>@students.towson.edu. This is your official e-mail account for all University and Social Sciences communication. It is your responsibility to frequently check this account, or have it forwarded to your primary email account to ensure your knowledge of University and Program information.

Continuous Enrollment
Students are expected to register for courses on a regular basis. Previous degree candidates who have missed one fall or spring term must apply for re-enrollment, and pay a $25 processing fee through the Registrar’s Office. Forms are available through the Registrar’s Customer Service Center at Enrollment Services 223 or online at www.towson.edu/registrar (click the “Reenrollment” link). The deadlines for readmission are August 1 for the fall term and December 1 for the spring term. Graduate non-degree students who have missed one fall or one spring term must complete a new application via University Admissions. If two academic years for degree students elapse during which a student does not enroll in courses for graduate credit, the student's records are removed from the university’s file. If the student desires to take graduate courses after this action, he or she must initiate the application process as a new applicant via University Admissions.
Permission for Registration:
Many courses are offered specifically for Social Science masters students. These courses will be noted online as “Special Permit Required” and may not permit you to register. To be permitted to register for a course you must contact the Social Sciences administrative assistant (see program faculty and staff contact info) to request registration access. In your email, please provide a list of courses you would like to be enrolled in when course registration begins. Permission will then be granted and you can then use Towson Online Services to register for classes online.

B. Important Graduate School Policies

Academic Standing
Good academic standing in a degree program requires a minimum 3.00 GPA for all courses taken for graduate credit whether or not they are required for the degree. Students must achieve a grade of B or better in prerequisite courses. Good academic standing is necessary to transfer course work and to graduate. Should the degree student’s average fall below a 3.00 (including prerequisite courses), a letter of academic warning will be sent. The GPA must be restored to 3.00 within 9 units completed or within one year from the term in which the GPA fell below 3.00, whichever comes first. A student on academic probation who does not restore the GPA to 3.00 as required will be withdrawn from the degree program. The 3.00 average may be restored by repeating courses or by taking additional courses. With approval by the graduate program director, no more than two courses beyond those required in the degree can be used to raise the GPA. All requirements for the program must be completed within the time limitation policy.

Repeating Courses
Courses for which a grade has been awarded may be repeated only once. The grade of W does not replace a previously awarded grade. When the course is repeated, the student receives the units for the course (counted once) and the higher of the two grades. Grades for courses taken at other institutions may not be used to replace grades for courses completed at Towson. Courses taken for undergraduate credit may not be repeated for graduate degree credit.

Withdrawal from a Course
When a student drops a course within the change of schedule period, no grade is recorded. If the course is dropped after the change of schedule period, but within the period to drop with the grade of W, the W grade will be recorded on the permanent record. Students who do not officially drop a course during the established time periods will receive the grade earned in the course (A, B, C, F) as determined by the instructor. Students with documented medical problems or verified circumstances beyond their control may petition the associate dean of the Graduate School to drop a course after the established deadline and receive a grade of W. Documentation must accompany the petition. It is the responsibility of the student to inform his or her instructors of his or her petition to withdraw for medical reasons. If approved, grades of W will be recorded for all unearned grades (FX). Earned grades (A, B, C, F) will not be changed.

Transfer Credit
A maximum of 6 (six) graduate credits required for the degree program may be transferred, subject to the approval by the program director. If the student chooses to transfer in graduate credits that have not been used in obtaining another degree and with a grade of B or higher, a University-mandated seven-year time limit for program completion begins with the date that the first transferred course was taken. Courses taken prior to admission must have been taken at an accredited college or university and must be applicable to a graduate degree at the offering institution. Pass/Fail or S/U grading is not acceptable for transfer.

Eligibility for Graduation
Students must successfully pass all program prerequisites, as well as all required and elective degree courses with a minimum average of 3.0 in all graduate course work taken at Towson University as well as a minimum average of 3.0 in all courses included in the program of study with no more than two C’s. Students must also pass the master’s degree Exit Interview, and submit a satisfactory Portfolio. All degree requirements including resolution of incomplete grades must be completed by the last day of classes of the semester in which the student is applying for graduation. The application for graduation must be filed by the date published in the Graduate Catalogue (online at www.towson.edu.)
C. Additional Information for Graduate Students

Townson University Registration
As a student at Towson University, you will be able to use our Web Based Student Records System, Towson On-Line Services (TOS), to manage your Student Records. At TOS you will be able to accept and modify Financial Aid, Register for Classes and confirm your Personal Demographic Information as well as many other features. 
All you need to enter TOS is your Towson ID.

To Activate Your Account for Towson Online Services
*Skip this step if you are a current student
1. Use a web browser (preferably Microsoft Internet Explorer version 6.0+) to open the student portal at http://students.towson.edu
2. Click the Towson Online Services link in the column on the right side of your screen.
3. Click on Activate Your Account. Answer the questions on the page to receive your Tiger NetID (username) and set your password.
4. Log in using your New Tiger account information. If you have questions related to your Tiger account, call the OTS Help Center at 410.704.5151.
5. You are expected to check your TU email account on a regular basis as important notices will be sent to your TU email address from the university, Blackboard courses, and the Graduate School. If you choose not to use that email, please change your TU account settings to forward your TU email to your personal account so you will receive all notices.

Logging on to Towson Online Services to Register
1. Once logged into Towson Online Services, click on Self Service > Student Center.
2. If you do not know the class or class number you wish to take, select Search for Classes under Academics.
3. If you know which class you wish to take, select Enroll/Drop.
4. If you have problems navigating the system and need assistance, please contact the Office of the Registrar at 410-704-2701. If the system is not letting you register for your intended semester, please contact the Graduate School at 410-704-2501.

Changing Your Mailing Address
If you know you will be moving or have moved, please be sure to log on to Towson Online Services to change your address so that any future mailings will be sent to your new address:
1. To change your mailing address, once logged into Towson Online Services, click on Self Service > Student Center.
2. Under the Personal Information Header, click on Addresses.
3. Click on the green ‘Edit’ button next to the permanent address you wish to change.
4. Edit your address, and click on ‘OK’ and you will be prompted to save your address and to choose an effective date if necessary.
5. Please note that if you need to change your name that you will need to provide the proper documentation. Contact the Graduate School at 410-704-2501 for details.

To Locate the Graduate Catalog & Schedule of Classes
Go to http://students.towson.edu and look under the Academic Resources heading:
- For the catalog, click on Catalogs > Graduate Catalog
-For the schedule of classes, click on Class Schedules

Frequently Asked Questions for New Students
Go to: http://grad.towson.edu/gradlife/

To view information on Tuition, Billing and Payment
Go to: http://new.towson.edu/bursar/
Hard copies of bills are no longer mailed to students and can only be accessed through your TU account. As of July 1, 2010, tuition payments can no longer be made with a Visa credit card.

To purchase your Parking Permit ONLINE
http://www.towson.edu/parking
## GENERAL TRACK PROGRAM OF STUDY WORKSHEET

### Master of Science in Social Science

*Submit a Revised and Completed Form with Final Portfolio*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>TU ID:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>E-Mail:</td>
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</table>

Check One: Option 1: Thesis  Option 2: Professional Presentation  

Advisor:  

Date of Matriculation:  

Proposed Date of Graduation:  

### Program of Study Checklist

#### I. CORE COURSES: 18 Credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE #</th>
<th>COURSE TITLE</th>
<th>Semester/Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOSC 600</td>
<td>Interdisciplinary Approaches to Global Problems (required for all SOSC students)</td>
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</table>

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#### II. ELECTIVES: 18 CREDITS

Check When Completed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE #</th>
<th>COURSE TITLE &amp; DISCIPLINE</th>
<th>Semester/Grade</th>
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**A. THESIS OPTION (12 CREDITS IN SELECT DISCIPLINE, INCLUDING 6 CREDITS OF THESIS; 6 CREDITS OUTSIDE OF SELECT DISCIPLINE)**  
Note: SOSC 897 is a 6 credit thesis course taken in one semester, while 898 is 3 credits and taken over two semesters. 899 is a 1 credit continuum taken additional to the six thesis credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE #</th>
<th>COURSE TITLE &amp; DISCIPLINE</th>
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**THESIS DEFENSE (List date defended)**  
Check When Completed

**B. PRESENTATION OPTION (12 CREDITS IN SELECT DISCIPLINE; 6 CREDITS OUTSIDE OF SELECT DISCIPLINE)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE #</th>
<th>COURSE TITLE &amp; DISCIPLINE</th>
<th>Semester/Grade</th>
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<tbody>
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</tbody>
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**PRESENTATION (List date, organization, and location)**  
Check When Completed

**III. PORTFOLIO**  
Check When Completed

**IV. EXIT INTERVIEW**  
Check When Completed
GLOBAL ANALYSIS TRACK PROGRAM OF STUDY WORKSHEET
Master of Science in Social Science
*Submit a Revised and Completed Form with Final Portfolio

Name: ___________________________ TID: ___________________________
Address: ___________________________
E-Mail: ___________________________
Advisor: ___________________________
Date of Matriculation: ___________________________
Proposed Date of Graduation: ___________________________

Program of Study Checklist

I. CORE COURSES: 15 Credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE #</th>
<th>COURSE TITLE</th>
<th>Semester/Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOSC 600</td>
<td>Interdisciplinary Approaches to Global Problems (required for all SOSC students)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Five of the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE #</th>
<th>COURSE TITLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOSC 601</td>
<td>The Geographer’s View</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOSC 602</td>
<td>The Historian’s Approach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOSC 603</td>
<td>The Economist’s Perspective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOSC 604</td>
<td>East Asian Security Issues, 1945-Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMST 605</td>
<td>Women in International Context</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. ELECTIVES: 15 CREDITS

A. REGIONAL FOCUS (3 of 5 MUST CONSIST OF COURSES RELATED TO REGION OF GEOGRAPHIC INTEREST)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE #</th>
<th>COURSE TITLE &amp; DISCIPLINE</th>
<th>Semester/Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

B. TOPICAL FOCUS (5 COURSES WITH A TOPICAL OR THEMATIC APPROACH CHOSEN FROM APPROVED LIST, SEE LIST IN GRADUATE CATALOG)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE #</th>
<th>COURSE TITLE &amp; DISCIPLINE</th>
<th>Semester/Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

III. THESIS (6 Credits) Note: SOSC 897 is a 6 credit course taken in one Semester, while 898 is 3 credits and taken over two semesters. 899 is a 1 credit continuum taken additional to the six thesis credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</table>

THESIS DEFENSE (List date defended)

IV. LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY Note: Students must demonstrate proficiency at the intermediate level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE #</th>
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V. PORTFOLIO

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VI. EXIT INTERVIEW

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<tr>
<th>COURSE #</th>
<th>COURSE TITLE &amp; DISCIPLINE</th>
<th>Semester/Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Student’s Name

Chairperson, Thesis Committee

Member

Member

Member

Signature

Typed name

Signature

Typed name

Signature

Typed name

Note: Please attach a description of the affiliation and credentials of any non-Towson University members of the Committee, and the members’ curriculum vita.

Approved by

Graduate Program Director

Department Chairperson

Dean of Graduate Studies

Signature

Date

Signature

Date

Signature

Date

Note: It is the responsibility of the student to obtain all signatures before beginning the proposal.