

Prerequisite petition: Social science

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In winter 2024, I gained 2 credits of social science through coursework in Revitalizing Traditional Medicine in the Americas (with Dr. Hailey Maria Salazar). Two other classes, Psychedelics (Dr. Lalita Calabria, Spring 2024) and Introduction to Generative AI (Jess Carey, Fall 2024) also contained heavy social science elements.

As Dr. Calabria wrote in my evaluation, “*Psychedelics* was a course that explored historical, cultural, religious, and economic perspectives on psychoactive substances from plants and fungi. Lecture and readings covered the biology, ecology and chemistry of psychedelic plants and fungi, as well as how these compounds can be used as therapeutic agents to treat alcoholism, anxiety, depression, drug addiction and PTSD... Alice’s seminar responses indicated an excellent ability to synthesize psychedelic research into an interdisciplinary framework, including careful consideration of the political, economic and ethical dimensions of psychedelic medicalization.”

Jess Carey writes of Introduction to Generative AI, “Students will explore the evolution, applications, and ethical dimensions of generative AI, gaining both theoretical knowledge and practical experience. Students will explore its applications in art, music, storytelling, and more, while critically examining ethical considerations, such as environmental impacts, gender and racial bias, disability bias, and privacy models (opt-in vs. opt-out). A required AI ethics seminar allows students to discuss real-world challenges, including ethical and unethical use cases.”

If these courses are not considered sufficient for social science credits, I can adapt my Spring 2025 schedule to include a 4-credit social science program