**Example SOCIAL SCIENCE Text for Syllabus**

**GER Statement: Learning Outcomes for this Course**

This course meets UWM General Education Requirements (GER) for Social Science.

**Definition:** A branch of science dealing with the study of human behavior, human cultural and physical variation and evolution, and the organization, development, and consequences of human activity, both past and present.

This course will address the following Social Science learning outcomes:\*

(a) **recognize and** analyze intrapersonal, interpersonal, and/or socio-cultural factors associated with individual behavior, collective action, or societal

development; and

(b) **identify and critically evaluate** the function, structure and development of human collectivities, organizations, institutions, and cultures, their infrastructures and interrelationships;

(e) **critically evaluate and apply** alternative theoretical frameworks that have been used to offer meaningful explanations of social phenomena.

**UW Shared Learning Goal**

As part of the UW System Shared Learning Goals, this course is also expected to foster ***Critical and Creative Thinking Skills*** *including inquiry, problem solving, and higher order qualitative and quantitative reasoning.†*

**GER Assessment:**

Here’s how your learning for these GER outcomes will be assessed:

* Learning for Criteria (b) will be evaluated as part of the grading process for the final project report, where subscores from the grading rubric specific to Criteria (b) will be recorded to help me better gauge student learning.
* Your final project will also be assessed for learning on Criteria (e), using a rubric with performance levels Exceeds, Meets Expectations, Emerging, or No Evidence.
* Criteria (a) and critical thinking and inquiry will both be assessed through your weekly response papers.

\*The full list of Natural Science Outcomes is below. Each SS course **should incorporate outcome (a)** and at least one other of these:

Students will be able to:

1. recognize and analyze intrapersonal, interpersonal, and/or socio-cultural factors associated with individual behavior, collective action, or societal development; and
2. identify and critically evaluate the function, structure and development of human collectivities, organizations, institutions, and cultures, their infrastructures and interrelationships;
3. recognize and contextualize human capacities for and/or techniques of creating behavior acquisition and change as viewed from both intra- and inter-cultural perspectives;
4. demonstrate the ability to identify, apply and effectively communicate methodologies designed for conducting inquiry into human behavior, collective action, societies, or cultures; or
5. critically evaluate and apply alternative theoretical frameworks that have been used to offer meaningful explanations of social phenomena.

*†***UW System Shared Learning Goals**

Select **one** additional learning objective from the options below that will be assessed in your class. Note that Goal 1 is assumed to already be met by all GER courses, and many Cultural Diversity courses will likely also be able to assess aspects of Goal 4. Please choose your additional UWS Shared Goal from among goals 2-5.

1. **Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Natural World** including breadth of knowledge and the ability to think beyond one’s discipline, major, or area of concentration. This knowledge can be gained through the study of the arts, humanities, languages, sciences, and social sciences.
2. **Critical and Creative Thinking Skills** including inquiry, problem solving, and higher-order qualitative and quantitative reasoning.
3. **Effective Communication Skills** including listening, speaking, reading, writing, and information literacy.
4. **Intercultural Knowledge and Competence** including the ability to interact and work with people from diverse backgrounds and cultures; to lead or contribute support to those who lead; and to empathize with and understand those who are different than they are.
5. **Individual, Social, and Environmental Responsibility** including civic knowledge and engagement (both local and global), ethical reasoning, and action.