**Social Science: Human, Natural, and Economic Resources**

**Goals:**

Students understand the systematic study of human behavior and cognition; the structure of human societies, cultures, and institutions; and the processes by which individuals, groups and societies interact, communicate, and use human, natural, and economic resources.

**Expected Learning Outcomes:**

1. Students understand the theories and methods of social scientific inquiry as they apply to the study of the use and distribution of human, natural, and economic resources and decisions and policies concerning such resources.
2. Students understand the political, economic, and social trade-offs reflected in individual decisions and societal policymaking and enforcement and their similarities and differences across contexts.
3. Students comprehend and assess the physical, social, economic, and political sustainability of individual and societal decisions with respect to resource use.

***Scoring Rubric:***

Assessment of GE Social Science: Human, Natural, and Economic Resources Courses

This scoring rubric is designed to help instructors and members of relevant committees assess how well students are meeting the ELOs as reflected in direct assessment methods. Students are not expected to have acquired all the knowledge, skills, and attitudes/perspectives listed under the various ELOs in order to complete the assignment satisfactorily. At a minimum, students are expected to meet Milestone 2.

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|  | Capstone  (4) | Milestone  (3) | Milestone  (2) | Benchmark  (1) |
| **(ELO 1)**  **Students understand the theories and methods of social scientific inquiry as they apply to the study of the use and distribution of human, natural, and economic resources and decisions and policies concerning such resources.** | Student indicates a sophisticated understanding of the theories and methods of social scientific inquiry. | Student is able to analyze how theories and methods are applied in research concerning the study of the use and distribution of resources. | Student recognizes how the theories and methods of social scientific inquiry are applied to the study of human, natural, and economic resources. | Student has a limited understanding of the theories and methods of social scientific inquiry and their application to the study of human, natural, and economic resources. |
| **(ELO2)**  **Students understand the political, economic, and social trade-offs reflected in individual decisions and societal policymaking and enforcement and their similarities and differences across contexts.** | Student demonstrates a superior understanding of these trade-offs and their similarities and differences across contexts. Student is able to analyze how certain individual decisions or societal policies may create trade-offs. | Student is able to understand and effectively describe the trade-offs created by individual decisions and policymaking. Student also successfully describes their similarities and differences across contexts. | Student demonstrates an understanding of how decisions are made by individuals and societies and recognizes how these decisions create trade-offs. Student demonstrates a partial understanding of their similarities and differences across contexts. | Student demonstrates a basic understanding of individual decisions and societal policymaking and enforcement but only a limited understanding of how these decisions create trade-offs in the political, economic, and social spheres. |
| **(ELO 3)**  **Students comprehend and assess the physical, social, economic, and political sustainability of individual and societal decisions with respect to resource use.** | Student uses their understanding of sustainability and decision-making to analyze how future individual and societal decisions will impact sustainability. | Student uses their understanding of individual and societal decisions regarding resources to assess how specific decisions would affect sustainability in the long and short terms. | Student demonstrates a partial understanding of how individual and societal decisions regarding resource use affect physical, social, economic, and political sustainability. | Student has a limited understanding of how individual and societal decisions regarding resources have any impact on sustainability. |