Gateway to the Real World
As exciting and stimulating as it is to be a student at Rice University with its interesting classes, world renowned professors, residential colleges and time-honored traditions, the day will come when you will graduate and venture out into the real world. As a social sciences major, you may graduate with a host of questions going through your mind, like, “What am I going to do with my degree? Should I get a job with a major corporation, small firm, hospital or government agency? What about graduate school or law school? And should I stay in Houston?”

Project Gateway is designed to help you answer these questions and transition from the academic world to the real world. First, Social Sciences Undergraduate Research Enterprise (SSURE) funds independent research projects for students and provides course credit. If you ever wanted to study one of the topics discussed in a class on your own, this program is for you. Second, social sciences interns receive up to three hours of social sciences credit (SOSC 421) for internships at various businesses, hospitals and government agencies, both in the United States and abroad. Have you ever wondered what it is like to work at a major brokerage house or on Capitol Hill? If so, become a social sciences intern. Finally, the Social Sciences International Ambassador Program is an exciting program that awards stipends to Rice Student Ambassadors majoring in social sciences to represent Rice University abroad. During this unique international experience, students have the opportunity to meet with Rice alumni, local officials, business professionals and university leaders so they gain a better understanding of their host country. If you ever wished you could live and learn in a foreign country, then start packing your bags.

These programs are your gateway to the real world.
The SSURE program fosters research partnerships between social sciences majors and faculty members. Participating students receive three hours of credit for SOSC 321 and a research budget of up to $1,500 to conduct independent scholarly projects on topics of their choosing with the advice and mentorship of a faculty member. These research partnerships are designed to enhance future employment and educational opportunities for students.

Quick facts:
- Social sciences undergraduates who are returning to Rice the following year may participate. Graduating seniors are ineligible.
- Participants will receive a stipend of up to $1,500 for research expenses such as travel, data sets, etc., based on preapproved budget proposals.
- Students can earn three hours of course credit for SOSC 321, offered during the spring semester, for completed projects.
- If it is warranted and funds are available, the school will cover travel expenses for students to present papers at the National Conferences on Undergraduate Research.

Learn more:
For additional information, please visit socialsciences.rice.edu/Gateway/SSURE.
One of the best ways to decide if a career suits you is to participate in an internship. A social sciences internship is designed for upper-level social sciences majors to supplement their classroom learning with on-the-job experience. Whether completed in the United States or abroad, students can earn up to three hours of credit through SOSC 421. Internships help students develop a variety of skills, enabling them to put their knowledge to work and to secure jobs after graduation.

**Internship benefits:**
- Participants can learn new skills in resume writing, interviewing and networking.
- As interns, they will apply the academic knowledge of research and writing skills toward business practices.
- By participating in a variety of projects and taking on various job responsibilities, interns will receive on-the-job training and consultation.
- Interns can expand their knowledge by researching assigned topics and learning the organization’s objectives.
- Interns can receive valuable letters of recommendation from an employer.

**Learn more:**
For additional information, please visit socialsciences.rice.edu/Gateway/internship.
As a Rice Student Ambassador, you are highly versed on the history of the university and important current information and have been trained on the skills of etiquette and decorum. The School of Social Sciences offers you a program to apply these skills abroad by becoming a Social Sciences International Ambassador. The Social Sciences International Ambassador Program awards stipends to select Rice Student Ambassadors majoring in social sciences who choose to study abroad. Today’s Social Sciences International Ambassadors will be tomorrow’s community and world leaders.

How it works:
- Rice Student Ambassadors who are majoring in social sciences will be given the opportunity to apply to the International Ambassador Program.
- The selected students will work with International Programs to find a Rice-approved program that complements their area of study.
- All students will be awarded a stipend of $1,500 to enhance their international experience.
- Each student will be assigned an alumni mentor in the host country and will have the opportunity to engage in dialogues with a business professional, a local official and a university official.
- The students will share their experiences with students and faculty members upon returning to Rice.

Learn more:
For additional information, please visit socialsciences.rice.edu/Gateway/ambassador.
For more information:

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