

THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES OF SCIENCES, ENGINEERING AND MEDICINE  
NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL  
DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCE AND EDUCATION

**Teaching the Social and Behavioral Sciences in K-12 Education: Past, Present, and Future**

Keck Building, Room 101  
National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine  
500 5<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC

**November 17, 2016**

**Seminar Agenda**

**Goals and Overview**

The goals of this seminar are to understand contemporary efforts to teach social and behavioral science in K-12 education, and determine next steps. This seminar builds on earlier efforts of the Division of the Behavioral and Social Science and Education and others to explore the place of the social and behavioral sciences (SBS) in the K-12 curriculum. Presenters and participants will examine new data on the public perception of SBS in K-12, and the current efforts and goals of five SBS disciplines—psychology, sociology, anthropology, political science, and economics – and possible linkages to the social studies and science curricula. The seminar will conclude with a discussion of priorities within and across these SBS disciplines for supporting the teaching of SBS in the future.

**Guiding Questions for the Seminar:**

1. Why teach the social and behavioral sciences in K-12? What are the contemporary objectives and drivers for teaching social and behavioral sciences?
2. In this context, what is known and needs to be known about current public awareness and understanding of the social and behavioral sciences?
3. What does the teaching of SBS in K-12 look like – in terms of standards, curricula, instructional materials, professional development? To what degree have current standards and guidelines influenced the development of curricula, instructional materials, and teacher preparation? What are the articulated learning outcomes?
4. What practical issues arise related to the teaching of SBS at the high school and K-8 levels?
5. What potential exists for integrating the study of social and behavioral sciences into science education? What potential exists to further connect teaching of the social and behavioral sciences to current standards for teaching science and social studies? What activity is already occurring – for example, to articulate major concepts, skills, learning progressions, and catalyze systemic support?
6. What are priorities for supporting the teaching of SBS in the future? What specific tasks would you like to accomplish in 2 years, 5 years, 10 years? Are there ways the SBS disciplines should work together to achieve some of these priorities through existing networks and mechanisms for collaboration?

**9:30-10:00      Welcome and Introduction**

*Arthur Lupia, University of Michigan, Chair of the Academies Roundtable on the Communication and Use of Social and Behavioral Sciences*

**10:00-10:30      Public Perceptions of the Social and Behavioral Sciences**

*Sheri Roder, Horizon Media*

This presentation will feature findings from a recent nationally representative survey examining perceptions of social and behavioral sciences generally and as subject matter in K-12 education.

**Discussion**

**10:30-11:30      Perspectives on SBS K-12 from the Social and Behavioral Science Disciplines**

***Moderator:*** Howard Kurtzman, American Psychological Association (Roundtable Member)

Representatives from five major SBS disciplines will share their perspectives on the goals, approaches, standards, challenges and successes in teaching their disciplines across the K-12 curriculum. Participants will share their viewpoints on areas of synergy with other disciplines.

***Anthropology in K-12***

*Ed Leibow, Executive Director*

American Anthropological Association

***Economics in K-12***

*Stephen Buckles, Senior Advisor for Program Development*

Council for Economic Education

***Political Science in K-12***

*Alison McCartney, Professor*

Towson University

***Psychology in K-12***

*Jaime Diaz-Granados, Executive Director Education Directorate*

American Psychological Association

***Sociology in K-12***

*Margaret Vitullo, Director, Academic and Professional Affairs*

American Sociological Association

**11:30-12:15 Working Lunch**  
**Open Discussion and Q&A**  
*Moderator:* Arthur Lupia, Roundtable Chair

**12:15-12:45 Perspectives from Science Education and Social Studies**  
*Moderator:* Arthur Lupia, Roundtable Member

***SBS in Science***  
*Matt Krehbiel, Associate Director, Science*  
Achieve, Inc.

***SBS in Social Studies – The C3 Framework***  
*Lawrence Paska, Executive Director*  
National Council for the Social Studies

### **Discussion**

**12:45-1:00 Participant reflection and preparation for Next Steps discussion**  
On their own, participants will reflect upon the day's presentations and discussions and their own perspectives to generate at least one idea for a concrete and feasible next step to share in the next session.

**1:00-1:45 Next Steps**  
*Moderator:* Arthur Lupia, Roundtable Chair

Participants will engage in a moderated discussion to identify achievable short- and long-term goals for members of the SBS community based on the day's presentations and discussions, and steps for achieving them.

**1:45-2:00 Final Remarks**

Arthur Lupia, Roundtable Chair

Felice Levine, Roundtable Member and Executive Director, American Educational Research Association

**2:00 Adjourn**