

**NATIONAL COUNCIL for the SOCIAL STUDIES  
Summary Report of Program Review Decisions**

**Date of Review: March 02**

  X   Initial review  
       2<sup>nd</sup> review  
       3<sup>rd</sup> review

**Coordinator of Reviews: Charles B. Myers**

**Institution Submitting Program**

**State**

Virginia Polytechnic Institute  
and State University

VA

**Program(s)**

**Degree Level**

Social studies 6 – 12

Post-baccalaureate  
Masters

**Decisions**

Program(s) that merits national recognition

Social studies 6 -12

Program(s) not approved for national recognition

None

**Standards Met or Not Met**

Met: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.6, 1.7, 1.9, 1.10, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4

Met with weakness: 1.4, 1.5, 1.8

**Summary of Overall Program Strengths**

The program review report provides excellent performance evidence. With the exception of testing evidence, the program thoroughly assesses candidates in terms of most of the NCSS standard. (This is explained below).

**Summary of Overall Program Weaknesses**

The testing evidence for most standards is not adequate. (See comments below.)

## **Status of Performance Assessment Transition**

*Not applicable for social studies reviews*

## **Comments on Contextual Information**

### **Explanation and Rationale for Not Met Decisions for Each Standard**

This section of the program reviewers' report includes a synopsis of the rationale and recommendations for each standard NOT MET. The report follows the order and format of the professional specialty association standards. Standards not listed are assumed MET.

For the next NCSS review in five years, the testing evidence can and should be strengthened in the following ways:

1. Undergraduate course grades in history, geography, political science, and economics could be analyzed and reported for Standards 1.2, 1.3, 1.6, 1.7 and 1.10 respectively.
2. Praxis II sub-scores for each candidate can and should be secured from Educational Testing Service for the following content areas; American history, world history, geography, political science, and economics. These sub-scores should be reported for Standards 1.2, 1.3, 1.6 and 1.10 (political science scores), and 1.7.

Standards 1.4, 1.5 and 1.8 are "Met with weakness" because the programmatic and testing evidence provided for these standards are not clearly specific to these standards.