

WHAT YOU MUST KNOW about the SUNY-Cortland **ADOLESCENCE EDUCATION SOCIAL STUDIES (SST) PROGRAM**

1. Know the requirements and plan carefully

- You are completing two full majors and many additional social science requirements. When you declare a major you sign a form saying you have read and understand the requirements—ultimately, the responsibility is yours! Read the yellow “SST-[HIS] Degree Requirements.”
- GPA and professional dispositions (“moral character” and other criteria) shape your ability to enter and remain in the program. Read the blue “SST Program Stages and Eligibility.”
- During your junior and senior years (including the May-June in between) you must plan for completing 100 hours of field experience in schools.
- Choose GEs that also overlap with the major. A balanced schedule contains 1-2 HIS courses, 1-2 SST requirements, and 1-2 GEs. Use the yellow “SST Degree Plan” to help you plan.
- You cannot count on some of the “Professional Requirements” and “Social Science Requirements” being offered when you want to take them – do not postpone crucial courses.
- Transfer students: evaluate your transfer credit evaluations carefully. Any possible transferred field experience must be approved by the SST Program Coordinator.

2. Plan for the SST Professional Sequence

- These four courses should be taken in your last two years at Cortland—though you can have one more (fall) semester to complete requirements, after student teaching in spring.
- The courses are only offered in sequence: AED 391 Fall, AED 300 Spring, AED 301 Fall, AED 400-401-402 Spring. (*AED 391 cannot be doubled up with AED 300—too many field hours.)
- As mentioned above, you must complete 100 hours of field experience as part of the courses in this sequence. This is a NYSED requirement.
- Accordingly, you should try to study abroad before your junior and senior years

3. The Senior Year Sequence must be taken in consecutive semesters

- AED 301 in fall prepares students for teaching placements the following spring.

4. Know the requirements for entering and remaining in the major

- You must apply and be accepted to the SST major to take the final three semesters of coursework in the Professional Sequence. This takes place in November of your junior (or super-junior) year—when you are 3-4 semesters away from completing all graduation requirements. (Use the pink “SST Degree Planner” to calculate your remaining coursework and semesters of study.) If you are accepted, the “W” drops from your major code [SSTW → SST]
- You must follow all procedures and meet all requirements listed on the blue “SST Program Eligibility and Stages.” These involve submitting both college and SST applications, and meeting all GPA and professional/teaching dispositions criteria. Note that you must continue to meet the criteria after admission to the program.

5. Understand the conditions for your student teaching semester and plan ahead.

- You must student teach in the SST Program Professional Sequence—spring of your senior year (again, while allowed to finish all requirements by the following December).
- You must have a minimum 2.7 GPA in your social science major after the fall semester that precedes your student teaching, as well meeting all major requirements above.
- During your student teaching semester you may not take a course (anywhere!) or be involved in a major college activity (play a sport, serve as a club officer).
- You will teach in two placements (8 weeks and 7 weeks), each within one hour of a “home base” for which the Program has available host teachers and supervisors. These are Cortland, Syracuse, Binghamton, Long Island, and New York City. As per college policy, you are responsible for transportation. There is no guarantee you can “teach at home.”