**What is Anthropology?**
In simple terms, anthropology is the study of human behavior in all times and all places. Unlike many of the other social sciences, one of the primary goals of anthropology is to undertake a cross-cultural comparison of human culture. This includes both western and non-western cultures, their values, and their cultural practices. Likewise, anthropology adopts a holistic view of culture, meaning it looks at all aspects of human culture instead of one particular area.

**What is Economics?**
Economics is the study of how people make choices under conditions of scarcity and the consequences of those decisions for society. In other words, we acknowledge that resources are limited, and study how people choose to use them in light of that fact. Economists study a broad range of topics including labor markets, the environment, education, healthcare, economic development, international trade and finance. Economics courses teach students how to think analytically about social issues. Economics majors become keen critical thinkers, which makes them attractive candidates to a variety of employers. Some popular career fields for economics majors are public service, law, international relations and business.

**What is Geography?**
The Geography program at Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC) seeks to achieve excellence by integrating a rich and challenging curriculum with field studies in the U.S. and abroad, while also making substantive contributions to geographical research and scholarship.

Seven undergraduate courses are offered; each requires students to participate in various levels of fieldwork. Field experiences examine both the natural environment and the cultural landscape; for example, the geography of viticulture and wine in Michigan is examined in physical geography and cultural geography courses.

**What is Sociology?**
Sociology investigates through research the ever-changing world of human behavior, social organization, and processes of individual and institutional change.

The discipline encompasses principles of society with reference to culture, population, stratification, institutions, socialization of the child, group dynamics, personality, social change, gender and behavior, social roles and communities, rational interpretation of man/woman and the culture in which he/she lives.

**What is History?**
The purpose of studying history is to better understand the complex cultures as well as the historical systems and events that have driven the past, produced the present, and guide the future of our world. This crucial discipline reveals human connections across time and place; it teaches us about past human experiences and their influence upon our present lives.

Historians no longer see their discipline as a parade of powerful men and lists of dates. Instead, we critically analyze evidence about all people living in the past to create an inclusive narrative of past human experiences and an understanding of issues that impact the modern world.

**What is Political Science?**
The purpose of studying political science is to develop critical and reflective thinking while creating informed and empowered citizens.

The department introduces students to fundamental approaches, methods of study, and content about how people and governments behave in a political context.