Social innovation (SI) involves “the creation of new ideas that address social problems by reconceiving the status quo to create more sustainable and just systems that benefit marginalized groups and society as a whole” (Brown University). The Social Innovation major prepares Rollins students with the interdisciplinary knowledge and skills to solve social problems in innovative ways. It covers different vehicles of social change, such as non-profits, public policy advocacy, activism, public awareness, and community organizing. Skills highlighted in the SI major include human-centered design thinking (HCDT); critical analysis of social problems; data collection and analysis; impact assessment; creative problem-solving; public communication; organizational skills; empathy and emotional resiliency. The SI major prepares students to be global citizens and responsible leaders in the public, private, and non-profit sectors.

**MAJOR REQUIREMENTS**

Students complete ten (10) courses from at least three different disciplines, at least five (5) of which must be at the 300-level or above. Students take four (4) core courses: SI 200; a core skills course; a core topics course examining a wide range of social problems; and an independent capstone experience. The capstone experience is a SI project that is pre-approved by a faculty sponsor and the SI program director. Students also select three (3) skills electives and three (3) topics electives. At least one of the courses that a student completes inside or outside of the major must be CE-designated. The Social Innovation major also includes an extensive experiential learning requirement. Students participate in three (3) activities, selected from a range of approved options that involve applied and immersive learning with communities external to Rollins.

This major is designed to allow students to build their curricular path around an area of passion, gaining the specific skills and knowledge that fit their interests. During the SI 200 course, all majors create their own curricular plan, identifying the core courses and electives that best address their substantive topic and career interests. Each plan is reviewed by the SI program director, then revised and approved in the junior year.

Students maintain an online portfolio throughout their major that provides evidence from their coursework and documents the completion of the experiential learning requirements. The portfolio includes items such as the student’s curricular plan; reflection papers that link the experiential learning component to their coursework; and the capstone project. The portfolio is reviewed and approved by the SI program director before graduation.

**CORE COURSES**

Four (4) courses required. Courses marked with an asterisk (*) have discipline-specific pre-requisites.

**INTRODUCTORY COURSE: SI 200 Introduction to Social Innovation**

**Skills core course (choose one):**

- CMC 110 Digital Storytelling
- SI 310 Nonprofit Leadership and Innovation
- SOC 301 Methodology*
- SE 320 Strategies for Changemakers*
- COM 295 Research Methods in Communication
- POL 333 Case Studies in Sustainable Development
- ENV 348 Sustainable Development

**SKILLS CORE COURSE: _______________________________**

**Topics core course (choose one):**

- SOC 111 Social Problems
- ANT 150 Cultures of the World
- SE 220 Global Development Challenges and Opportunities
- ENV 348 Sustainable Development

**TOPICS CORE COURSE: _______________________________**
Capstone experience (choose one, subject to approval by the program director; all major courses must be taken before or concurrent with the capstone):

- SI 400 Independent study or project
- Honors or Honors-in-the-Major thesis
- Independent SI project within the capstone course of a double major (e.g., CMC, ENV)

**CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE: _______________________________**

**ELECTIVES**

Skills electives (choose three; a skills course may not count for both a core and an elective):

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<th>Semester</th>
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Topics electives (choose three):

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**Semester** | **Course** | **Elective Title** | **Prerequisite**
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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

SI majors must complete at least one Community Engagement (CE) designated course inside or outside the major before completing the capstone.

Community Engagement designated course: ________________________________________________

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Choose experiences from three (3) different categories. When in doubt, SI-related projects must be approved by the SI program director. It is suggested that all three experiential learning requirements are completed before capstone, but at a minimum, two must be completed before the capstone.

- Participation in one of the following field study or summer programs:
  - CHM WaSH in the Dominican Republic
  - EDU Rural Education in Rwanda
  - ENV Environment and Development in Central America
  - ENV Exploring the Everglades
  - ENV Portland Oregon Field Study
  - INB Live, Learn, Labor: Latin America
  - POL Social Entrepreneurship in the Dominican Republic
  - POL Health and Human Rights in South Africa
  - POL Community Development in Tanzania
  - REL India & the Infinite
  - REL Jerusalem
- Participation in any SIT study abroad program
- Participation in any Rollins Immersion program
- Participation in a SI-related competition (e.g., Ideas for Good challenge)
- Participation in the Sullivan Foundation or Ashoka U Exchange conference
- Participation in Leadership Ally program (working on an SI-related project)
- Completion of a SI-related internship (interdisciplinary designation)
- Participation in the Student-Faculty Collaborative Research program (SI-related project)
- Completion of an Edyth Bush Institute certificate program

RESIDENCY AND DISTRIBUTION

SI majors must take at least one-half of all courses for the major at Rollins (no exemption for transfer students), and at least one-half of all courses for the major at the 300-400 level. Courses earning credit for the major must represent at least three different disciplines.

See the Rollins College catalog for a comprehensive listing of all requirements.

- Courses for the major taken at the 300-400 level

- Three different disciplines within the major

- SOCIAL INNOVATION PORTFOLIO completion