

Interdisciplinary Studies



Program Overview

Why become an interdisciplinary studies major? It's a fast way to earn your degree. It's an efficient way to acquire credentials for a job promotion. You can use your life experiences as college credit. It gives you freedom to create your own major areas to fit your personal and professional needs. The Interdisciplinary Studies major (IDS) is for students who have intellectual and professional interests in more than one academic area. This self-designed major inspires students to create their own academic program by selecting courses from two different disciplines. Students design a program of study that reflects each student's interests and talents, that explores and applies different academic perspectives and methodologies, and that can integrate their existing knowledge and experience. In addition to serving traditional undergraduate students who have multiple academic interests, this major is suitable for adult transfer students who have work experience and some previous college credit.

Student Testimonials

"When I tell people about my degree, I explain it as a multi-disciplinary degree, tailored to fit my needs and interests. It has more flexibility than the usual degree tract wherein everything is pre-chosen for you."

"It gave me a way to use my previous college experience combined with my life experience to obtain a degree without an overly structured curriculum in something that doesn't particularly interest me."

"Capital offers a wide range of course options, online, evenings and weekdays."

"My degree will allow me to advance in my current career and apply for a management position."

Course Requirements

The IDS major requires a minimum of 48 credit hours. There are three core classes (12 credit hours) in Interdisciplinary Studies. The first course (IDS 310) is where students self-design their major, and it introduces students to interdisciplinary study. The second course (IDS 399) surveys applied and integrative research methodologies to provide college level understanding of the research process. In it, students develop a proposal for their senior capstone or research project. In the third course (IDS 499), students research and present findings from their senior project. In addition, effective writing and communicating are key components of each core course. The remaining 36 credit hours are met by students taking courses in at least two academic disciplines (18+ credit hours per discipline) of their choosing.

You'll Be Prepared To:

- Demonstrate college-level skills in reading, writing, oral communication, information literacy, and critical thinking
- Explore complex questions and issues by engaging in interdisciplinary inquiry
- Apply relevant course content in academic and professional settings
- Employ applied research methods and engage in appropriate projects
- Develop and apply self-directed, lifelong learning skills

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Learn More



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