

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

An increasing number of careers demand that students have integrated, advanced skills and expertise in more than one field of study. Careers in education, leadership, management, and religion require a holistic grasp on philosophical, ethical, and pedagogical interrelationships. The interdisciplinary programs provide a framework where faculty and students can engage in scholarly pursuits which require such interrelationships.

Academic Programs	Credits
MA: Communication Interdisciplinary Studies (see Communication Department)	40–43
MS: Mathematics and Science (see Mathematics and Science program listing)	32–40

Graduate Programs

The College of Arts and Sciences (in cooperation with other schools) offers graduate programs leading to the MA: Communication Interdisciplinary Studies (see Communication for the program description), and to the MS: Mathematics and Science (see Mathematics and Science for the program description and parallel references to this program under Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, and Physics).

Courses (Credits)

See inside front cover for symbol code.

Details of departmental course offerings and course descriptions may be obtained from the department(s) involved. A list of enrollment and graduation procedures is available at the offices of the area coordinators and the Graduate Program Coordinator for the College of Arts and Sciences.

General and Interdisciplinary Studies

IDSC116 (1–4)
Academic Tutorial Support
 A tutorial application of the principles of academic success. Includes one-to-one tutoring, and/or group-learning experiences. Could also include academic or cognitive evaluations when necessary. Repeatable to 8 credits. Consent of the instructor required. Grade S/U.

IDSC211 \$ (3)
Creativity and the Arts
 Explores the creative process as it relates to theory and practice and to selected works of literature, music, and the visual arts. Includes approaches to the reading and critical analysis of verbal, visual, and aural texts. Explores the relationship between creativity and Christian values. Emphasis on group projects. Includes a lab.

IDSC211 (3)
Creativity and the Arts
 AU/GU course—see content above.

IDSC237 (3)
The Individual, State, and Marketplace
 Politics and economics examined through classic and contemporary sources and Christian and ideological perspectives. What is the good life? What is the purpose of politics, and the best form of government? What are the implications for efficiency and equity of economic systems? Should government be responsible for the well-being of the individual and the economy?

IDSC250 (1)
Career and Life Planning
 Techniques of career and life planning. Topics such as the relationship between religious commitment and career choice, decision-making techniques, and individualized exploration of specific career areas are considered. Helps the student choose a career and develop skills for decision making throughout life.

IDSC280, 380 (.5–1)
Cooperative Education in ____ (subject area)
 Supervised work experience with a cooperating industry, agency, or institution. The student is supervised by his/her department. At least 175 hours of work required per credit. Repeatable twice. Graded S/U. Prerequisites: Sophomore standing or above and permission of the department chair. Students must apply and be accepted one semester in advance of their planned cooperative education experiences.

IDSC294, 394 (3–15)
Off-Campus Study in _____
 See advisor for details.

IDSC296 (0)
Student Missionary/Taskforce Experience

IDSC298 (variable)
PLA: (Special Topic)
 PLA (Prior Learning Assessment) is a process which validates learning experiences that have occurred outside traditional college/university academic programs. A portfolio of evidence for demonstrating experience and competency justifies and determines the amount of credit granted. Repeatable with different topics.

IDSC340 (3)
Environmental Policy
 A survey of historic and current environmental issues, pending and existing legislation on the state and federal level, federal land management offices and their differing missions, and competing and non-competing demands from bio-diversity to water usage. Prerequisites: BIOL208 or consent of the instructor.

IDSC401, 402 (1, 1)
Environmental Science Seminar
 Discussion and presentations dealing with current or historic topics in environmental science.

IDSC440 (1–4)
Topics: _____
 Designed to meet the interdisciplinary needs of students. Repeatable in different areas.

IDSC495 (1–3)
Independent Study/Readings
 Directed study or readings under the guidance of an instructor. Repeatable. Registration is by permission of the dean in consultation with an instructor.

IDSC498 <i>PLA (Special Topic)</i> PLA (Prior Learning Assessment) is a process which validates learning experiences that have occurred outside traditional college/university academic programs. A portfolio of evidence for demonstrating experience and competency justifies and determines the amount of credit granted. Repeatable with different topics.	(variable)	IDSC650 <i>Project Continuation</i>	\$ (0)
IDSC499 <i>PLA Portfolio Development</i> AU/GU course. The development of a portfolio of evidence to present for Prior Learning Assessment.	V (.5)	IDSC655 <i>Program Continuation</i>	\$ (0)
IDSC526 <i>Christian Faith and the Sciences</i> Discussion of science and epistemology in the context of Christian faith, scientific model building, the church-science interface, and ethical considerations. An interdisciplinary course recommended for all graduate students in the sciences.	(2)	IDSC660 <i>Thesis Continuation</i>	\$ (0)
IDSC550 <i>Certification Seminar</i> A web-based seminar providing an orientation to a topic associated with graduate certification, including an introduction to the most important sources, an overview of salient issues and problems, an inventory of baseline competencies, and a survey of professional opportunities.	(1–3)	IDSC665 <i>Preparation for Comprehensive Examinations</i>	\$ (0)
IDSC575 <i>Mathematics and Science Seminar</i> Current research topics in mathematics and physical sciences. Attendance at 12 hours of research presentations, a paper, and a presentation of a current research topic.	(1)	IDSC680 <i>Field Practicum</i> Students integrate interdisciplinary course content and theory into practice during a (300-hour) field practicum coordinated with each student's research project and/or concentration (e.g., Food Security) that is the concluding requirement for the concentration. 260 hours may be done with the student's primary employer, but all students must complete one week (40 hours) in an external organization. Students must submit a practicum proposal indicating approval from a sponsoring organization and learning objectives. Upon completion, the student submits a practicum portfolio. Prerequisite: 2 courses in concentration.	(2)
IDSC597 <i>Portfolio</i> An organized collection of educational and professional accomplishments to date is produced. This will include basic personal and background information, a profile of the student's organization, outstanding academic work, and other products acquired during his/her time in the program.	(1)	IDSC689 <i>Seminar</i> Projects, reports and discussions on various subjects corresponding to faculty specialization. Repeatable with different subject matter. Needed to accommodate new topics under different concentrations.	(1–3)
IDSC640 <i>Topics: _____</i>	(1–3)	IDSC690 <i>Independent Study</i> Individualized reading or research in a specified area under the guidance of an instructor. Repeatable to 6 credits.	(1–3)
IDSC640 <i>Topics: Professional Seminar</i> A web-based seminar providing an orientation to the topic making up the certificate concentration, including an introduction to the most important sources of information about the topic; an overview of salient issues and problems related to the topic; an orientation to communities of researchers and professionals working on the topic; an inventory of baseline competencies of persons professing expertise on the topic; and a survey of opportunities for professional involvement related to the concentration.	(1–3)	IDSC697 <i>Research Project</i>	(1–4)
IDSC640 <i>Topics: Ethics in Development</i> An ethical framework for the understanding of social transformation. Ethical paradigms are explored, as well as historical examples of how development interventions have generated social change. Focus on contemporary approaches to development, revolution and liberation.	(2)	IDSC698 <i>Project</i>	(1–3)
		IDSC698-1 <i>Project I</i> A project typically carried out by the Master's degree candidates by means of which the student's ability to synthesize and summarize knowledge pertaining to a given empirical domain is demonstrated. A typical end product might be an "agency profile" or a "fact sheet" about a certain process or problem.	(1)
		IDSC698-2 <i>Project II</i> A research project typically carried out by a Master's degree candidate in which the student's mastery of the research process is demonstrated. A typical end product might be a community assessment study, a program evaluation study, a best practice benchmarking study, or a problem-solving study. Such projects are normally carried out in lieu of a Master's thesis.	(2)
		IDSC699 <i>Master Thesis</i>	(4)