INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2002 Lincoln Hall, 702 South Wright Street, Urbana

Interdisciplinary Studies Majors

Departments in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, in addition to their own disciplinary majors, have developed and sponsor an interdisciplinary program of study, which encompasses several distinct programs designed to acquaint students in a coherent manner with topics that cross disciplinary boundaries. Administered by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the interdisciplinary studies major includes program concentrations in Jewish Studies and Medieval Studies. Although it is not possible to offer concentrations in all specialties or topics of humanistic study, students whose interests do not coincide with one of the specific concentrations are encouraged to consider developing their own programs through the Individual Plans of Study (IPS) major. Enrollment in the major in interdisciplinary studies requires election of one of the concentrations. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences also sponsors an Interdisciplinary Minor in Science and Technology in Society.

Each concentration of the major in interdisciplinary studies is supervised by faculty members whose own scholarship and educational interests have involved them in interdisciplinary teaching and research. An advisor for students is available in each concentration and is responsible for approving students’ plans of study.

For the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences

Major in Interdisciplinary

Minimum required major and supporting course work equates to 45-51 hours.

General education: Students must complete the Campus General Education (https://courses.illinois.edu) requirements including the campus general education language requirement.

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours

Departmental distinction. To be eligible for graduation with distinction, a student must have a college grade point average of 3.5, a major concentration grade point average of 3.5, completion of HUM 498 with a grade of A, and completion of a semester paper in HUM 498 that is judged to be deserving of "distinction" by a committee of at least two faculty members.

High distinction. To be eligible for graduation with high distinction, a student must have a college grade point average of 3.5, a major concentration grade point average of 3.7, and must have completed HUM 492 (instead of HUM 498) with a grade of A and a thesis in HUM 492 that is judged to be deserving of "high distinction" by a committee of at least two faculty members.

Requirements for the Major

Elect one of the concentrations offered within the major and file a concentration declaration with the LAS Student Academic Affairs Office no later than the end of the first semester of the junior year. Students who do not begin work on concentration requirements by the junior year will be at a disadvantage.

Select specific courses counted toward completion of a concentration with the advice and approval of the concentration advisor, subject to specific concentration requirements. Students are strongly encouraged also to enroll in 6-7 hours of Western civilization (HIST 140 or HIST 141 and HIST 142 or HIST 143, or CWL 241 and CWL 242).

For the elected concentration, complete the stated minimum number of hours in courses applicable toward the major and in accord with the distribution requirements listed below, at least 25 hours must be at the 200,300 or 400 level.

• Jewish Studies Concentration (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/academic-units/interdisc-studies/jewish-studies-concentration)
• Medieval Studies Concentration (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/academic-units/interdisc-studies/medieval-civilization-concentration)

Minor in Science and Technology in Society

The Interdisciplinary Minor in Science and Technology in Society requires students to integrate and synthesize a wide variety of materials. Students will enrich their experiences in diverse disciplines with a substantive engagement with science studies. Required courses in the minor emphasize critical and creative thinking and many courses require substantial writing and research. This minor is administered by the LAS Student Academic Affairs Office.

All courses must be selected in consultation with the adviser from the list of courses approved for the minor. No more than 3 hours of course work may be 100-level. Students must maintain a 3.0 GPA in course work in the minor.

Recommended courses to fulfill the requirements of the minor

For the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies

Code Title Hours
Select one of the following: 3
HIST 490 Honors Independent Study
PHIL 390 Individual Study
SOCI 390 Individual Study
300- and 400-level courses 6
History course selected in consultation with adviser 3
Philosophy course selected in consultation with adviser 3
Sociology course selected in consultation with adviser 3
Select a course from the approved list in consultation with adviser 3

Total Hours 21

Recommended courses to fulfill the requirements of the minor

Code Title Hours
History
HIST 265 Science in Western Civ 3
HIST 367 History of Western Medicine 3
HIST 498 Research and Writing Seminar (when appropriate) 3
HIST 475 Formation of US Public Health 3
Philosophy

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 04/2018
Information listed in this catalog is current as of 04/2018
LAS 299  LAS Study Abroad  credit: 0 to 18 Hours.
Provides credit toward the undergraduate degree for study at accredited foreign institutions or approved overseas programs. Final determination of credit is made upon the student's completion of the work. Approved for letter and S/U grading. (Summer session, 0 to 8 hours). May be repeated to a maximum of 36 term hours per academic year or to a total of 44 term hours, all of which must be earned within one calendar year. Prerequisite: One year of residence at UIUC, good academic standing, and prior approval of the major department and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

LAS 399  Leadership & Professional Development  credit: 1 to 3 Hours.
Leadership and professional development seminar for student interns. Interns will learn teaching, mentoring, leadership and professional skills that will enable them to lead a section of an LAS transition course or experience and share their successful academic experiences with undergraduate students who are new to the University. Interns will help their students develop the skills necessary to succeed at the U of I. May be repeated in separate terms to a maximum of 6 hours. Prerequisite: Instructor approval required.

LAS 490  LAS Advanced Seminar  credit: 1 to 6 Hours.
See Class Schedule for current topics. 1 to 6 undergraduate hours. 1 to 6 graduate hours. Approved for letter and S/U grading. May be repeated in the same or separate terms to a maximum of 6 hours.

LAS 494  Senior Project  credit: 2 or 4 Hours.
For students seeking graduation with distinction in IPS. 2 or 4 undergraduate hours. No graduate credit. May be repeated to a maximum of 4 undergraduate hours. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor and IPS Advisory Committee; open only to students whose major is IPS and who have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.25.