

Interdisciplinary Studies

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Office: 513 Allen Hall

The Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies is a university-wide degree coordinated through the College of Arts & Sciences by the Interdisciplinary Studies Committee. This multi-discipline academic program is appropriate for students motivated by specific interests not recognized in traditional majors and is not intended to compete with existing programs. All University requirements, including 31 hours of upper division course work and a year's residence, must be met for graduation.

The Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies is intended to allow students maximum flexibility to custom-design a curriculum to meet their personal and career goals. A program of study must assure depth of study as well as breadth. Therefore, it must ensure that students take at least 36 upper-division hours in the areas they have chosen for emphasis and that they select a minimum of 12 hours in each of three areas or 18 hours in two. Emphasis areas must be selected from at least two colleges. Only one grade of "D" will be accepted in each area of emphasis, and a minimum GPA of 2.0 is required in each area of emphasis. General Education requirement (45 hours) must be met in addition to a general studies core of 12 hours. A total of 122 semester hours is required for graduation, along with an MSU and cumulative GPA of 2.0.

To ensure coherence in the program, the student must construct and explain in writing the rationale for the interdisciplinary studies program's direct relationship to the student's personal and career goals. Each student will be required to meet with advisors in the academic disciplines who will agree to sponsor the student in drawing up the proposed curriculum, formulating the rationale, and presenting the case in writing to the Interdisciplinary Studies Committee. This should be done prior to the senior year.

BSIS Limitations: Students may not receive minors in the BSIS program. After a BSIS degree is awarded, a student may not return to school and receive a second bachelor's degree in an area of emphasis used in BSIS. A student may not receive a BSIS degree if they already have a bachelor's degree.

The Interdisciplinary Studies Committee will review applications, and if approved, the student may proceed with the curriculum. The Committee will meet during the fall, spring and summer semesters, and students must make written application by September 1, February 1 or May 1. Application for a degree must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar. For further information, contact:

College of Arts & Sciences
513 Allen Hall, Mail Stop 9706
Mississippi State, MS 39762
(662) 325-2646

BS in Interdisciplinary Studies

Degree Requirements

English Composition

EN 1103	English Composition I	3
or EN 1104	Expanded English Composition I	
EN 1113	English Composition II	3
or EN 1173	Accelerated Composition II	

Humanities

See General Education courses 6

Mathematics

See General Education courses 6

Fine Arts

See General Education courses 3

Natural Sciences

See General Education courses. Two labs required. 6-8

Math/Science Elective

See General Education courses. Lab not required. 3

Social Sciences

See General Education courses 6

Major Core

General Studies	Consult advisor	12
IDS 4111	Professional Seminar	1
Emphasis Area	Consult advisor	36
Free Electives		29

Oral Communication Requirement

CO 1003	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3
or CO 1013	Introduction to Communication	

Writing Requirement

Consult advisor		3
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Computer Literacy

Consult advisor		2-3
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