

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES DEGREE: (2004 - 2006 Catalog)

The Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies Program emphasizes a broad learning experience and a wider perspective than that provided by traditional undergraduate majors. It is designed to offer the student the opportunity to participate in an interdisciplinary, coherent, academically sound, and goal-oriented education directly relevant to the student's intellectual development and career aspirations. It is appropriate for those students who seek a thorough grounding in the traditional arts and sciences from an interdisciplinary perspective.

Each student in the Interdisciplinary Studies program becomes an active partner in the formulation of his or her program of study, working in consultation with a faculty advisor to devise an appropriate individual degree plan. Within the framework of two foundation areas, a university-wide interdisciplinary studies sequence, and a multidisciplinary concentration, a student may draw upon the resources of all schools of the university to create a degree program. In addition to organized courses, students are encouraged to participate in the Internship Program and thereby combine academic with practical experience. Minors and double majors including Interdisciplinary Studies are not available.

Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies

Degree Requirements (120 hours)

- I. Core Curriculum Requirements*: 42 hours
 - A. Communication (6 hours)
 - 3 hours Communication (RHET 1302)
 - 3 hours Communication Elective (BIS 3320)
 - B. Social and Behavioral Sciences (15 hours)
 - 6 hours American Government (GOVT 2301 and GOVT 2302)
 - 6 hours History (HIST 1301 and 2301)
 - 3 hours Social and Behavioral Sciences Elective
 - C. Humanities and Fine Arts (6 hours)
 - 3 hours Fine Arts (ARTS 1301)
 - 3 hours Humanities (HUMA 1301)
 - D. Mathematics and Quantitative Methods (6 hours)
 - 3 hours College Math (minimum of MATH 1300, 1306, 1314, or a higher-level math)
 - 3 hours Statistics (STAT 1342 or PSY 2317)
 - E. Science (9 hours including at least one course with a substantial laboratory component)

* Curriculum requirements can be fulfilled by other approved courses from accredited institutions of higher education. The courses listed in parenthesis are recommended as the most efficient way to satisfy both Core Curriculum and Major Requirements at U.T. Dallas.

- II. Major Requirements: 54 hours
 - Major Core Courses (12 hours)
 - Three IS courses
 - BIS 3320 The Nature of Intellectual Inquiry*
 - Major Related Courses (42 hours)
 - Two Foundations: 12 hours each (24 student credit hours)
 - The two Foundations are drawn from Arts and Humanities, Behavioral and Brain Science, Computer Science, General Studies, Management, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and Social Sciences.
 - One Concentration: 18 hours
 - Each student devises, in consultation with his/her advisor, the topic for the Concentration and selects 18 student credit hours of course work. The topic for the Concentration must be drawn from at least three academic disciplines. Appropriate IS course work may be selected.

* An additional (or fourth) IS course (science or non-science) will be taken if BIS 3320 is used to satisfy the Core Curriculum Communication Elective requirement.

- III. Elective Requirements: 24 hours
Advanced Electives (6 hours)
Free Electives (18 hours)

Students may elect to substitute appropriate higher-level math courses and count the credit hours over six credits as Free Electives.

Students must complete 51 hours of upper-division course work to graduate.

The Interdisciplinary Studies degree plan has four parts: Foundations, Concentration, Interdisciplinary Studies and Electives. The purpose of the two Foundation areas is to provide an intellectual base in two schools of UTD related to the student's Concentration. The Concentration component permits a multidisciplinary investigation of an area, problem, or theme meaningful to a student's educational or career goals. The Interdisciplinary Studies section addresses issues which require the integrated perspectives of more than one discipline. Lastly, the Electives develop, increase, or intensify a student's studies. Students are encouraged to do an Internship as part of their Concentration or elective work. Each of these components of the degree plan is explained below.