School of General Studies

The School of General Studies provides an interdisciplinary environment that allows students to understand and integrate the liberal arts and sciences. The school administers interdisciplinary degree programs that afford students the opportunity to design their degree plans on an individualized basis. To assist the student in pursuing a course of study leading to successful completion of an undergraduate degree, the school provides a unique support structure. Included in this structure is the school’s Internship Program that arranges professional work experience in diverse career settings. The educational environment of General Studies is especially congenial to students eager to pursue unconventional or innovative combinations of course work.

Faculty

All faculty in the university are eligible to participate.
Professors: George W. Fair, Karen J. Prager, Lawrence J. Redlinger
Associate Professor: Mary E. Sias
Assistant Professors: Erin A. Smith
Senior Lecturers: Susan P. Chizeck, Dachang Cong, Scherry F. Johnson, Elizabeth M. Salter

Programs

The School of General Studies administers the programs for the Bachelor of Arts in American Studies, the Bachelor of Arts in Gender Studies, the Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies, and the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies. The program in American Studies is designed for students who wish to learn more about United States institutions, arts, and society, both in the past and present. The Bachelor of Arts in Gender Studies is designed to understand, explain, and predict the ways that gender, as a set of ideas, fundamentally shapes our history and culture. The Bachelor of Arts and the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies Programs emphasize a broad learning experience and a wider perspective than that provided by traditional undergraduate majors. All programs are designed for students who wish to choose among conventional disciplines, both to explore a variety of topics and to integrate courses focusing on a particular area of interest. They are also appropriate for those students who seek a thorough grounding in the traditional arts and sciences from an interdisciplinary perspective. For students in other schools who wish to broaden their education by including a School of General Studies program, the double degree is recommended. This option calls for a minimum of 30 semester credit hours at the upper division beyond those necessary for the major with the larger credit hour requirement. In addition, the student must satisfy all requirements for both majors. The School of General Studies does not permit a double major in either American Studies or Interdisciplinary Studies.

Internship Program

All undergraduates in the School of General Studies are encouraged to take an internship with an organization in the community. Internships provide students with the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills that they have mastered in their academic work. Students applying for internships must be in their senior year and in good academic standing, have completed the appropriate course work, and receive approval of the Internship Director. Students normally enroll for 3 to 6 semester hours. Students interested in the program should see the Internship Director of the School of General Studies or call 972/883-2354.

Minors

Minors in the School of General Studies are available in the Bachelor of Arts in American Studies and the Bachelor of Arts in Gender Studies. Students in the Interdisciplinary Studies degree programs cannot have a minor, nor is there a minor offered in Interdisciplinary Studies. The requirements for each minor are listed below the degree requirements.

American Studies (B.A.)

The program in American Studies has as its focus the institutions, arts, structure, and social processes of the United States. It emphasizes interdisciplinary work which integrates disciplinary perspectives. Students choose two broad areas within which to work. Each student designs his or her own program within specific guidelines and in consultation with a faculty advisor. The courses a student takes as part of the American Studies program may be given in any school within the university but will include American Studies courses and appropriate Interdisciplinary Studies courses. A list of courses which apply to the American Studies degree may be obtained from the program secretary in the dean’s office in the School of General Studies. Double majors including American Studies are not available.
Bachelor of Arts in American Studies Degree Requirements (120 hours)

I. Core Curriculum Requirements: 42 hours

A. Communication (6 hours)
   3 hours Communication (RHET 1302)
   3 hours Communication Elective

B. Social and Behavioral Sciences (15 hours)
   6 hours Government (GOVT 2301 and 2302)
   6 hours History (HST 1301 and 2301)
   3 hours Social and Behavior Sciences Elective

C. Humanities and Fine Arts (6 hours)
   3 hours Fine Arts (AP 1301)
   3 hours Humanities (HUMA 1301)

D. Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning (6 hours)
   3 hours College Algebra (MATH 1300, 1306 or MATH 1314)
   3 hours Statistics (STAT 1342)

E. Science (9 hours including at least one course with a substantial laboratory component)

1 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: 48 hours

Major Core Courses (12 hours)
AMS 3302 American Cultures
BIS 3320 The Nature of Intellectual Inquiry

Two of the following courses:
GOVT 3325 American Public Policy
GOVT 3327 United States Foreign Policy
HST 3368 Slavery and Race Relations in the United States
HST 3369 United States Foreign Relations

Major Related Courses (36 hours)
In addition to the core requirements, students will take 18 semester credit hours of course work in each of two of the following disciplinary options, for a total of 36 hours:
The American Body Politic
Americans Past and Present
America and the World Community
American Business and Technology
American Literature and the Arts
Popular Culture

2 A required Major course that also fulfills a Core Curriculum requirement. An additional IS course will be taken if BIS 3320 is used to satisfy the Core Curriculum Communication Elective requirement.

III. Elective Requirements: 30 hours

Advanced Electives (6 hours)
Free Electives (24 hours)
Students must complete 51 hours of upper-division course work to graduate.

Minor in American Studies
The American Studies minor is 18 semester hours. AMS 3302 and BIS 3320 are required in addition to four other approved American Studies courses chosen from AMS 3300, AMS 3370, AMS 3374, AMS 4378, AMS 4379, AMS 4384 and ISGS 4338. Students pursuing a degree in American Studies may incorporate a minor from another discipline in their degree program.
Gender Studies (B.A.)

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Gender Studies program is an interdisciplinary degree that draws upon courses in Gender Studies, American Studies, Arts and Humanities, Social Sciences, Psychology, and other gender-related courses. The program is designed to examine gender as a complex social construction that intersects with class, race, age, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, and sexual identity; to examine the lives and experiences of groups which have been underrepresented in traditional academic work; and to acquaint students with the fundamental methodologies of women’s and gender studies.

Each student in the Gender Studies program is actively involved in the formulation of his or her program of study, working with a faculty advisor to devise an individualized degree plan. Students pursuing a degree in Gender Studies may incorporate a minor from another discipline in their degree program.

Bachelor of Arts in Gender Studies Degree Requirements (120 hours)

I. Core Curriculum Requirements: 42 hours

A. Communication (6 hours)
   3 hours Communication (RHET 1302)
   3 hours Communication (BIS 3320)

B. Social and Behavioral Sciences (15 hours)
   6 hours American Government (GOVT 2301 and GOVT 2302)
   6 hours History (HST 1301 and HST 2301)
   3 hours Social and Behavioral Science Elective

C. Humanities and Fine Arts (6 hours)
   3 hours Humanities (HUMA 1301)
   3 hours Fine Arts (AP 1301)

D. Mathematics and Quantitative Methods (6 hours)
   3 hours College Algebra (minimum of MATH 1300, 1306 or MATH 1314)
   3 hours Quantitative Methods or Math (STAT 1342 or other approved MATH course)

E. Science (9 hours)
   One course must have a lab component
   See Associate Dean for appropriate courses

1 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: 42-43 hours

Upper-Division Major Courses (36 hours)

A. Gender Studies Major Courses (15 hours)
   BIS 3320 The Nature of Intellectual Inquiry
   GST 2300 Introduction to Gender Studies
   GST 3301 Psychology of Gender
   GST 3302 Gender in Western Thought
   GST 3303 Gender, Society and Politics
   (An ISGS, BIS or AMS course will be taken if BIS was used in the core.)

B. Disciplinary Methods (3-4 hours)
   One of the following:
   AP 3300 Elements of Art and Performance
   HST 3301 Historical Inquiry
   LIT 3303 Literary Analysis
   PSY 2317 Statistics for Psychology
   SOCS 3303 and SOCS 3103 Introduction to Social Statistics with Laboratory

C. Gender Studies Major and Related Courses (24 hours)
   See academic advisor.

III. Elective Requirements: 36 hours

   Advanced Electives (6 hours)
   Free Electives (30 hours)
   Students must complete 51 hours of upper-division credit to graduate.
Minor in Gender Studies

The Gender Studies minor is 18 semester hours. The courses consist of GST 2300, two courses chosen from GST 3301, GST 3302, and GST 3303, and nine hours chosen from: AMS 3300, AMS 3318, BIS 4V04, GOVT 3353, GOVT 3356, GOVT 3357, GOVT 4333, GOVT 4334, GOVT 4338, GOVT 4354, GOVT 4363, GOVT 4364, HIST 3324, HIST 3366, HIST 3371, HST 3304, ISAH 3330, ISAH 3394, ISGS 3312, ISGS 4306, ISGS 4311, ISGS 4320, LIT 3327, LIT 3380, PSY 3334, PSY 3338, PSY 4345, PSY 4346, SOC 3302, SOC 3343, SOC 3352, SOC 3355 or SOC 4355.

Interdisciplinary Studies (B.A. and B.S.)

The Bachelors' degrees in the Interdisciplinary Studies program emphasize a broad learning experience and a wider perspective than that provided by traditional undergraduate majors. They are 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. They are 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. Double majors including Interdisciplinary Studies are not available.

Minors and Double Majors are not allowed in Interdisciplinary Studies degrees. In order to make the Interdisciplinary Studies degrees reflect their name, no more than 21 hours of courses with the same prefix are allowed in the combined 54 hours of major requirements and the 6 hours of advanced electives. (BA and ACCT courses count as a single prefix.) In the 54 hours of major requirements and 6 hours of advanced electives, there must be a minimum of 51 hours of upper-division courses. In the concentration, a minimum of three (3) prefixes must be represented. Please consult an academic advisor for further elaboration.

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
B. Social and Behavioral Sciences (15 hours)
   6 hours Government (GOVT 2301 and 2302)
   6 hours American History
   3 hours Social and Behavioral Sciences Elective
C. Humanities and Fine Arts (6 hours)
   3 hours Fine Arts (AP 1301)
   3 hours Humanities (HUMA 1301)
D. Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning (6 hours)
   3 hours College Algebra (MATH 1300, 1306 or MATH 1314)
   3 hours Statistics (STAT 1342)
E. Science (9 hours including at least one course with a substantial laboratory component)

1 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, Computer Science, Human Development, 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 related to the topic, drawn from at least three academic disciplines. Appropriate IS course work may be selected.

III. Elective Requirements: 24 hours

Advanced Electives (6 hours)
Free Electives (18 hours)

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

2 Students may elect to substitute MATH 2417 and 2419 and count two of the credit hours as Free Electives.

3 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.

Bachelor of Science 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
B. Social and Behavioral Sciences (15 hours)
   6 hours Government (GOVT 2301 and 2302)
   6 hours American History
   3 hours Social and Behavioral Sciences Elective
C. Humanities and Fine Arts (6 hours)
   3 hours Fine Arts (AP 1301)
   3 hours Humanities (HUMA 1301)
D. Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning (6 hours)
   6 hours Calculus (MATH 1325 and 1326)
E. Science (9 hours including at least one course with a substantial laboratory component)

1 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 Science IS courses
BIS 3320 The Nature of Intellectual Inquiry

Major Related Courses (42 hours)
Two Foundations: 12 hours each (24 student credit hours)
   Foundation I consists of courses taught by the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.
   Foundation II is drawn from Arts and Humanities, Computer Science, Human Development, Management, 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 related to the topic, drawn from at least three academic disciplines. Appropriate IS course work may be selected. Three courses must be science courses and one must be a statistics course.

III. Elective Requirements: 24 hours

Advanced Electives (6 hours)
Free Electives (18 hours)

Students must complete 51 hours of upper-division course work to graduate.
Students may elect to substitute MATH 2417 and 2419 and count two of the credit hours as Free Electives.

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

**Highly Recommended**

Internships, basic computer skills, foreign languages, international studies, courses in literature and history, and participation in workshops offered by the School of General Studies are highly recommended. Students should consult closely with their advisors on particular areas of interest they wish to include in their programs.