



MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

For more information:
Office of Graduate and Continuing Education
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Bachelor of Arts in

Interdisciplinary Studies: With a focus on Health and Human Services

The Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies: With a focus on Health and Human Services is a degree completion program specifically designed for the adult learner seeking an accelerated, non-traditional pathway. This program provides students with a broad based interdisciplinary education focusing on individuals who seek a career in a wide variety of professional settings in healthcare, human services, social services, and related fields. Students graduating with a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies will demonstrate advanced skills in critical thinking, research, writing, and oral presentation. Graduates will be able to apply interdisciplinary methods, approaches, and insights to the analysis of a given theme or issue, and to the development of creative solutions to complex problems.

The Interdisciplinary Studies: With a focus on Health and Human Services program is designed for those with work experience and an Associate's Degree (45 – 75 transfer credits). The program is a cohort model for the adult learner who is managing work and family demands. In completing this degree, students will be prepared to advance their careers in a wide range of occupations and industries and to proceed to graduate-level studies.

Anticipated Program of Study	Credits
Transfer Credits	60*
Prior Learning Portfolio	15**
Proposed Courses	
IDST 299 Learning in Context	3
IDST 360 Cross Cultural Perspectives in Healthcare	3
POSC 340 Inequality and Social Policy	3
SOCI 335 Health and Aging	3
BIOL 195 Nutrition for Healthy Living	3
PSYC 355 Human Sexuality	3
ENGL 395 Experiential Credit Portfolio Preparation and Writing	3
PSYC 332 Drugs and Human Behavior	3
PSYC 495 Special Topics: Issues in Mental Health	3
SOWK 443 Casework with Couples and Families	3
CCAP 300 Capstone	3
PHIL 385 Medical Ethics	3
SOCI 331 Methods in Social Research	3
IDST 360 Management & Administration in Health Care	3
IDST 401 Senior Seminar	3
Total Credits	120

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Program Details:

Location:	Projected: In Pittsfield, MA. Other locations, such as northern county, may be considered based on enrollment patterns.
Schedule:	Courses will begin in September 2017. Classes will be held once a week for 4-hour sessions (5:00 – 9:00PM) Courses will be 6-7 weeks in duration. Classes will include between-class work, including online learning applications.
Load:	Students will carry one course during each 6-7 week period. Upon completion of each 6-7 week period, students will immediately begin the next course. Most semesters, students will carry six credits.
Completion:	Students are expected to complete this degree program in just over two years. Students beginning in September 2017, can anticipate to graduate in December 2019.
Expectations:	Students are expected to attend every class meeting. In order to meet contact hour requirements, all classes will have online components. Students must have access to current technology, including a personal computer. Assignments will include a blend of individual and group work both within and outside of class time. Activities will include reading, writing, discussion, group projects, case studies, quizzes/tests, and application of course concepts.
Cost:	Each course (3 credits) at \$1,055.00*. Approximately every sixteen weeks, students will be billed for 6 credits for a total of \$2,110.00*. Prior learning credits (up to 15) will be billed at \$100 per credit. Students should expect additional text book costs (approximated at \$100 per course).
Financial Aid:	Financial aid counseling is available on the MCLA website at www.mcla.edu/financialaid . All students will need to verify proof of health insurance.
To apply:	Visit www.mcla.edu/transfer

For more information:

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**Please note that MCLA reserves the right to unilaterally add, withdraw, or revise any course offering in the above mentioned program of study including policies, provisions, requirements, and fees.*



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Proposed Program Schedule:

Fall 2017

IDST 299 Learning in Context
ISDT 360 Cross Cultural Perspectives in Health Care

Spring 2018

POSC 340 Inequality and Social Policy
SOCJ 335 Health and Aging

Summer 2018

BIOL 195 Nutrition for Healthy Living
PSYC 335 Human Sexuality
ENGL 395 Experiential Credit Portfolio Preparation and Writing

Fall 2018

PSYC 332 Drugs and Human Behavior
PSYC 495 Special Topics: Issues in Mental Health

Spring 2019

SOWK 443 Casework with Couples and Families
CCAP 300 Tier III Capstone Seminar

Summer 2019

PHIL 385 Medical Ethics
SOCJ 331 Methods of Social Research

Fall 2019

IDST 360 Management and Administration of Health Care
IDST 401 Senior Seminar

Projected Graduation in December 2019

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Course Descriptions:

IDST 299 Learning in Context

Provides a foundational introduction to adult learning as a context for students entering college. Both theory and practice are part of examining the skills, knowledge, and attitudes needed to both succeed as a learner and transfer that new knowledge into the world. Group dynamics, individual learning styles, collaborative learning, and reflective inquiry are all part of this interactive course.

ISDT 360 Cross Cultural Perspectives in Health Care

This course currently in development will explore complex and controversial topics in culture and society within the health care industry from the vantage point of multiple disciplines.

POSC 340 Inequality and Social Policy

Examines social welfare policies and programs from the New Deal to the present analyzing their economic, cultural, historic and political roots. Emphasis on selected issues such as poverty and inequality, healthcare, abuse and neglect, daycare and parental leave. Examines social welfare policies as expressions of American values and political processes and compares American programs to those of other industrialized countries. Special attention paid to the experience of social program recipients.

SOCI 335 Health and Aging

Provides an overview of issues related to health and aging at the personal and societal levels. Discusses myths and stereotypes of aging and the concept of successful aging. Examines life expectancy, chronic disease, and their impact on an aging society.

BIOL 195 Nutrition for Healthy Living

Introduces students to the importance of diet for present and future good health. Examines the importance of carbohydrates, fats, proteins, vitamins and minerals, and their interactions. In addition, the course explores topics such as label-reading, diets, dietary analysis and other issues of current interest.

PSYC 355 Human Sexuality

Examines the field of human sexuality from psychological, biological and sociological perspectives. In covering a wide range of contemporary topics, emphasis is on empirical, verifiable scientific information.

ENGL 395 Experiential Credit Portfolio Preparation and Writing

Provides students with help in completing a portfolio for experiential credit. Includes a rigorous essay-writing component.

PSYC 332 Drugs and Human Behavior

Examines the use and abuse of drugs from biological, psychological and cultural points of view. Addresses contemporary efforts in education, prevention and treatment of abuse..



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Course Descriptions (continued):

PSYC 495 Special Topics: Issues in Mental Health

This course currently in development will explore issues in mental health with an emphasis on prevention and treatment.

SOWK 443 Casework with Couples and Families

Explores clinical practice with family problems. Examines the ways in which environmental, social, economic, psychological and institutional pressures help create and exacerbate family dysfunction, and the integration of this understanding into skilled intervention and families.

CCAP 300 Tier III Capstone Seminar

Challenges students to integrate knowledge from several disciplines, applying academic learning and critical thinking skills to modern-day issues. Encourages students to work with others and become engaged citizens in the context of today's world.

PHIL 385 Medical Ethics

Challenges students to understand, construct, and criticize both informal (natural language) and formal (categorical and propositional) arguments. The course considers in detail the very notion of argument, argument structure, and the criteria for constructing cogent arguments, and distinguishes arguments supported by evidence and reason from mere opinion and belief. Students will learn to apply these logical concepts in their writing, conversing, and reading.

SOCI 331 Methods of Social Research

Examines sociological methods commonly used in the study of the social world, as well as ethical and political issues related to the research process. Explores the various steps of research design, data collection (questionnaire construction, interviewing, observation content analysis) and data analysis.

IDST 350 Management & Administration in Health Care

This course currently in development will explore complex and controversial topics in culture and society in regards to the management and administration of health care from the vantage point of multiple disciplines.

IDST 401 Senior Seminar

Available to senior interdisciplinary studies majors, this seminar requires students to carry out supervised research projects within their areas of study and to share the progress and results of their research with seminar participants.