

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

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PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

CROSS-CULTURAL & SOCIAL JUSTICE MINOR

LEADERSHIP MINOR

TEACHING LICENSURE

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES MAJOR PROGRAM

The Department of Philosophy/Modern Languages/Interdisciplinary Studies offers a four-year program leading to a Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies. Students majoring in Interdisciplinary Studies can pursue one of the following options:

BA Interdisciplinary Studies (for Educators): MCLA students can pursue an initial teaching licensure at the early childhood, elementary, and middle school level through a BA in Interdisciplinary Studies in combination with an education major and a licensure program. At the early childhood and elementary school level, students choose two areas of concentration (such as English and Psychology, History and English, Environmental Studies and Mathematics). At the middle school level, students opt for a general science, humanities, or math/science concentration. Students set up their individualized study-plan selecting classes from the course offerings at MCLA in close collaboration with an interdisciplinary studies faculty advisor.

BA Interdisciplinary Studies (Self-Designed Program): MCLA's unique BA Interdisciplinary Studies (Self-Designed) program offers motivated students the option to create their own self-designed degree, by either

focusing on a given theme, a geographic region, a specific question, a historical topic, an issue/problem in society, or by combining two or more disciplines into a multidisciplinary major. Examples of a self-designed program could include: European Studies, Film & Theatre, Psychology & Business, Art, Music & Psychology, History of Science, Science & Culture, etc.

BA Interdisciplinary Studies (Pre-designed Programs): Students may also opt to pursue a pre-designed interdisciplinary program. These interdisciplinary programs are based on pre-structured study-plans and could include programs such as:

- Cultural Studies
- American Studies
- Green and Sustainable Business Management
- Immigration and Diversity Studies
- International and Global Studies

Students graduating with a degree in Interdisciplinary studies will:

- Demonstrate advanced critical thinking, academic research, writing, and oral presentation skills;
- Have an understanding of how knowledge is created within different fields of inquiry;
- Be able to study important issues in societies past and present in local and global contexts from the vantage point of different disciplines and through interdisciplinary frameworks;
- Be able to study complex issues in society from ethical perspectives;
- Be able to analyze texts in cultural, social, and historical contexts;
- Apply methods, approaches, and insights from different disciplines (particularly in their respective areas of concentration) and interdisciplinary perspectives to the analysis of a given theme/issue and to the development of creative solutions to complex problems;
- Have developed skills for lifelong learning;

- Have acquired extensive knowledge of human societies and cultures, and will have developed an intercultural competence and awareness of global cultural diversity;
- Be able to assume an informed, critical, and responsible position as citizens of our increasingly interconnected world.

TEACHING LICENSURE

Students majoring in Interdisciplinary Studies (with a liberal arts area of study) may opt to pursue initial teacher licensure as an early childhood teacher, elementary education teacher, or middle school teacher. These students will complete an interdisciplinary studies major, an education major, and a licensure program in education.

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES MAJOR

Requirements

IDST elective at the 100-200 level	3 cr
IDST 320 Interpretation	3 cr
OR IDST 350 World History in Contexts	
OR IDST 360 Topics in Culture and Society	
1 additional IDST elective*	3 cr
IDST 401 Senior Seminar	3 cr

*Note: With the approval of the student's IDST advisor, the "additional IDST elective" may be replaced by an elective in the student's area(s) of study provided the course is interdisciplinary in content and approach.

Lower level courses from at least 2 disciplines other than IDST:	12 cr
Upper level courses from at least 2 disciplines other than IDST:	18 cr

**TOTAL INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES MAJOR
REQUIREMENTS**

42 cr

CROSS-CULTURAL & SOCIAL JUSTICE MINOR PROGRAM

The minor in Cross-Cultural and Social Justice Studies creates an opportunity for students to study and critically engage with important issues affecting people in our contemporary, culturally and socially diverse world. There are two tracks within the minor, a cross-cultural track and a social justice track.

Requirements

IDST	150	Intro to Cross-Cultural & Social Justice Studies	3 cr
Lower- Level Electives			6 cr
Upper- Level Electives			9 cr

Electives: Courses must be selected from at least two different disciplines, with no more than nine credits from one discipline, and no more than six credits at the upper level from one discipline.

**TOTAL CROSS-CULTURAL & SOCIAL JUSTICE MINOR
REQUIREMENTS**

18 cr

Lower Level Electives (choose from): **6 cr**

ANTH	130	Intro to Sociocultural Anthropology
OR ANTH	140	Peoples of the World (not both)
CCSS	268	Culture & the Body
MUSI	253	World Music
PHIL	110	World Religions
POSC	205	International Relations
SOCI	100	Intro to Sociology
SOCI	201	Social Problems

Cross Cultural Track

Upper Level Electives (choose from):

9 cr

These courses must be taken from the course offerings of at least two different disciplines.

- ANTH 320-324 Peoples of... (Not more than one)
- CCAP 300 Africans in the Diaspora
- ENGL 313 Global Anglophone Language and Literature
- ENGL 319 Global Issues in Communication
- ENGL 381-394 Diverse Voices in American Culture
(Not more than one; excludes ENGL 389)
- ENGL 400 Intercultural Communication
- ENGL 471 World Literary Survey
- HIST 310 Topics in Asian History
- HIST 330 Topics in Latin American History
- HIST 340 Topics in the Middle East & the Muslim World
- HIST 350 Topics in African History
- IDST 350 World History in Contexts

(Only topics determined to be relevant to cross- culture issues will count toward this requirement.)

- IDST 360 Topics in Culture and Society

(Only topics determined to be relevant to cross-culture issues will count toward this requirement, such as East Meets West: Challenging Orientalism; and Bollywood-Popular Cinema in India and the Diaspora)

- POSC 315 Topics in Political Science (relevant to cross-cultural)
- SOCI 305 Latinas in US Society
- SOCI 321 Race and Ethnic Relations
- SOCI 395 Special Topics in Sociology (relevant to cross-cultural)
- SOCI 402 Genocide
- SPAN 310 Hispanic Civilization
- SPAN 370 Hispanic Literature in Context
- SPAN 390 Special Topics in Hispanic Literature and Film

(Not more than one)

(Only topics determined to be relevant to Cross-Cultural issues will count toward this requirement.)

With the approval of the Cross-Cultural & Social Justice minor coordinator, students may obtain credits for taking other classes offered across campus, provided these classes relate to issues of cross-cultural & social justice studies.

Social-Justice Track

Lower Level Electives:

6 cr

ANTH	130	Intro to Sociocultural Anthropology
OR ANTH	140	Peoples of the World (not both)
CCSS	268	Culture & the Body
IDST	299	Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies (must be relevant to Social Justice)
MUSI	253	World Music
PHIL	110	World Religions
SOCI	100	Intro to Sociology
SOCI	201	Social Problems

Social-Justice Track

Upper Level Electives (choose from):

9 cr

These courses must be taken from the course offerings of at least two different disciplines.

ANTH	346	Disability and Culture
ANTH	355	Politics of Culture
ANTH	365	Gender Roles & Society
ANTH	370	Culture, Power & Protest
BADM	365	Labor and Labor Law
BADM	390	Managing Workplace Diversity
CCAP	300	Africans in the Diaspora
HIST	310	Topics in Asian History

HIST	330	Topics in Latin American History
HIST	340	Topics in the History of the Middle East & the Muslim World
HIST	350	Topics in African History
IDST	350	World History in Contexts (only topics determined to be relevant to social justice issues will count toward this requirement, such as Rethinking the Third World and the World of Work)
IDST	360	Topics in Culture and Society (only topics determined to be relevant to social justice issues will count toward this requirement.)
PHIL	322	Business Ethics
PHIL	325	Environmental Ethics
PHIL	350	Contemporary Moral Issues
PHIL	360	Social and Political Philosophy
POSC	304	Constitutional Law
POSC	315	Topics in Political Science (relevant to social justice)
SOCI	305	Latinas in US Society
SOCI	321	Race and Ethnic Relations
SOCI	351	Criminology
SOCI	355	Law & Society
SOCI	402	Genocide
SOCI	403	Social Movements
SOCI	441	Social Stratification
POSC	340/SOWK340	Inequality & Social Policy

NOTE: With the approval of the cross-cultural and social justice minor coordinator, students may obtain credits for taking other classes offered across campus, provided these classes relate to the issues of cross-cultural and social justice studies.

LEADERSHIP MINOR PROGRAM

The Leadership Minor provides students with the opportunity to combine campus and community services with leadership studies in order to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for assuming leadership positions in our increasingly interconnected world.

Requirements

IDST	200	Introduction to Leadership	3 cr
ENGL	306	Business Writing and Presentation	3 cr
OR	BADM366	Team Facilitation	
IDST	395	Leadership Practicum: variable credits 1-3 (no more than 1/semester) 3 x 1cr. OR 2cr +1cr = 3 cr OR approved elective	
CCAP	300	Service Leadership	3 cr
OR	Internship*		

Electives: 6 cr

*Note: Students may use an internship in another department in place of CCAP 300 Service Leadership provided that they can demonstrate to the Leadership Minor Coordinator that their on-site work and educational and experiential objectives relate to themes in leadership studies.

Electives:

AMGT	235	Business Organizations in Arts Management
ATTR	340	Athletic Training Management
BADM	260	Management
BADM	361	Organizational Behavior
BADM	384	Marketing Communications
BADM	390	Managing Workplace Diversity
BADM	405	Contemporary Business and Organizational Issues

EDUC	375	Coaching Principles
ENGL	231	Power of Words
ENGL 306, BADM 366 if not applied to requirements above		
ENGL	396	Public Relations
IDST	360	Topics in Culture and Society (as appropriate)
PHIL	322	Business Ethics
PSYC	230	Social Psychology
PSYC	335	Organizational Psychology
SOCI	403	Social Movements
SOWK	355	Community Organizing

NOTE: With the approval of the Leadership Minor Coordinator, students may obtain Elective credit for taking other classes, provided that they relate to leadership studies

TOTAL LEADERSHIP MINOR PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS 18 cr

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES MAJOR (PRE-DESIGNED)

AMERICAN STUDIES AREA OF CONCENTRATION

Requirements

1 IDST elective at the 100-200 level			
(e.g. IDST 150 Intro to Cross-Cultural and Social Justice Studies)			
IDST	320	Interpretation	3 cr
OR IDST	350	World History in Contexts	
OR IDST	360	Topics in Culture and Society	
1 additional IDST elective*			3 cr
IDST	401	Senior Seminar	3 cr

Lower level courses from at least 2 disciplines other than IDST relating to themes in American Studies and approved by IDST advisor:

12 cr

Upper level courses from at least 2 disciplines other than IDST relating to themes in American Studies and approved by IDST advisor:

18 cr

**TOTAL AMERICAN STUDIES CONCENTRATION
REQUIREMENTS**

42 cr

CULTURAL STUDIES AREA OF CONCENTRATION

Requirements

IDST elective at the 100-200 level 3 cr
(e.g. IDST 150 Intro to Cross-Cultural and Social Justice Studies)

IDST 320 Interpretation 3 cr
(e.g. IDST 320 South Asian Diaspora in Literature and Film)

OR IDST 350 World History in Contexts

OR IDST 360 Topics in Culture and Society
(e.g. IDST 360 Popular Cinema and Society in India and the Diaspora; IDST 360 Madness & Society)

1 additional IDST elective* (relating to themes in cultural studies) 3 cr

IDST 401 Senior Seminar 3 cr

Lower level courses from at least two disciplines other than IDST relating to themes in Cultural Studies and approved by IDST advisor:

12 cr

Upper level courses from at least two disciplines other than IDST relating to themes in Cultural Studies and approved by IDST advisor:

18 cr

**TOTAL CULTURAL STUDIES CONCENTRATION
REQUIREMENTS**

42 cr

GREEN & SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AREA OF CONCENTRATION

Requirements

IDST elective at the 100-200 level (e.g. IDST 150 Intro to Cross-Cultural and Social Justice Studies)	3 cr
IDST 320 Interpretation	3 cr
OR IDST 350 World History in Contexts	
OR IDST 360 Topics in Culture and Society (e.g. IDST 360 Globalization)	
1 additional IDST elective* (e.g. IDST 200 Intro to Leadership)	3 cr
IDST 401 Senior Seminar	3 cr
Lower level courses from at least two disciplines other than IDST relating to themes in Green and Sustainable Business Management and approved by IDST advisor:	12 cr
Upper level courses from at least two disciplines other than IDST relating to themes in Green and Sustainable	18 cr

TOTAL GREEN & SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS MANAGEMENT CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENTS 42 cr

IMMIGRATION AND DIVERSITY STUDIES AREA OF CONCENTRATION

Requirements

IDST elective at the 100-200 level (e.g. IDST 150 Intro to Cross-Cultural and Social Justice Studies)	3 cr
IDST 320 Interpretation (e.g. IDST 320 South Asian Diaspora in Literature and Film)	3 cr
OR IDST 350 World History in Contexts	
OR IDST 360 Topics in Culture and Society (e.g. IDST 360 Globalization)	

1 additional IDST elective* (e.g. IDST 200 Intro to Leadership)	3 cr
IDST 401 Senior Seminar	3 cr
Lower level courses from at least two disciplines other than IDST relating to themes in Immigration and Diversity Studies and approved by IDST advisor:	12 cr
Upper level courses from at least two disciplines other than IDST relating to themes in Immigration and Diversity Studies and approved by IDST advisor:	18 cr

**TOTAL IMMIGRATION AND DIVERSITY STUDIES
CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENTS 42 cr**

**INTERNATIONAL AND GLOBAL STUDIES AREA OF
CONCENTRATION**

Requirements

IDST elective at the 100-200 level (e.g. IDST 150 Intro to Cross-Cultural and Social Justice Studies)	3 cr
IDST 320 Interpretation (e.g. IDST 320 South Asian Diaspora in Literature and Film)	3 cr
OR IDST 350 World History in Contexts	
OR IDST 360 Topics in Culture and Society (e.g. IDST 360 Globalization)	
1 additional IDST elective*	3 cr
IDST 401 Senior Seminar	3 cr
Lower level courses from at least two disciplines other than IDST relating to themes in International and Global Studies and approved by IDST advisor:	12 cr
Upper level courses from at least two disciplines other than IDST relating to themes in International and Global Studies and approved by IDST advisor:	18 cr

**TOTAL INTERNATIONAL AND GLOBAL STUDIES
CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENTS**

42 cr

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

**IDST 150 Introduction to Cross-Cultural &
Social Justice Studies**

3 cr

Opens up a perspective on the history, contemporary experience and cultural diversity of the major ethnic groups/immigrant groups that make up the American Mosaic, while also discussing issues of social justice and inequality. The focus is on the U.S. experience, but the course will also discuss the experience of minority groups in other parts of the world through selected case studies. Course attributes: CHH, CRCU, SOCJ.

Prerequisite: None

IDST 200 Introduction to Leadership

3 cr

The foundation course in the Leadership Minor. A description and comparison of major leadership theories along with current applications and case examples. Also examines issues of ethics, power, teams and women in leadership. Each student will be involved in a service/leadership and reflection experience throughout the semester which will develop their leadership skills, and identify the student's own leadership philosophy and style. Course attributes: LDRS.

Prerequisite: None

IDST 220 Science in History

3 cr

Examines western science in historical context, including its relationship to technology and medicine, its institutional basis and its relevance to politics and religion.

Prerequisite: None

IDST 224 Nuclear Age 3 cr

Explores the history of nuclear weapons and nuclear-generated electricity. Considers these technologies from the perspective of national power and security, ethics, diplomacy, technical practicality, safety and environmental consequences. Course attributes: CHH.

Prerequisite: None

IDST 299 Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies 3 cr

Introduces students to approaches, methods and themes in interdisciplinary studies. Draws on concepts and approaches from selected academic disciplines (such as sociology, history, political science, psychology, cultural studies) to develop interdisciplinary frameworks for the study of important issues in society, for example: self and identity; gender and society; relationships and marriage. Course topic identified by subtitle.

Prerequisite: None

IDST 320 Interpretation 3 cr

Beginning with the consideration of the raw data with which scholars work, students proceed through the process by which meaning is constructed and then through the processes by which various interpretations can be challenged or defended, with special emphasis placed upon standards for distinguishing effective from ineffective arguments.

Prerequisite: Junior/senior status

IDST 350 World History in Contexts 3 cr

Focuses on the history of a geographic area, nation, epoch, or selected social group. Students will critically engage with a variety of sources, such as written historic documents, oral histories, literary texts, music and cinematic representations of past and present human experience in local and global

IDST 500 Directed Independent Study

1 to 3 cr

Open to junior and senior IDST majors who wish to read in a given area or to study a topic in depth. Written reports and frequent conferences with the advisor are required.

Prerequisite: Junior/senior status, department approval

IDST 540 Interdisciplinary Internship

1 to 6 cr

Offers seniors field experience that actively and extensively draws upon the concepts, principles, and skills of at least two different disciplines. The internship must include a strong writing component in which the student interprets his/her field experience with reference to key ideas and themes of the relevant disciplines.

Prerequisite: Senior status, department approval