Interdisciplinary Studies, BS, BA

Department: Interdisciplinary Studies Program; Interdisciplinary Studies Program; Interdisciplinary Studies Program; Interdisciplinary Studies Program; Interdisciplinary Studies Program; Interdisciplinary Studies Program
College: College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences; Emma Eccles Jones College of Education & Human Services; College of Humanities and Social Sciences; College of Science; S.J. & Jessie E. Quinney College of Natural Resources; Caine College of the Arts

Overview

About This Degree

The Interdisciplinary Studies major is intended to serve the needs of students who want to design a unique individualized academic program, obtain a broadly-based education, and diversify their professional potential. The degree is not intended to replace existing majors or curricula. Rather, it is designed to provide the *small number* of students whose degree needs cannot be met with other majors with a program which is less restrictive and more responsive to their individual plans and interests.

The Interdisciplinary Studies major is available through the following six colleges: Agriculture; Caine College of the Arts; Education and Human Services; Natural Resources; Science; and the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Students can pursue a **BA** or **BS** degree.

Distance Education

The interdisciplinary studies degree (BS) is available through USU-Online.

Career Options

Career Services provides counseling and information on hundreds of job and internship opportunities and even helps students apply and interview.

What it takes

Admissions Requirements

Students may apply for admission to the Interdisciplinary Studies major after completing 45 credits with a minimum GPA of 2.0, submitting an Application for Interdisciplinary Studies, and receiving approval for the Application.

Transfer students from other institutions or from other USU majors need to complete a minimum of 45 credits, achieve the required GPA, and have an approved Application for Interdisciplinary Studies for admission to this major in good standing.

Students who wish to pursue the degree must submit a letter of application containing the following information:

1. A clear statement of the student's educational objectives.
2. A proposed program of study including specific courses and listing the faculty member the student proposes to work with on the final thesis or project.
3. A brief statement explaining why the student feels the proposed program is worthy of a college degree.

A current unofficial transcript must be attached to the application. The application should be discussed with and reviewed by the student's major advisor.

Major Requirements

Click here to see course requirements for the **Bachelor of Science**.

Click here to see course requirements for the **Bachelor of Arts**.

Students will work with a faculty member or members who will assist in course selection and will oversee the successful completion of the 45 credits in the program. Courses selected must provide coherent, carefully planned programs of study in the area of interest, which must involve two or more disciplines. Courses used for University Studies Breadth Requirements and courses used for Depth Humanities and Creative Arts (DHA), Depth Life and Physical Sciences (DSC), and Depth Social Sciences (DSS) may be counted toward the degree *only with the permission of the college advisor*. However, courses meeting the Communications Intensive (CI) and Quantitative Intensive (QI) requirements may be applied toward requirements for the Interdisciplinary Studies degree.

Courses used to meet the 45-credit minimum requirement may come from any department, with the following restrictions:

1. At least 21 of the 45 credits ***must*** be numbered 3000 or above.
2. Courses used for the major must include ***at least*** 15 *credits each* from two different disciplines. A maximum of 3 internship credits may be counted toward the major. **Note:** Some colleges may require that *more than 15 credits* counted toward the major be taught by departments within their college; check with the college advisor for further information.
3. The coursework must focus on an overarching theme and must be consistent with the student's educational and career goals.
4. As part of the 45 credits, students must complete a 3-credit senior project, thesis, or capstone course supervised by their faculty advisor.
5. Students must pass every course approved for the program of study and must earn a composite GPA of at least 2.0 in the 45 credits of coursework used for the major. **No Note:** Some colleges may have a higher GPA requirement; check with the college advisor for further information.
6. Courses used for the major may be used for a minor or to fill University Studies Breadth requirements *only with the permission of the college advisor.*

Contact

Advising

All new USU students participate in a New Student Orientation program, where they receive detailed information about major requirements, registering for classes, and other important advising information.

Get Involved

Labs, Centers, Research

With the second oldest undergraduate research program in the nation, USU offers students a wide range of opportunities to gain hands-on research experience. The Undergraduate Research and Creative Opportunities program allows students to apply for grants and receive funding. USU's Honors Program prepares students for excellent graduate programs by helping them build relationships with professors, participate in research projects, take smaller, more intensive classes, and develop leadership skills.