

# *Interdisciplinary Studies Major*

**Contact and Advising:** Science/HASS Advising Center

**Location:** Student Center 302

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**Degrees offered:** Bachelor of Science (BS) and

Bachelor of Arts (BA)

## *Objectives*

The organization of academic departments and their associated degree programs reflects the history and traditions of study in those fields. 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. Students who complete their programs will receive the Bachelor of Science or (if they meet the language requirement) the Bachelor of Arts degree. The degree cannot be used as part of a dual major.

## *Application*

Students may apply for admission to the Interdisciplinary Studies program after completing a minimum of 45 credits. Students who wish to pursue this degree must submit a letter of application which must include the following information: (1) a clear statement of the student's educational objectives, (2) a proposed program of study which includes the specific courses, and (3) a brief statement explaining why the program is worthy of a college degree. A current transcript must also be included.

The application will be reviewed to determine (1) that the proposal represents a coherent and carefully planned program of study and (2) that space is available in the courses proposed for the program. After approval, an advisor in the Science/HASS Advising Center will assist the student in completing the program.

## *Requirements*

With guidance and approval from the advisor, the student selects and completes at least 45 credits of coursework for the major. Courses used to meet the 45-credit requirement may come from any department with the following restrictions:

1. At least 21 of the 45 credits in the major must be taken at the 3000 level or above.
2. Courses used for the major must include at least 15 credits each from two different academic disciplines.
3. The selection of the courses in the major must focus on an overarching theme and be consistent with the student's educational and career goals.
4. As part of the 45 credits, the student must complete a 3-credit senior project or thesis supervised by a faculty advisor.
5. Courses used for University Studies Breadth or selected Depth Education requirements may not be counted toward the 45 credits.
6. Students must pass every course approved in the program of study and earn a composite GPA of at least 2.0 in the 45 credits of courses used for the major. Students must also earn a USU GPA of at least 2.0 to graduate in this major.

## *Course Descriptions*

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