

# Interdisciplinary Studies (IDST)

Robert Brady  
Program Director  
Kimpel Hall 417  
479-575-3048  
rbrady@uark.edu

The Interdisciplinary Studies Program is targeted toward highly motivated students whose interests, needs, and talents are not reflected or met by existing majors. It is a major in which students will pursue coursework from two or more traditional disciplines in sufficient depth and breadth to prepare them for employment or graduate/professional study. The major will lead to a Bachelor of Arts in interdisciplinary studies.

The following credit hour requirements must be met (see Degree Completion Program Policy (<http://catalog.uark.edu/undergraduatecatalog/collegesandschools/jwilliamfulbrightcollegeofartsandsciences/>) for additional information).

State minimum core (<https://catalog.uark.edu/undergraduatecatalog/gened/stateminimum/>) requirements may vary by individual, based on placement and previous course credit earned. Once all core requirements are met, students may substitute with general electives in consultation with their academic advisor.

Students are required to submit an application to join the Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies and to include a proposed plan of study to the program director.

The Interdisciplinary Studies Program is designed for motivated students with unique interests, needs, and talents that traditional majors do not fully meet. The major can provide a broad range of knowledge and skills that will prepare students for various career paths or further studies at the graduate or professional level. Students completing the major will receive a Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies.

Students who wish to pursue a B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies have three options:

- **Option 1** – Construction of an Interdisciplinary Studies major consisting of three thematically linked minors, at least one of which must come from the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences. Students will follow the specific program requirements as specified by each minor. For Option 1, the Thematically Linked Coursework must contain a minimum of 45 credit hours with a maximum number of hours dependent on which group of three minors are selected.
- **Option 2** – Construction of an Interdisciplinary Studies major consisting of thematically linked coursework primarily selected from, but not limited to, courses in Fulbright College. For Option 2, Thematically Linked Coursework must contain a minimum of 45 credit hours with a maximum of 21 hours of course work from a single discipline. Thirty credit hours of the proposed coursework must be numbered at the 30000-level or higher. At least two-thirds of the advanced level coursework must be completed on the UA-Fayetteville campus.
- **Option 3** - Construction of an Interdisciplinary Studies major consisting of three to five thematically linked minors, certificates, and microcertificates, at least one of which must come from the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences. Students will follow

the specific program requirements as specified by each minor, certificate, and/or microcertificate. For Option 3, the Thematically Linked Coursework must contain a minimum of 45 credit hours with a maximum number of hours dependent on which minors, certificates, or microcertificates are selected.

## Interdisciplinary Studies Program Requirements

State Minimum Core		35
IDST Core		
IDST 20003	Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies <sup>1</sup>	3
IDST 40103	Senior Capstone	3
Thematically Linked Coursework		45-57
Option 1 - Three minors		
Option 2 - Thematically linked set of coursework		
Option 3 - Minors/certificates/microcertificates		
General Electives <sup>2</sup>		22-34
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>120</b>

<sup>1</sup> IDST 20003 should be taken as early as possible, ideally in the first semester in the major.

<sup>2</sup> Students must present for degree credit at least 40 credit hours of work in courses numbered 30000 and above. Included in these 40 hours can be courses numbered 20000 if each has a specific course designated as a prerequisite. Additionally, students must complete 30 credit hours of work from the University of Arkansas Fayetteville. If Thematically Linked Coursework is not sufficient to satisfy the 40 credit hour and 30 credit hour rules, general electives must be used as needed to meet these requirements.

### Writing Requirement:

Students majoring in Interdisciplinary Studies will satisfy the writing requirement by successful completion of IDST 40103 Senior Capstone.

## Requirements for B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies

The following credit hour requirements must be met (see Degree Completion Program Policy (<http://catalog.uark.edu/undergraduatecatalog/collegesandschools/jwilliamfulbrightcollegeofartsandsciences/>) for additional information).

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Students who wish to pursue a B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies have three options:

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- **Option 2** – Construction of an Interdisciplinary Studies major consisting of thematically linked coursework primarily selected from, but not limited to, courses in Fulbright College. For Option 2, Thematically Linked Coursework must contain a minimum of 45 credit hours with a maximum of 21 hours of course work from a single discipline. Thirty credit hours of the proposed coursework must be numbered at the 30000-level or higher. At least two-thirds of the advanced level coursework must be completed on the UA-Fayetteville campus.
- **Option 3** - Construction of an Interdisciplinary Studies major consisting of three to five thematically linked minors, certificates, and microcertificates, at least one of which must come from the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences. Students will follow the specific program requirements as specified by each minor, certificate, and/or microcertificate. For Option 3, the Thematically Linked Coursework must contain a minimum of 45 credit hours with a maximum number of hours dependent on which minors, certificates, or microcertificates are selected.

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### Writing Requirement:

Students majoring in Interdisciplinary Studies will satisfy the writing requirement by successful completion of IDST 40103 Senior Capstone.

## Interdisciplinary Studies B.A. Eight-Semester Degree Plan

Students enrolling in the eight-semester degree plan should review the Eight-Semester Degree Completion Policy (<http://catalog.uark.edu/undergraduatecatalog/academicregulations/eightsemesterdegreecompletionpolicy/>).

State minimum core requirements may vary by individual, based on placement and previous credit granted. Once all core requirements are met, students may substitute with general electives in consultation with their academic advisor.

Students in the Interdisciplinary Studies Program develop individualized course plans. These courses are referred to in the plan below as IDST Course Plan hours.

First Year	Units	
	Fall	Spring
ENGL 10103 Composition I (ACTS Equivalency = ENGL 1013) (Satisfies General Education Outcome 1.1) <sup>1</sup> Satisfies General Education Outcome 2.1: <sup>1</sup>	3	
MATH 11103 Quantitative Reasoning (ACTS Equivalency = MATH 1113) <sup>1</sup> or any MATH or STAT course numbered higher than MATH 11003	3	
Science State Minimum Core lecture requirement with corequisite lab requirement (Satisfies General Education Outcome 3.4) <sup>1</sup>	4	
Fine Arts State Minimum Core requirement (Satisfies General Education Outcome 3.1) <sup>1</sup>	3	
IDST 20003 Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies	3	
ENGL 10203 Composition II (ACTS Equivalency = ENGL 1023) <sup>1</sup>		3
Science State Minimum Core lecture with corequisite lab requirement (Satisfies General Education Outcome 3.4) <sup>1</sup>		4
Humanities State Minimum Core course requirement (Satisfies General Education Outcome 3.2) <sup>1</sup> Satisfies General Education Outcome 4.2: <sup>1</sup>		3
HIST 20003 History of the American People to 1877 (ACTS Equivalency = HIST 2113) <sup>1</sup> or HIST 20103 History of the American People, 1877 to Present (ACTS Equivalency = HIST 2123) or PLSC 20003 American National Government (ACTS Equivalency = PLSC 2003)		3
IDST Course Plan or General Electives, as needed		3
Year Total:	16	16

Second Year	Units	
	Fall	Spring
Social Sciences State Minimum Core requirement (Satisfies General Education Outcome 3.3) <sup>1</sup>	3	
IDST Course Plan or General Electives, as needed (Satisfies General Education Outcome 4.1), if needed or IDST Course Plan <sup>1</sup>	12	

Social Sciences State Minimum Core requirement (Satisfies General Education Outcome 3.3) <sup>1</sup>	3
IDST Course Plan or General Electives, as needed (Satisfies General Education Outcome 5.1), if needed or IDST Course Plan) <sup>1</sup>	12

Year Total: 15      15

Third Year	Units	
	Fall	Spring
Social Sciences State Minimum Core requirement (Satisfies General Education Outcome 3.3) <sup>1</sup>	3	
IDST Course Plan or General Electives, as needed	12	
IDST Course Plan or General Electives, as needed (Satisfies General Education Outcome 1.2) <sup>1</sup>		15
Year Total:	15	15

Fourth Year	Units	
	Fall	Spring
IDST Course Plan or General Electives, as needed	15	
IDST Course Plan or General Electives, as needed		10
IDST 40103 Senior Capstone (Satisfies General Education Outcome 6.1) <sup>1</sup>		3
Year Total:	15	13

**Total Units in Sequence: 120**

<sup>1</sup> Students must complete the State Minimum Core (<https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fcatalog.uark.edu%2Fundergraduatecatalog%2Fgened%2Fstateminimum%2F&data=04%7C01%7Crc003%40uark.edu%7C92f936f375f845bf930708d8e3ec5fa1%7C79c742c4e61c4fa5be89a3cb56a80d1%7C0%7C0%7C637509951644018253%7CUnknown%7C7CTWFpGZsb3d8eyJWljoIMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6I1h5VWwLXVVC16Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=ZHBCul1VytD%2FCnZSMgcmPS5ZlJYEvTv2HPmN6hSxflk%3D&reserved=0>) and the requirements of their major(s) as outlined in the Catalog of Studies. These courses also fulfill many, if not all, of the General Education Requirements (<https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fcatalog.uark.edu%2Fundergraduatecatalog%2Fgened%2Fgeneraleducation%2F&data=04%7C01%7Crc003%40uark.edu%7C92f936f375f845bf930708d8e3ec5fa1%7C79c742c4e61c4fa5be89a3cb56a80d1%7C0%7C0%7C637509951644028245%7CUnknown%7C7CTWFpGZsb3d8eyJWljoIMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6I1h5VWwLXVVC16Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=r35av68n3oEQW9FslqBgmbsTnUENpJF7EoP4AD4Bks%3D&reserved=0>). Please visit these pages in the links provided and consult with your academic advisor when making course selections to fulfill these requirements.

### Interdisciplinary Studies B.A. Eight-Semester Degree Plan

Students wishing to follow the eight-semester degree plan should see the Academic Regulations chapter for university requirements. University Core requirements may vary by individual, based on placement and previous credit granted. Once all University Core requirements are met, students may substitute a 3-hour (or more) general elective in place of a core area.

Students in the Interdisciplinary Studies Program develop individualized course plans. These courses are referred to in the plan below as IDST Course Plan hours.

First Year	Units	
	Fall	Spring
ENGL 1013	3	
MATH 1203 (or higher if appropriate for IDST individual plan))	3	
Approved science core lecture requirement with corequisite lab requirement.	4	
Elementary II world language course (recommended)	3	
Fine Arts core requirement	3	
ENGL 1023		3
Approved science core lecture with corequisite lab requirement		4
Intermediate I world language course (recommended) or other Humanities core course requirement		3
HIST 2003 or HIST 2013 or PLSC 2003		3
General Elective		3
Year Total:	16	16

Second Year	Units	
	Fall	Spring
Social Science core requirement	3	
IDST Course Plan	12	
Social Science core requirement		3
IDST Course Plan		11
Year Total:	15	14

Third Year	Units	
	Fall	Spring
Social Science core requirement	3	
IDST Course Plan	12	
IDST Course Plan		15
Year Total:	15	15

Fourth Year	Units	
	Fall	Spring
IDST Course Plan	15	
IDST Course Plan		14
Year Total:	15	14

**Total Units in Sequence: 120**