



Effective: October 1997

Academic Program: Undergraduate Studies INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAMS

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This policy establishes a framework for interdisciplinary programs, including minimum course requirements and organizational structure. The rationale for these programs is to provide students with interdisciplinary perspectives that cannot be provided by one department.

DEFINITIONS

Interdisciplinary Major and Interdisciplinary Minor: A major and a minor which integrate the knowledge, perspectives, and methodologies of more than one discipline to form a specific academic focus in a recognized or innovative discipline not currently offered by existing academic departments (e.g., American studies, international studies, gender studies).

Interdisciplinary Course: A course that crosses disciplinary boundaries and develops integrated knowledge by reflecting the knowledge, perspectives, and methodologies of multiple disciplines.

FACULTY SELECTION

Faculty assignments will be made by the appropriate college dean(s) in consultation with the interdisciplinary coordinator and chairs of the faculty members' home department.

POLICY AND IMPLEMENTATION

Interdisciplinary Major Course requirements for an interdisciplinary major will follow any current University policies regarding requirements for a major.

An interdisciplinary major will require a minimum of 30 credits of coursework.

1. A minimum of six (6) credits of interdisciplinary coursework, focused on the integrated discipline represented in the major (an introductory course and a

300-400 level capstone experience/course).

2. A minimum of (15) additional credits in one discipline or clearly defined interdisciplinary course of study, with at least nine (9) credits or more at the 300-400 level.
3. A minimum of six (6) additional credits from other disciplines or clearly defined, themed-elective grouping with at least three (3) credits at the 300-400 level.
4. Three (3) credits will come from interdisciplinary coursework or from a related discipline.

Interdisciplinary Minor An interdisciplinary minor will require a minimum of 18 credits of coursework and must conform to all other applicable academic policies.

1. A minimum of six (6) credits of interdisciplinary coursework, focused on the integrated discipline represented in the minor (an introductory course and a 300-400 level capstone experience/course).
2. A minimum of nine (9) additional credits from at least two (2) disciplines, with at least six (6) credits above the 100 level.
3. Three (3) credits at the 300-400 level will come from either interdisciplinary coursework or courses in related disciplines.

Course Scheduling

Interdisciplinary courses will either fulfill general education requirements and/or be cross listed with courses in the teaching faculty member's home department.

ORGANIZATION

Interdisciplinary programs will be housed within a college under the auspices of a dean. The curriculum committee of an interdisciplinary program will select, with the

