

Center for Interdisciplinary Studies

Recognizing the growing economic and cultural diversity of the Upstate region of South Carolina, interdisciplinary studies (IDS) provides students the opportunity to concentrate in a single discipline, combine course work from two or more disciplines, or develop an individualized curriculum based on personal interests, the desire for self-improvement, career advancement, or in preparation for study in a profession such as law or medicine. Addressed is the mature student with clearly defined educational goals. Students with a variety of courses from other colleges and universities, but who fail to have adequate credits for a traditional degree, may also find opportunities in the IDS program offered on the USC Upstate campus and at the University Center of Greenville. The program conforms to all general university academic regulations.

The interdisciplinary studies program permits students to apply credits earned through independent study toward the degree. Students may also be permitted to apply up to 30 semester hours earned in correspondence courses, the U.S. Armed Forces Institute, selected college-level examination programs, and off-campus extension classes in partial fulfillment of the degree. Students desiring a postgraduate professional degree should note the requirements for a baccalaureate after three undergraduate years and one year of professional school outlined under the Three-Plus-One Program in this catalog.

Admission

IDS program applicants must:

- be admitted to USC Upstate, and have earned 30 or more semester hours in transfer;
- have earned 30 or more semester hours at USC Upstate and/or in transfer;¹
- complete the IDS program application;
- if currently enrolled in another degree program at USC Upstate, obtain a signed change of major form in the office of the academic dean;
- have a minimum grade point average of 2.0 on all courses to be considered for program admission;
- choose a concentration option from 1) single discipline, 2) bidisciplinary, 3) multidisciplinary or 4) individualized plan;
- if an individualized program applicant, submit a 1-2 page typed statement of purpose, an indication of the grouping of courses that will be used to meet the concentration area requirements, and an approved endorsement by a faculty member;¹
- apply to the IDS Academic Affairs Committee for an individualized plan to be approved.²

Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies *Student Worksheet*

General Education Courses

I. Communication

_____	SEGL 101 and SEGL 102	6
_____	SSPH 201	3

II. Mathematics

	One math course:	3
_____	SMTH 120, 121, 122, 126, 127 141, 142, 231	
_____	One course from math, logic or statistics: SECO 291; SLGC 205, 207; SMTH 102, 121, 122, 126, 127, 141, 142, 202, 231; SPSY 225; SSOC 201	3

III. Information Technology

_____	SCSC 138, 150; SIMS 101	3
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IV. Natural Science

	Two courses from the following (at least one with the associated lab)	7-8
_____	SAST 111/L; SBIO 101/L, 102/L, 110/L, 206, 240, 242/L, 270; SCHM 101/L, 105, 106, 107, 109/L, 111/L, 112/L; SGEG 201, 202; SGEL 101/L, 102/L, 103/L, 120, 121, 123/L, 131; SPHS 101/L, 201/L, 202/L, 211/L, 212/L	

V. Arts and Humanities

	One fine arts course:	3
_____	SAAS 204; SATH 101, 105, 106; SMUS 110, 140; STHE 161, 170	

	One course from the following: (no more than 3 credit hours from a specific discipline)	3
_____	SAAS 204; SAMS 101, 102; SATH 101, 105, 106; SEGL 250, 252, 275, 279, 280, 283, 289, 290, 291; SFLM 240; SMUS 110, 140; SPHL 102, 211; SREL 103; STHE 161, 170	

VI. Foreign Language and Culture

	Foreign Language minimum 102 level	3
_____	SCHI 102; SFRN 102; SGRM 102; SSPN 102 Placement in a 201 or higher level language course** (Students placing into 201 or higher level of a language have satisfied this requirement but will have additional hours in electives, if hours are required in the major).	

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¹For further information on acceptable credit, see the transfer credit section in this catalog.

²Final acceptance into the individualized plan requires approval of the IDS Academic Affairs Committee.

VII. History _____ SHST 101, 102, 105, or 106 3

VIII. Social and Behavioral Sciences 6

Two courses from the following with two disciplines represented:

_____ SANT 102; SAAS 201; SECO 221, 222; SGEG 101, 103; SGIS 201, 301 320; SPSY 101; SSOC 101; SWST 101

Concentration¹

(25-29 hours of junior- and senior- level courses as outlined in the options below)

Option 1 – Single Discipline

Courses are selected from _____ 25-29 a single discipline in which USC Upstate does not currently offer a major; must include a methods or theory course where required by the discipline, and must include a senior seminar selected from an allied area and approved by an advisor; B.A. or B.S. determined by the discipline

Option 2 – Bidisciplinary

Primary discipline (must _____ 15-21 include a methods or theory course where required by the discipline and must include a senior seminar); B.A. or B.S. option determined by the primary discipline

Secondary discipline _____ 8-10

Option 3 – Multidisciplinary

Courses are selected from a single group concentration area with three disciplines represented. The minimum junior- and senior-level hour requirements for the three disciplines are as follows:

_____ Primary discipline 12-13
 (must include a methods or theory course where required by the discipline)

_____ Second discipline 6

_____ Third discipline 6

_____ Senior seminar (to be selected 1-4 from one of the three areas or an interdisciplinary senior seminar from that group)

Group Concentration Areas for Option 3

Social Sciences (criminal justice, economics, geography, government, history, logic, philosophy, psychology, recreation/health, religion, sociology; B.A. degree)

Humanities (art, English, foreign language, history, journalism, logic, music, philosophy, religion, speech, theatre; B.A. degree)

Sciences and Analysis (astronomy, biology, chemistry, computer science, geology, logic, mathematics, physics, statistics; B.S. degree)

Applied Emphasis (business/economics or foundations of education would be used as one of the disciplines in conjunction with two disciplines from one of the above groups; B.A. or B.S. degree determined by the combination of disciplines selected)

¹See academic regulations at the end of this section.

Option 4 – Individualized¹

A program of study which includes a methods or theory course and a senior seminar from the same area; B.A. or B.S. determined by primary emphasis

25-29

Electives

32-37

Junior and Senior Level Hours² 12

Total Hours Required 120

¹See program admission requirements for details

²See cognate section of this catalog and IDS program academic regulations.

Academic Regulations

- A minimum of 120 semester hours (including hours meeting the general education requirement, course grade requirement, junior and senior level hours requirement, and area of concentration requirement) must be completed with a grade point average of 2.0 or better.
- Course work completed prior to acceptance into the interdisciplinary studies program is not automatically accepted as part of a degree program. Such work is reevaluated to determine if it is applicable to the student’s program.
- A minimum of 30 semester hours must be completed in residence at USC Upstate after acceptance into the IDS program.
- Developmental courses do not count toward the 120-hour degree requirements.
- All course work within a concentration is selected in conjunction with a faculty advisor assigned from the primary or first discipline in the concentration area. Specific required course work is listed on a program of study which is then approved by the director of the IDS program and the dean of arts and sciences.
- All concentration hours must be junior- and senior-level work completed in residence at USC Upstate.
- A minimum of 15 hours of the concentration must be taken after the completed IDS application has been received in the IDS office.
- No course may simultaneously meet the general education and concentration hour requirements.
- Technical, non-college parallel, and military science courses may not be used to satisfy the concentration hour requirement.
- A maximum of 30 semester hours of upper and lower level courses (including transfer work) may be taken in business administration and economics (excluding Economics 221 and 222).
- Prior course work transferred from another four-year institution may be used to fulfill the junior- and senior-level hours requirement.
- A minimum grade of C is required in each course used to fulfill the concentration area requirements and the 12-hour junior- and senior-level requirement.