INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES
| CLAS

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences recognizes that students’ academic and professional interests may include more than one discipline and that some majors are not formally available at the university. Because interdisciplinary approaches, research, and curricular activities are becoming increasingly appropriate and valuable within the liberal arts and sciences and other fields, UF students have the option to develop and pursue interdisciplinary (IDS) majors that cross the boundaries of numerous disciplines.

**Overviews**

- **Additional Information**

IDS is a limited-access major in CLAS that requires a minimum 3.0 UF GPA. Students must select two tenured or tenure-accruing faculty members who agree to work with them from the planning stages to completion of the thesis research proposal. At least one faculty advisor must be a member of CLAS; faculty advisors cannot be from the same department.

Students should begin planning early. They should declare a related CLAS major and then apply to IDS as early as semester four or at the latest by semester five. Transfer students must complete their first semester with a UF GPA of 3.0 before they can apply to this program. Late application may result in denial of admission to the program. Students interested in pursuing an interdisciplinary major should contact the director of the particular specialization listed below or view the IDS information on the college's website.

Each applicant and his or her interdisciplinary program must be approved by the inter-college Committee on Interdisciplinary Studies and include at least 20 credits of 3000/4000-level coursework taken in two or more departments. All other CLAS degree requirements (e.g., foreign language, basic distribution, electives, etc.) must be met. The student must also take at least seven credits of IDS 4906 (or equivalent courses) under the direction of one or both of the supervisory faculty members and produce a senior thesis.

Interdisciplinary majors may also graduate with honors recognition. Requirements are the same as for department majors, with the additional provision that *magna cum laude* or *summa cum laude* recognition must be recommended by two members of the student’s supervisory committee (including the principal supervisor), who will affirm that the student conducted an individual project in IDS 4906 (or equivalent).

Students in science tracks who are enrolled in IDS 4905 work 3-4 hours per week in the laboratory for each credit earned.

All students with IDS majors are required to complete IUF 1000 *What is the Good Life (GE-H)* in semester 1 or 2.

In addition to the ten established concentrations, students may design a customized course of study in consultation with faculty advisors relevant to the interdisciplinary thesis project. If interested in this option, students should first contact the associate dean for IDS majors.

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**American Indian and Indigenous Studies**

The Department of Anthropology and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences have established a concentration in American Indian and Indigenous Studies (IDS-AIIS). The AIIS concentration is an extension of the minor and is open to all students with an interest in American Indian topics.

**About this IDS Major**

- **College:** Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Degree:** Bachelor of Arts
- **Credits for Degree:** 120
- **Additional Information**
- **Contact:** Email; 352.392.3625

**Related Programs:** American Indian and Indigenous Studies minor

The concentration offers courses which cut across all disciplines, including anthropology, botany, geology, history, Latin American studies, religion, and wildlife studies. This concentration deals with the issues and concerns of indigenous peoples. Students will have the opportunity to pursue research, write a senior thesis and prepare themselves for graduate work in the field of American Indian and/or indigenous studies.

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**Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Applicants with a strong background in basic chemistry and biology can pursue advanced-level work, including required courses in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, research in biochemistry and molecular biology and other electives in biochemistry and molecular biology, botany, chemistry, microbiology, neuroscience, pharmacology, and zoology.

**About this IDS Major**

- **College:** Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Degree:** Bachelor of Science
- **Credits for Degree:** 120
- **Additional Information**
- **Contact:** Email; Center for Precollegiate Education and Training; 352.392.7685

**Related Programs:** Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, Biochemistry; Chemistry minor

Graduates will have excellent backgrounds for research in a variety of the basic medical sciences and are qualified for graduate and professional school programs.

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**Biological Illustration**

This program provides a broad program in biological illustration to students preparing to work with museums, university botany, zoology, entomology, anthropology or medical departments and botanical gardens or research organizations.

**About this IDS Major**

- **College:** Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Degree:** Bachelor of Science
- **Credits for Degree:** 120
• Additional Information
• Contact: Email; 2014 Turlington Hall; 352.392.2264

Enrollment is restricted because of the tutorial nature of much of the instruction. The program admits only a few well-qualified students each year.

For this specialization only, students need to apply in their second semester at UF.

Film and Media Studies

The interdisciplinary B.A., with a concentration in film and media studies, enables students to pursue a liberal arts approach to audio-visual studies. The courses offered provide a range of training from professional and applied (anthropology, architecture, education and theatre) to historical and experimental (art, English, Germanic, Slavic and Romance languages).

About this IDS Major

• College: Liberal Arts and Sciences
• Degree: Bachelor of Arts
• Credits for Degree: 120
• Additional Information
• Contact: Email; 4330 Turlington Hall; 352.294.2835
• Related Programs: Bachelor of Arts in English, Film and Media Studies

The film and media studies major encourages students to integrate these offerings by working in both theory and production. For the senior thesis, a student may choose an essay, a film script, a short film or video, or work in a related medium.

The major requires 27 credits minimum, 20 credits of core courses and seven credits from IDS 4906 senior independent work. Majors should take ENG 3115, because it serves as the prerequisite for ENG 4136. Students and sponsors select courses for CLAS electives.

Because many of the courses in the departments of Art, English and Theatre have prerequisites, students should plan their freshman and sophomore work with the major in mind. Under certain circumstances, instructors will waive some prerequisites for IDS majors, but with space at a premium (especially in studio and production classes), students should not try to avoid any requirements. Students may, however, use up to nine credits of 2000-level prerequisites as electives.

Early preparation for the major should include ENG 2300. Other useful courses are:

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GET 3520</td>
<td>Early German Cinema: 1945</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TPP 2100</td>
<td>Acting for Non-Majors</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TPP 2110</td>
<td>Acting 1-Instrument and Discipline</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TPP 2260</td>
<td>Acting for the Camera</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARH 2051</td>
<td>Introduction to the Principles and History of Art 2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGY 2441C</td>
<td>Photography: Images, Order and Idea</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGY 2442C</td>
<td>Photography: Figure and Ground</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The major is selective, requiring a 3.0 minimum GPA, two sponsors chosen from faculty in the program and approval of the Interdisciplinary Studies Committee. The application form and information are available online.

Latin American Studies

The Latin American studies concentration offers students the opportunity to pursue individualized study in an increasingly important region of the world (e.g., Brazil is Florida’s largest trading partner), making use of UF’s extraordinary resources.

About this IDS Major

• College: Liberal Arts and Sciences
• Degree: Bachelor of Arts
• Credits for Degree: 120
• Additional Information
• Contact: Email; 352.392.0375
• Related Programs: Latin American Studies minor; Latin American Studies certificate

The UF Center for Latin American Studies was founded in 1930 and is one of the largest and most prestigious institutions of its kind in the United States. UF has approximately 180 faculty members whose teaching and research focus to a significant extent is on Latin America and the Caribbean. The Latin American Collection of the George A. Smathers Library is one of few stand-alone collections in the United States and features extraordinary holdings on Brazil, the Caribbean and other areas of Latin America.

This program is built upon the social sciences, humanities, languages and area studies. It requires 21 credits of 3000/4000-level coursework in Latin American and Caribbean area courses, intermediate proficiency in a language of Latin America and the Caribbean (typically Spanish, Portuguese or Haitian Creole), a senior thesis and at least seven credits of IDS 4906.

Medieval and Early Modern Studies

This major focuses on medieval and early modern European culture and its influences on the modern world. Students examine the distinctive forms of cultural organization in these periods, obtain knowledge about medieval and early modern communities (monastic, chivalric, peasant, early urban), and familiarize themselves with some of the world’s greatest literature.

About this IDS Major

• College: Liberal Arts and Sciences
• Degree: Bachelor of Arts
• Credits for Degree: 120
• Additional Information
• Contact: Email; 263 Dauer Hall; 352.392.2101
• Related Programs: Medieval and Early Modern Studies minor

Students are encouraged to seek historical perspectives that can contribute to current discussions about ethnicity and nationality, colonialism, technologies and their effects, gender and sexuality and the characteristics of historical and fictional narratives. This IDS major involves critical thinking, textual analysis and creativity, and is excellent
preprofessional preparation for careers in law, journalism, government services, medicine, library science, international work and teaching.

Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures

Students design a concentration that focuses on an Arabic or Hebrew language and culture. Students acquire knowledge of relationships among language, literature, politics, religion, arts and economics. The major consists of 33 credits and culminates in a senior thesis.

About this IDS Major

- **College:** Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Degree:** Bachelor of Arts
- **Credits for Degree:** 120
- **Additional Information:**
  - Arabic
  - Hebrew
- **Contact:**
  - Arabic: Email; 352.273.2958
  - Hebrew: Email; 352.846.3845
- **Related Programs:** Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Languages and Literatures, Arabic or Hebrew; Arabic Language and Literature minor; Hebrew minor; Jewish Studies minor

This program provides a two-track major, Arabic and Hebrew. In addition to the major’s other requirements and electives, all students must take at least one course (language or content-based) in the track of the second language.

Arabic

The Arabic language is the key to understanding the culture and history of more than 22 nations and more than 206 million speakers. It is the language of an ancient civilization and today is spoken widely across North Africa, the Middle East and the Arabian Peninsula. Arabic is also the liturgical language of more than a billion Muslims, and it is one of the six official languages of the United Nations. The interdisciplinary major in Arabic language and culture enables students to develop an appreciation for the complexity of the many facets of the Arab world: its society, culture, history, arts, religions, and literary heritage. This major is therefore ideal for students considering careers in diplomacy, journalism, consulting, business, foreign service, translation, and academia. Future graduates would be in great demand for advanced studies in any of these fields.

### Arabic Requirements

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<tr>
<td>ARA 3410</td>
<td>Advanced Arabic 1</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>&amp; ARA 3411</td>
<td>and Advanced Arabic 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARA 4420</td>
<td>Arabic through the Texts</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ABT 3130</td>
<td>Arabic Literary Heritage 1 (Gen Ed Humanities and International; Writing Requirement)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ABT 3500</td>
<td>Arabic Culture (Gen Ed Humanities and International; Writing Requirement; core course)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARA/HBR 4930</td>
<td>Special Topics (Introduction of Semitic Languages; core course)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDS 4906</td>
<td>Interdisciplinary Thesis Research</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>25</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Electives**

*Three to six credits from courses with these prefixes*

- ARA, ABT, REL (with reference to Islam or Judaism)
- AFH (with reference to North Africa) and
- CPO and WHO (with reference to the Middle East)

Hebrew

By assuming an interdisciplinary approach to Hebrew language and culture, students acquire knowledge of the close relationship between politics, history, religions, arts, and cultures in Israel. In addition to working toward proficiency in Hebrew, students will develop close reading and critical thinking skills. Students graduating with this major will find job opportunities in Jewish community organizations, the government and consulting. In addition, due to the interdisciplinary nature of the major, students will be well prepared for the rigor of graduate studies in the humanities.

Hebrew Requirements

**33 credits**

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<tr>
<td>HBR 3410</td>
<td>Advanced Modern Hebrew 1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; HBR 3411</td>
<td>and Advanced Modern Hebrew 2 (Gen Ed Humanities and International)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARA/HBR 4930</td>
<td>Special Topics (Comparative Semitic Languages)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDS 4906</td>
<td>Interdisciplinary Thesis Research</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JST, POS (courses related to Judaism, the Bible or the Middle East)</td>
<td>3-6</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
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<td><strong>19-22</strong></td>
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An intensive summer study abroad program in Fez, Morocco, is recommended for students at all levels from beginning to advanced. The six-week program earns six transferable credits or 10 credits for beginners.

Modern European Studies

The concentration in modern European studies provides the opportunity to study the geographic region of Europe from an interdisciplinary perspective that incorporates area and language studies. MES students gain extensive language proficiency and experience in modern European studies by fulfilling an expanded language requirement (two additional semesters) and participating in available study-abroad programs.

About this IDS Major

- **College:** Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Degree:** Bachelor of Arts
- **Credits for Degree:** 120
- **Contact:** Email or Email, Center for European Studies; 352.294.7152
- **Additional Information**

The requirements for IDS-MES major are commensurate with the requirements for established IDS concentrations within CLAS. A 3.0 GPA and approval of the CLAS IDS committee are required.

Students choose appropriate disciplines such as anthropology, economics, geography, history, modern languages, political science, and/or sociology to design the core of a major that culminates in a thesis. Through such experience students acquire a thorough knowledge of
cultural, economic, political, and social interrelationships. If unable to participate in study abroad program, students may choose to complete the capstone requirement through internship in an organization that enables them to practice the chosen language and/or fits their selected area of study.

Detailed information is available on the website and students are encouraged to discuss their interests with the Center for European Studies.

**Neurobiological Sciences**

This major focuses on the characteristics and functions of the nervous system. Core courses ensure that students acquire a background in basic sciences, biology and brain science. Through elective courses and completion of an independent research project, supervised by one of the 45 faculty within the Center for Neurobiological Sciences, students can specialize in area(s) of particular interest to them. These areas can include neurochemistry, neuropathology, neuroembryology, neuroplasticity, and brain/behavior relations. Concentrations are available in behavioral neurobiology, cellular and molecular neurobiology, and cognitive neuroscience.

**About this IDS Major**

- **College:** Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Degree:** Bachelor of Arts
- **Credits for Degree:** 120
- **Additional Information**
- **Contact:** Email; 352.273.2152
- **Related Programs:** Bachelor of Science in Psychology, Behavioral and Cognitive Neuroscience

Many graduates continue their study in neural sciences, including graduate school, professional school in health sciences, and the pharmaceutical industry.

**Academic Learning Compacts**

**American Indian and Indigenous Studies**

The interdisciplinary studies major with a concentration in American Indian and indigenous studies provides students with knowledge of the issues and concerns of indigenous peoples of the Western hemisphere. Students will be able to identify and conduct research or field work and understand historical, political, social and religious structures from an indigenous perspective. Students will evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information gathered in the literature and to apply it effectively. Students will also be able articulate the results of research clearly and effectively.

**Before Graduating Students Must**

- Satisfactorily complete IDS 4906 (capping 7-12 credits of thesis research), graded according to department rubric.
- Complete requirements for the baccalaureate degree, as determined by faculty.

**Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

This interdisciplinary studies major in biochemistry and molecular biology provides students with an understanding of and competence in biochemistry, molecular biology and molecular cell biology. Students will understand and use the scientific approach to gather and verify knowledge. They will be able to draw appropriate conclusions and inferences from properly conducted laboratory research. Students will be able to evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information gathered via experiment and literature and to apply them effectively. Students will also possess the ability to articulate results clearly and effectively.

**Before Graduating Students Must**

- Satisfactorily complete IDS 4906 (capping 7-12 credits of thesis research), graded according to department rubric.
- Complete requirements for the baccalaureate degree, as determined by faculty.

**Students in the Major Will Learn to**

**Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)**

**Content**

1. Identify, describe and define major issues of indigenous peoples and conduct research in any of the disciplines which incorporate American Indian topics.

**Critical Thinking**

2. Integrate different sources and types of knowledge into holistic perspectives about indigenous peoples.
3. Evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information gathered in the literature and apply it effectively.

**Communication**

4. Articulate research results clearly and effectively in speech and in writing in an accepted style of presentation.

**Curriculum Map**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>SLO 1</th>
<th>SLO 2</th>
<th>SLO 3</th>
<th>SLO 4</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>IDS 4906, course 1</td>
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<td>I, R, A</td>
<td>I, R, A</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDS 4906 is the only required course for this major (or equivalent with other prefixes)</td>
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</table>

**Assessment Types**

- Direct assessment of research in the thesis
2. Draw appropriate conclusions and inferences from properly conducted laboratory research.

Critical Thinking
3. Evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information gathered via experiment and literature and apply them effectively.

Communication
4. Articulate research results clearly and effectively in speech and in writing in an accepted style of presentation.

Curriculum Map
I = Introduced; R = Reinforced; A = Assessed

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<tr>
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<td>I, R</td>
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</table>

IDS 4906 is the only required course for this major (or equivalent with other prefixes)

Assessment Types
• Direct assessment of research in the thesis

Film and Media Studies
The interdisciplinary studies major in film and media studies provides students with knowledge of film in its diversity and through its techniques. Students will learn film theory and criticism and implement these ideas in the practice of viewing and/or making films. Students will also present ideas clearly and effectively in writing and/or in film/video format as an optional ability.

Before Graduating Students Must
• Satisfactorily complete IDS 4906 (capping 7-12 credits of thesis research), graded according to department rubric.
• Complete requirements for the baccalaureate degree, as determined by faculty.

Students in the Major Will Learn to
Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

Content
1. Identify, describe and explain film in its diversity and through its techniques.

Critical Thinking
2. Identify and examine film and/or media theory and criticism and implement these ideas in the practice of viewing and/or making films.

Communication
3. Present ideas clearly and effectively in a well-argued essay.

Curriculum Map
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Latin American Studies
The interdisciplinary major in Latin American studies provides students with broad knowledge of contemporary and historical issues relevant to Latin America. The program offers training in areas such as the geography, history, society, economy, politics, religion, arts and culture of Latin America. Students will demonstrate or otherwise acquire proficiency in at least one major Latin American language and will learn how to identify and conduct relevant research or field work on a Latin America-related topic.

Upon completion of the program, students should be able to evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information gathered from scholarly sources and to apply it effectively. They also will be able to construct analytical arguments and communicate their perspective confidently in spoken and written form.

Before Graduating Students Must
• Demonstrate satisfactory proficiency in a major Latin American language as determined by successful course completion, adequate score on the AP or SAT II exams or individual oral examination (for native speakers).
• Satisfactorily complete IDS 4906 (capping 7-12 credits of thesis research), graded according to department rubric.
• Complete requirements for the baccalaureate degree, as determined by faculty.

Students in the Major Will Learn to
Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)
Content
1. Conduct interdisciplinary research on a Latin American topic and articulate research results clearly.

Critical Thinking
2. Critically evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information gathered in the literature and apply it effectively.

Communication
3. Communicate effectively in spoken and written formats.

Curriculum Map
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<td>LAS 4935</td>
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</table>

These are the only required courses for this major (or equivalent with other prefixes).

Assessment Types
• Direct assessment of project: essay, new media work, or film or video.

Medieval and Early Modern Studies
The interdisciplinary studies major in medieval and early modern studies provides students with knowledge of the key issues, figures, social and cultural trends and basic chronology of the period or field studied. Students will be able to evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information gathered in the literature and to apply it effectively. Students will also articulate the results of research clearly and effectively.

Before Graduating Students Must
• Satisfactorily complete IDS 4906 (capping 7-12 credits of thesis research), graded according to department rubric.
• Complete requirements for the baccalaureate degree, as determined by faculty.

Students in the Major Will Learn to
Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)
Content
1. Identify, describe and explain the key issues, figures, social and cultural trends and basic chronology of the period or field studied.

Critical Thinking
2. Evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information gathered in the literature and apply it effectively.

Communication
3. Articulate research results clearly and effectively in speech and in writing in an accepted style of presentation.

Curriculum Map
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</table>

IDS 4906 is the only required course for this major (or equivalent with other prefixes).

Assessment Types
• Direct assessment of research in the thesis
Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures, Arabic and Hebrew

The interdisciplinary studies major in middle eastern languages and cultures provides students with knowledge of political, cultural, literary, linguistic and historical issues of the Middle East. Students will be able to evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information gathered in the literature and to apply it effectively. Students will also articulate research results clearly and effectively.

Before Graduating Students Must

- Satisfactorily complete IDS 4906 (capping 7-12 credits of thesis research), graded according to department rubric.
- Complete requirements for the baccalaureate degree, as determined by faculty.

Students in the Major Will Learn to

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

Content
1. Identify, describe and explain political, cultural, literary, linguistic and historical issues of the Middle East.

Critical Thinking
2. Evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information gathered in the literature and apply it effectively.

Communication
3. Articulate research results clearly and effectively in speech and in writing in an accepted style of presentation.

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</tbody>
</table>

IDS 4906 is the only required course for this major (or equivalent with other prefixes).

Assessment Types

- Direct assessment of research in the thesis

Modern European Studies

The interdisciplinary studies major in modern European studies provides knowledge of major European issues. Students will be able to identify and conduct modern Europe-relevant research. They will evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information gathered in the literature and to apply it effectively. Students will also be able articulate the results of research clearly and effectively.

Before Graduating Students Must

- Satisfactorily complete IDS 4906 (capping 7-12 credits of thesis research), graded according to department rubric.
- Complete requirements for the baccalaureate degree, as determined by faculty.

Students in the Major Will Learn to

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

Content
1. Identify, define and explain issues of modern Europe and identify and conduct Europe-relevant research.
2. Integrate different sources and types of knowledge into holistic perspectives about Europe.

Critical Thinking
3. Evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information gathered in the literature and apply it effectively.

Communication
4. Articulate research results clearly and effectively in speech and in writing in an accepted style of presentation.

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</table>

IDS 4906 is the only required course for this major (or equivalent with other prefixes).

Assessment Types

- Direct assessment of research in the thesis

Neurobiological Sciences

The interdisciplinary studies major in neurobiological sciences provides students with an understanding of and competence in the neurobiological sciences. Students will understand and use the scientific approach to gather and verify knowledge. They will be able to draw appropriate conclusions and inferences from properly conducted laboratory research. Students will be able to evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information gathered via experiment and literature and to apply them effectively. Students will also possess the ability to articulate results clearly and effectively.

Before Graduating Students Must

- Satisfactorily complete IDS 4906 (capping 7-12 credits of thesis research), graded according to department rubric.
- Complete requirements for the baccalaureate degree, as determined by faculty.
Students in the Major Will Learn to

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

Content
1. Identify, describe and examine neurobiological sciences.
2. Use the scientific approach to gather and verify knowledge.

Critical Thinking
3. Evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information gathered via experiment and literature and apply them effectively.

Communication
4. Articulate research results clearly and effectively in speech and in writing in an accepted style of presentation.

Curriculum Map
I = Introduced; R = Reinforced; A = Assessed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>SLO 1</th>
<th>SLO 2</th>
<th>SLO 3</th>
<th>SLO 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IDS 4906, course 1</td>
<td>I, R</td>
<td>I, R</td>
<td>I, R</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

IDS 4906 is the only required course for this major (or equivalent with other prefixes).

Assessment Types
- Direct assessment of research in the thesis