INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Solving the challenges of our increasingly complex world requires interdisciplinary thinking, methods, and solutions. Choosing to major in Interdisciplinary Studies offers you an opportunity to customize your bachelor’s degree by designing your own program of study. You will select complementary courses or minors from academic disciplines that allow you to focus on the subjects and topics that interest you.

Core coursework in the major explores diverse subjects that share a strong interdisciplinary theme. By emphasizing the importance of studying complex issues from multiple perspectives, these courses equip students with skills in critical thinking, interpretation, problem-solving, and multi-faceted analysis.

You may choose to pursue either a Bachelor of Science with a cognate requirement or a Bachelor of Arts with a foreign language requirement in either the Integrative or Individualized Studies concentrations:

**Integrative Studies Concentration:** This academic plan must include two minors (https://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-arts-and-sciences/academics/minors-at-uno.php) or more, depending on the student's interest) chosen in consultation with faculty and staff advisors from any academic programs in the university to build content knowledge in specific areas of focus.

**Individualized Studies Concentration:** This academic plan allows you to create your own major and must include a total of at least 18 credits of upper-division coursework from any academic programs in the university to build content knowledge in a specific area(s) of focus.

**Exploratory Studies Concentration:** If you are a first-year student with fewer than 45 credits who has not declared a major or been admitted to the major of your choice, you will be admitted to Exploratory Studies. In this concentration, you will enjoy a temporary academic home that allows you to explore different disciplines and programs by taking Exploratory Studies 1000 and enrolling in general education courses designed to give you knowledge about various majors and minors at UNO. You will engage in cross-curricular academic advising, career assessment, guided exploration of majors and careers, mentoring, and programming designed to provide you the support you need as you figure out your best-fit major. You will have the opportunity to interact with advisors, faculty, upper-class students, and professionals from different fields in order to discover your passions and make an informed decision on a major. Exploratory Studies majors are required to declare a major within their first 45 credit hours in any college, which includes the option to switch to either the Integrative Studies or Individualized Studies concentrations in Interdisciplinary Studies (see above).

**Double Majors**

Students choosing either the Integrative or Individualized Studies Concentration may not pursue another UNO program that overlaps substantially with those concentrations. For questions about this, please consult with an Arts and Sciences Dean’s Office advisor.

**Residency**

Students choosing either the Integrative or Individualized Studies Concentration must complete EXPL 1000 and IND 4950 and at least 12 additional hours of major requirements at UNO. Students choosing the Integrative Studies Concentration must complete at least 6 hours of coursework in each minor that fulfills the concentration requirements.

**Contact Information**

College of Arts & Sciences Advising Office
ASH 240
402.554.2458

unoosadvising@unomaha.edu

**Writing in the Discipline**

Students choosing either the Integrative or Individualized Studies Concentration should take a WID course that is relevant to the focus of their studies. Students choosing the Integrative Studies concentration should take a WID course recommended for one of the disciplines in which they are minoring or one of the following: ENGL 3050, ENGL 3980, WRWS 3500, WRWS 3800.

Because the Interdisciplinary Studies major is uniquely crafted by each student through either the Individualized or Integrative Concentration, students can apply their skills gained to numerous occupational fields including, but not limited to the following:

- business
- the arts and non-profit sector
- environmental policy
- urban studies
- education
- law
- medicine and allied health professions
- human resources
- public service sector

**EXPL 1000 EXPLORATORY STUDIES (3 credits)**

An introductory study of the concepts and practices of interdisciplinary inquiry, writing, critical thinking and problem solving across disciplines and techniques for solving problems and writing from an interdisciplinary perspective. Each semester the course will focus on a different topic or problem for inquiry. (Cross-listed with IND 1000).

**Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s):** Not open to non-degree graduate students.

**Distribution:** Social Science General Education course

**INDS 1000 EXPLORATORY STUDIES (3 credits)**

An introductory study of the concepts and practices of interdisciplinary inquiry, writing, critical thinking and problem solving across disciplines and techniques for solving problems and writing from an interdisciplinary perspective. Each semester the course will focus on a different topic or problem for inquiry. (Cross-listed with EXPL 1000).

**Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s):** Not open to non-degree graduate students.

**Distribution:** Social Science General Education course