Interdisciplinary Programs

Department Information

Interdisciplinary programs are designed to combine several disciplines in their curriculum. Several interdisciplinary programs are offered by the College.

Areas Of Study

- a minor in African-American Studies
- a Composite Science Minor (24 hrs.)
- a minor in Forensic Sciences
- a minor in Gender Studies
- an undergraduate and graduate certificate in Gerontology
- a major in International Studies
- a double major in International Studies and Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures
- a minor in International Studies
- a minor in Museum Studies
- a minor in Related Sciences

Courses

African-American Studies (AFR)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFR 101</td>
<td>Intro to African Amer Studies</td>
<td>3 cr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An interdisciplinary investigation of the origins, experiences, conditions, accomplishments and contributions of people of African ancestry in the United States.

College Of Arts And Sciences (CAS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAS 100</td>
<td>First Yr Exp -</td>
<td>2 cr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A course for first-year students majoring in the College of Arts & Sciences that assists with maximizing the student's potential to achieve academic success and to adjust responsibly to the individual and interpersonal challenges presented by college life. Taught in small groups, the course provides an introduction to the nature of higher education and a general orientation to the functions and resources of the University.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAS 190</td>
<td>Special Topics -</td>
<td>1 TO 3 cr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This variable content course deals with selected topics from any of the disciplines in the College of Arts and Sciences. Topics will focus on current and relevant issues and may contain a service-learning component. The course may be repeated for credit when the topic varies for a maximum of six credit hours.

Gender Studies (GS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GS 101</td>
<td>Intro to Gender Studies</td>
<td>3 cr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This course provides an interdisciplinary, multicultural overview of the concept of gender and gender roles in patriarchal society. This course examines the social construction of gender in our society and how that has shaped such areas as economics, politics, cultural/social values, and the impact upon women and men in historical and contemporary terms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GS 290</td>
<td>Special Topics -</td>
<td>3 cr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Study of selected topics with an area in gender studies. May be repeated for credit when content varies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GS 490</td>
<td>Gender Studies Special Topics-</td>
<td>3 cr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Advanced study of selected topics within an area in Gender Studies. May be repeated for credit when content varies for a total of six hours.
GS 492  Gender Studies Seminar -  3 cr
Advanced study of selected topics in Gender Studies. May be repeated for credit when content varies for a total of six hours.

GS 494  Directed Studies  1 TO 3 cr
Directed research under the guidance of a Gender Studies faculty member. Requires permission of instructor. Student is restricted to taking a maximum of six hours of Directed Studies.
Pre-requisite: GS 101 Minimum Grade of D.

GS 496  Internship -  3 TO 6 cr
Practical learning through occupational or community work with an approved agency dealing with gender-related issues. Readings and final report supervised by gender studies faculty. Special Permission required.
Pre-requisite: GS 101 Minimum Grade of D.

Gerontology (GRN)

GRN 272  Gender and Aging  3 cr
This course examines the dynamics of gender and aging within society from an interdisciplinary perspective. Students will be introduced to controversies in gender over the life course. These include, but are not limited to, definitions and cultural boundaries, gender in childhood, gender and relationships, gender in education and the workplace, gender and sexuality, as well as gender in late life.

GRN 290  Special Topics -  3 cr
This designation is used for interdisciplinary courses on aging on a variety of subjects. This course does not replace any course in a single discipline. May be repeated as long as the topic changes, to maximum of six semester hours.

GRN 435  Health Disparities Life Span  3 cr
This course examines differences in health status across the life span. The course will focus heavily on racial/ethnic and socioeconomic disparities in health applying a social determinants' of health framework. Issues that will be considered include how income, education, neighborhood conditions, access to health care, and other community factors shape opportunities to be healthy. The course is cross-listed as SY 435 and GRN 435 and has been approved as an elective for the Undergraduate Certificate in Gerontology and the interdisciplinary minor in Gerontology.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D.

GRN 490  Special Topics -  3 cr
This course is designated for upper division students and graduate students, particularly those pursuing studies for the Certificate of Gerontology. The course content focuses on interdisciplinary treatments on various topics on aging. This course does not replace any course in a single discipline. (Examples of special topics: Trends and Issues in Gerontology; Leadership and Advocacy in Gerontology; Housing and Lifestyle Changes over the Life Course). May be repeated as long as the topic changes, to maximum of six semester hours.
Pre-requisite: SY 372 Minimum Grade of D.

GRN 494  Directed Studies -  1 TO 3 cr
Under the guidance of a faculty member, the student will pursue directed research on readings of an approved topic in Gerontology. May be repeated as long as the topic changes, to a maximum of six semester hours. Requires permission of Director of Gerontology.
Pre-requisite: SY 372 Minimum Grade of D.

GRN 496  Internship - Gerontology  3 OR 6 cr
This course is to provide a practicum experience in gerontology in a setting selected by the student and approved by the Program Director. The course emphasis is on the experiential learning process and outcomes. The undergraduate student will apply theoretical concepts in specific areas of interest related to aging and intergenerational relations. Interns will meet as a group three times during the semester for orientation, professional development, and evaluation activities. The 3-hour internship requires 100 contact hours; the 6-hour internship requires 200 hours. Permission of Director of Gerontology is required. Fee.
Pre-requisite: SY 372 Minimum Grade of C.

GRN 535  Health Disparities Life Span  3 cr
The main purpose of this seminar is to provide students with an understanding of how social factors contribute to racial/ethnic, socioeconomic and gender disparities in health and health care. We will examine how dyadic relationships such as interpersonal forms of discrimination, marriage, and social ties may contribute to health disparities. We will also examine the ways in which neighborhood and community context, as well as inequalities in socioeconomic status materially shape health and access to health care services. The course is cross-listed as GRN 435/535 and SY 435/535 and has been approved as an elective for the Undergraduate/Gerontology Certificate in Gerontology and the interdisciplinary minor in Gerontology.

GRN 594  Dir St in Gerontology -  1 TO 3 cr
Under the guidance of a faculty member, the student will pursue directed research or readings of an approved topic in Gerontology. May be repeated as long as the topic changes, to maximum of six credit hours. Requires permission of the Director of Gerontology.
GRN 596 Internship - Gerontology 3 OR 6 cr
This course is to provide a practicum experience in gerontology in a setting selected by the student and approved by the Program Director. The course emphasis is on the experiential learning process and outcomes. The graduate student will apply theoretical concepts to leadership roles, conducting research and influencing social and health care policies related to aging and intergenerational relationships. Interns will meet as a group three times during the semester for orientation, professional development, and evaluation activities. The 3-hour internship requires 100 contact hours; the 6-hour internship requires 200 hours. Permission of Director of Gerontology is required. Fee. Pre-requisite: SY 523 Minimum Grade of B.

GRN 597 GRN Teaching Apprenticeship 1 TO 3 cr
Directed Studies/Apprenticeship that focuses on teaching Gerontology. The student will work directly with a member of the Gerontology graduate faculty to learn pedagogy, innovation in teaching, and course content that will equip the student for future teaching assignments. Many PhD programs offer both Teaching Assistantships and Research Assistantships. Gerontology students need to show evidence that they have had some teaching-related experience to compete strongly for the TA position. This course is also appropriate for students who anticipate careers in teaching within the field of Gerontology (aging or intergenerational studies). Arrangements must be made prior to registration. Permission of the Program Director is required.
Pre-requisite: SY 372 Minimum Grade of C.

International Studies (IS)

IS 100 Global Issues 3 cr
This course introduces students to the basic structural components of the global system, including the nation-state system and the world economy, and explores the major schools of thought in such areas as security, economic prosperity and development, international law, gender and environmental studies. The course helps students understand the complex and interlinked issues facing global society, and current problems, and view the U.S. within a broader global context.

IS 200 People-Nations - 3 cr
Variable content course focusing on particular nation or region of the world. Course offers a multi-disciplinary introduction to the people, society and politics. May be repeated for credit when content varies up to a total of 6 hours.

IS 210 Global Engagement Orientation 1 cr
Global Engagement Capstone is required for students completing the Global Engagement Certificate (GEC) and is designed to introduce students to international issues and relevant topics. Students will also outline their individualized program of study required to complete the GEC as part of the course.

IS 290 Special Topics - 3 cr
Study of selected topics within a particular Area Studies Concentration. May be repeated for credit when content varies.
Pre-requisite: IS 100 Minimum Grade of D.

IS 390 Sp Top- 1 TO 3 cr
Advanced study of selected topics within a particular concentration. May be repeated for credit when content varies.

IS 391 Study Abroad - 0 TO 15 cr
Study of selected topics within a particular Area Studies Concentration. May be repeated.

IS 410 Global Engagement Capstone 1 cr
Global Engagement Capstone is required for students completing the Global Engagement Certificate (GEC), and is a one hour course designed to help students reflect on the 16 hours of coursework and nine hours of globally engaged activities they have completed. Students will create a portfolio during the course, which will be presented to students and affiliated faculty at its conclusion.
Pre-requisite: IS 210 Minimum Grade of P.

IS 489 Leadership and World Leaders 3 cr
An overview of the definitions, characteristics, and typologies of leadership, with a focus on lives and legacies of global influential political leaders over the past century.
Pre-requisite: PSC 130 Minimum Grade of D or PSC 250 Minimum Grade of D or IS 100 Minimum Grade of D.
IS 490  Special Topics -          3 cr
Advanced study of selected topics within a particular Area
Studies Concentration. May be repeated for credit when
content varies.
Pre-requisite: IS 100 Minimum Grade of D.

IS 491  Seminar on Terrorism      3 cr
This course will introduce students to the meaning,
characteristics, typology, history, and causes of terrorism.
The course will also summarize the biographies of the most
prominent terrorists, past and present, and conclude, with a
discussion of counter-terrorism strategies. Cross-listed with
PSC 491.
Pre-requisite: EH 101 Minimum Grade of C and EH 102
Minimum Grade of C and IS 100 Minimum Grade of C.

IS 492  Seminar -                3 cr
Advanced study of selected topics in international studies
from a comparative perspective. May be repeated for credit
when content varies.
Pre-requisite: IS 100 Minimum Grade of D.

IS 494  Directed Studies -       1 TO 3 cr
Directed research in the field of international studies. May
be repeated or credit up to a total of 9 hours. Prerequisite:
permission of IS Director

IS 495  Senior Seminar - W       3 cr
The course seeks to provide an interdisciplinary and cross-
regional overview of the fields and research opportunities
within international studies.
Pre-requisite: EH 102 Minimum Grade of C.

IS 496  Prof St Internship -     3 TO 9 cr
Practical learning experiences through occupational
or professional work with an approved international
organization, governmental agency, or international
business Prerequisite: Permission of IS Director

IS 499  Senior Honors Thesis      3 cr
The course covers major theoretical perspectives in
organizational psychology based on empirical research
and case studies. Students will explore learning theory,
group dynamics, and change in different types of learning
organizations.
Pre-requisite: (EH 102 Minimum Grade of D or EH 105
Minimum Grade of D).

IS 591  Study Abroad              0 TO 12 cr
Graduate level international exchange programs for
University of South Alabama students.

Museum Studies (MUM)

MUM 201  Intro to Museum Studies 3 cr
This course is designed to provide a general introduction
to museum history, practice, and the role of museums
in contemporary society. The class will explore a range
of museum positions, curatorial practices, collection
management, museum administration, and the academic
and public roles museums play in society.
Pre-requisite: EH 102 Minimum Grade of C.

MUM 290  Special Topics -        3 cr
Different subjects or themes in museum studies as
announced. This course may be repeated twice when
content varies, for a maximum of nine credit hours.
Prerequisite: To be announced.

MUM 390  Special Topics -        3 cr
Different subjects or themes in museum studies as
announced. This course may be repeated twice when
content varies, for a maximum of nine credit hours.
Prerequisite: To be announced.