

Interdisciplinary Studies (BSBA)

Degree Requirements

Interdisciplinary Studies Degree Program (IST)

The Interdisciplinary Studies Degree (IST) is a highly flexible and customized degree which offers maximum utilization of credits. Students can choose from seven concentrations: Administrative Sciences, Applied Arts, Applied Sciences, Community Services, Human Services, Liberal Studies, or Professional Development. A major in Interdisciplinary Studies leads to a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree. The degree consists of a minimum of 120 credit hours, including 25 percent in upper-division hours (i.e., 30 hours) earned in residence at USA.

Students applying to the Interdisciplinary Studies Degree Program must satisfy general requirements for admission to the University of South Alabama (see "[Admission to the University](#)"). The student's individualized program of study is planned in consultation with their advisor.

General Competencies	Course Title	Credit Hours
Interdisciplinary & Critical Thinking	IST 302	3
Cultural Competency	IST 320	3
Analytical & Information Literacy	IST 330	3
Advanced Verbal & Written Communication-W	IST 350	3
Professional Leadership & Teamwork	IST 495	3
Total Hours		15

Students enrolled in the Interdisciplinary Studies Degree Program must satisfy the following:

- University's General Education Requirement of 41 hours, (see "[Academic Policies and Procedures](#)")
- General Competency Requirement of 15 hours.
- Concentration Requirement of 29 hours (designed in consultation with an academic advisor).
- Capstone Requirement of 3 hours (IST 498 Internship I-Capstone Experience-W or IST 430 Senior Research Thesis-W).
- Elective Courses Requirement of 32 hours

A minimum grade-point-average of 2.0 is required for graduation.

Major Milestones

Effective fall 2016, the Interdisciplinary Studies degree includes a Major Milestones guideline to help students stay on track for timely graduation. In order to remain on track, students must complete the Milestone requirements for each term. Requirements for Major Milestones apply only to full-time degree-seeking students who entered fall 2016 or later. These requirements are viewable on the Major Milestones table below.:

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES SAMPLE 4-YEAR PLAN WITH MILESTONES

Term 1	Course Description	Pre-req	Cr Hrs	Milestone Notes
EH 101*	English Composition I		3	
History			3	
Elective Course IST 101	Foundations of Interdisciplinary University Studies		3	
Social Behavioral Science			3	
Fine Arts			3	
			15	Minimum Term GPA 2.0
Term 2	Course Description	Pre-req	Cr Hrs	Milestone Notes
EH 102 or EH 105	English Composition II	EH 101 or test score	3	EH 101 C or better or EH 105 C or better
Natural Science w/ Lab			4	
CA 110	Public Speaking		3	
Social Behavioral Science			3	
English Literature			3	
			16	
Term 3	Course Description	Pre-req	Cr Hrs	Milestone Notes
Math	MA 110 or higher		3	
History or Social Behavioral Science**			3	
English Literature or Humanities**			3	
Natural Science w/ Lab			4	
Elective Course: IST 290	Special Topic		1	

14
EH 102 C or
better

Term 4	Course Description	Pre-req	Cr Hrs	Milestone Notes
Elective Course: IST 125	Professional Conduct		3	
Elective Course: IST 201	Seasons of Life		3	
Competency Course: IST 302	Interdisciplinary and Critical Thinking		3	
Concentration Course	Field of Study Course (Any Level)		3	
Concentration Course	Field of Study Course (Any Level)		3	
			15	Minimum Term GPA 2.0

Term 5	Course Description	Pre-req	Cr Hrs	Milestone Notes
Elective Course: IST 305	Issues in Human Services		3	
Elective Course: IST 310	Global Leadership		3	
Competency Course: IST 330	Analytical and Information Literacy		3	
Competency Course: IST 350	Advanced Verbal and Written Communication-W		3	
Concentration Course	Field of Study course (300-400 Level)		3	
			15	15 Hours of USA Upper Division Coursework Completed

Term 6	Course Description	Pre-req	Cr Hrs	Milestone Notes
Elective Course: IST 315	Women's Issues in the Community Workplace		3	
Competency Course:	Cultural Competency		3	

IST 320

Concentration Course	Field of Study Course (300-400 Level)	3	
Concentration Course	Field of Study Course (300-400 Level)	3	
Concentration Course	Field of Study Course (300-400)	3	
		15	Apply for Graduation

Term 7	Course Description	Pre-req	Cr Hrs	Milestone Notes
Elective Course: IST 401	Adults in Society		3	
Elective Course: IST 420	Community Development and Leadership		3	
Elective Course: IST 425	Workplace Learning and Development		3	
Concentration Course	Field of Study Course (Any Level)		3	
Concentration Course	Field of Study Course (Any Level)		3	
			15	Minimum Term GPA 2.0

Term 8	Course Description	Pre-req	Cr Hrs	Milestone Notes
Competency Course: IST 495	Professional Leadership and Teamwork		3	
Capstone Course: IST 430 or IST 498	Senior Research Thesis - W or Internship I Capstone Experience - W		3	IST 330 C or better and IST 350 C or better
Concentration Course	Field of Study Course (Any Level)		3	
Elective Course			3	
Concentration Course	Field of Study Course (Any Level)		3	

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Minimum
Term GPA
2.0**Total
degree
hours
= 120**

* Students who earn an English ACT score of 27, or a written SAT score of 610, can opt out of EH 101.

** Must have one history elective and one literature elective. In addition, students must choose a second history or literature course to complete a two-part sequence.

Two designated writing courses are required with at least one course chosen from the student's major. Writing courses are identified in the University Bulletin by a (W) after the course title.

This Sample 4-Year Plan is designed as a guide for students preparing for their course selections and only provides only a suggested schedule. Actual course selections should be made in consultation with an academic advisor.

Department Information

Department of Integrative Studies Staff		(251) 460-6263
Chair	Dr. Paige Vitulli	
Academic Advisor	Diane F. Harvey	
Academic Advisor	Melanie McLain	
Secretary	Vallarie Hernandez	

Department of Integrative Studies website

<http://www.southalabama.edu/colleges/ceps/integrative/index.html>

The Department of Integrative Studies (INGS) includes the Educational Studies and Interdisciplinary Studies programs. Faculty are professionals from various backgrounds including business, political science, instructional design, teacher education, interdisciplinary studies, community counseling, educational research, and child development.

The **Educational Studies degree** prepares individuals to work with children, adolescents and adults in a wide variety of non-traditional educational settings, such as education departments of museums, zoos, hospitals, places of worship, mental health facilities, non-profit organizations, and more, where teacher certification is not required.

The **Interdisciplinary Studies degree** is a customizable program which can be taken fully online, offering a BA or BS which builds skills in communication, cultural competency, analytical thinking, leadership, and teamwork. Diversity is valued among learners and emphasis is on the importance of becoming an active leader, effective team member, and engaged global citizen.

The Interdisciplinary Studies (IST) degree is designed to give students a variety of options in earning a Bachelor's degree tailored to meet their needs and interests. The Department of Interdisciplinary Studies (IST) offers a fully on-line degree.

General Education Requirements (41 Credit Hours)		Credit Hours
Area I - Written Composition		
2 courses	EH 101, EH 102	6
Area II - Humanities, Fine Arts, Oral Communication		
Any (1) of*	EH 215, 216, 225, 226, 235, or 236	3
Any (1) of	ARH 100, 103, 123; ARS 101;	3

	DRA 110; MUL 101	
1 course	CA 110	3
Any (1) of	EH 215, 216, 225, 226, 235, or 236; ARH 100, 103, 123; ARS 101; DRA 110; MUL 101; AFR 101; IST 105 ; CLA 110; LG 111, 112, 131, 132, 151, 152, 171, 172, 211, 212, 231, 232, 251, 252, 271, 272; LGS 101, 102, 106, 107, 121, 122, 141, 142, 201, 202, 206, 207, 221, 222, 241, 242; PHL 110, 121, 131, 231, 240	3
Area III - Natural Sciences and Math		
2 courses w/ labs	BLY 101/101L, 102/102L, 121/121L, 122/122L; CH 101/101L, 103/103L, 131/131L, 132/132L; GEO 101/101L, 102/102L; GY 111/111L, 112/112L; PH 101/101L, 104/104L, 114/114L, 115/115L, 201/201L, or 202/202L, MET 140/140L	8
Any (1) of	MA 110, 112, 113, 115, 120, 125, 126, 227, 237, or 238	3
Area IV - History, Social and Behavioral Sciences		
Any (1) of*	HY 101, 102, 135, 136	3
3 courses	IST 201 ; AN 100, 101; CA 100, 211; ECO 215, 216; GEO 114, 115; GS 101; IS 101; PSC 130; PSY 120, 250; SY 109, or 112; HY 101, 102, 135, 136	9

*As part of the General Education Requirements, students must complete a 6-hour sequence in Literature or History