

# INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

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An increasing number of careers demand that students have integrated, advanced skills and expertise in more than one field of study. Careers in education, leadership, management, and religion require a holistic grasp on philosophical, ethical, and pedagogical interrelationships. The interdisciplinary programs provide a framework where faculty and students can engage in scholarly pursuits which require such interrelationships.

## Undergraduate Programs

### **BS: Environmental Sciences**

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**and a strong foundation for advanced study in various professional and basic research fields. It promotes “hands on” as well as basic and theoretical training.**

#### **Requirements in seven areas:**

*Physical/Natural Sciences and Math:* BIOL165, 166, 208, 348; CHEM131, 132, 231, 232, 241, 242, 340; IDSC401, 402; MATH165, 182.

*Religion:* RELT100, RELB210, RELT348, RELP400.

*Language/Communication:* ENGL115, 215, 306; COMM104.

*Arts/Humanities:* HIST117, 118; IDSC211, 340; PLSC100, 425.

*Computer Tools:* INFS110 (or pass of competency test)

*Social Sciences:* ANTH124, ARTH220 or ENGL255; BHSC100, 235; SOCI470; ECON225 or 226.

*PE/Wellness:* HLED130; two activity courses.

An internship is required, lasting a minimum of three months.

## Graduate Programs

The College of Arts and Sciences (in cooperation with other schools) offers graduate programs leading to the Master of Arts: Interdisciplinary Studies (Communication), and Master of Science: Interdisciplinary Studies (Mathematics and Physical Sciences).

### **ENROLLMENT AND GRADUATION PROCEDURES FOR MASTER OF ARTS/SCIENCE IN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES**

Students planning to enroll in the Master of Arts or Master of Science: Interdisciplinary Studies program should note the following procedures:

1. At the time of application for admission, Master of Arts: Interdisciplinary Studies (Communication), students must submit a statement of purpose for seeking the degree in which is explained how the relevant disciplines will be integrated to meet their goals.
2. Upon acceptance and registration, the area coordinator, in conjunction with a graduate advisor, advises the student in developing a plan of study.
3. The student then develops a plan of study and submits it to the area coordinator for approval. In order to coordinate the communication discipline with the secondary discipline, the student identifies 3 faculty members to serve as a supervisory committee; two members from communication and one from the secondary area.
4. Any deficiencies, prerequisites, research, language tools, transfer credits, and residency are discussed to establish the status of the student. All course work and procedures are to be consistent with the student's defined and approved statement of purpose

## **MA: Interdisciplinary Studies—Communication**

Janice Y. Watson, *Area Coordinator*  
Nethery Hall, Room 024  
(616) 471-3160  
commdept@andrews.edu  
<http://www.andrews.edu/COMM/>

The Master of Arts: Interdisciplinary Studies—Communication is designed for students who wish to develop advanced-level communication skills in combination with knowledge or skills in another area or areas.

Some of the areas of study that may be combined with communication in preparation for specific careers are international languages, religion, marketing, curriculum and instruction, consumer science, behavioral science, history and political science, health care, English, and the arts.

### **SPECIFIC ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

In addition to the admission requirements outlined for the Master of Arts on p. 39 and general interdisciplinary requirements noted above, the following apply:

1. The student must have a minimum of 13 semester credits in communication and adequate prerequisites for the other area or areas of study. Deficiencies must be made up at the beginning of a student's program and such courses are in addition to the regular graduate-degree course work. Students must complete at least 6 undergraduate credits in communication before registering for graduate course work in communication.
2. The student must have sufficient command of the English language to succeed in the proposed program. This requires a minimum *TOEFL* score of 600 average with no section score lower than 60 and a minimum 5.5 score on the *TWE* (Test of Written English) or a minimum *MELAB* average score of 90 with no section lower than 88. No test score may be older than one year.
3. A supervising committee is appointed before students register for their second semester in the program. This committee determines individual requirements for completion with reference to a student's plan of study.

### **MA DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

1. Comply with the standards outlined in the Graduate Degree Academic Information section of the bulletin.
2. Complete a curriculum consisting of a minimum of 37 credits of course work (see below) approved by the supervising committee.
3. Pass a comprehensive examination over the areas selected for the degree.

#### **Communication Core—12**

COMM515, 520 or an approved research class, 590, 651, 652

#### **Two projects—4-6**

Selected from COMM589, 599, 695. Students consult with their advisor and with their committee to determine what combination of the above is most suited to their degree goals.

#### **Additional Communication Courses—9-12**

Selected with the approval of the supervising committee.

#### **Additional Courses in Other Area(s)—12-15**

Selected with the approval of the other department(s) and the student's supervising committee.

**Total MA degree credits required—37-45**

## **MS: Interdisciplinary Studies—Mathematics and Physical Sciences**

Robert E. Kingman, *Coordinator*  
Haughey Hall, Room 212  
(616) 471-3431



**IDSC550**

**(1-3)**

***Certification Seminar***

A web-based seminar providing an orientation to a topic associated