

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Department of **INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES**

Mission Statement

The purpose of the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies is to provide a quality, comprehensive academic experience for students with academic aspirations not served by any other academic department major at University of Northwestern – St. Paul. The students in this department are motivated to pursue a creative degree plan that prepares them to achieve their academic and career goals and equips them to integrate their Christian faith in learning and career.

Interdisciplinary Studies Major Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science

The Interdisciplinary Studies student, in consultation with faculty advisors, designs a coherent program of study that meets specific academic goals. Students must complete an application process, and the program of study is approved by an advisory committee. The program is open to self-motivated students who have identified clear academic and career goals and have met the minimum GPA requirement of 3.0 or have provided other compelling documentation. See the Chair of the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies for further information.

- **B.A. option** requires achieving 102-level competency in an approved foreign language. See page 45.

Degree Requirements

1. The program will include at least 125 semester credits, with a minimum of 40 upper-level credits.
2. The student must meet all core curriculum and graduation requirements.
3. The major will consist of at least 48 credits in at least two academic areas with no more than 30 credits in one area.
4. At least 50% of the major must be completed from University of Northwestern.
5. The student must register for IDS4845 Capstone Project (4 credits) and complete an integrated capstone project. This course is the OCE course.
6. The student must register for IDS3865 Professional Competency Assessment (1 credit) and compile a professional e-portfolio which documents their attainment of degree learning outcomes and highlights their scholarly achievement and professional competency. This course is the WCE course.

WCE = WRITTEN COMMUNICATION EMPHASIS.
OCE = ORAL COMMUNICATION EMPHASIS.
SEE PAGE 48 FOR EXPLANATION AND PREREQUISITES.

Associate of Arts in Liberal Studies 60 cr

The Associate of Arts in Liberal Studies is designed to prepare the graduate for transfer to an upper-level degree program at Northwestern or another institution. In addition to completing a broad range of general education courses, this major allows students to choose a concentration in an area of academic or professional interest. The degree is granted upon completion of 60 credits as specified here.

FOUNDATION COURSES. 15 cr

Developing a foundation for a biblical worldview and communication skills.

FOUNDATIONS OF A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW	6 cr
BIB1005 Progress of Redemption (or BIB1829 Honors)	2
BIB1006 Old Testament History and Literature: Law & History (or BIB1827 Honors) or BIB1007 Old Testament History and Literature: Poetry & Prophecy (or BIB1828 Honors) or BIB2008 New Testament History and Literature (or BIB2826 Honors)	2
BIA1005 Spiritual Formation (or BIA1825 Honors) or MIN2045 Christian Formation for Ministry Practice	2
FOUNDATIONS OF COMMUNICATION	9 cr
Written Communication	
ENG1105 Composition* (or ENG1825 Honors)	4
ENG2205 Critical Thinking and Writing (or ENG2825 Honors)	2
Oral Communication	
SPE1075 Public Speaking (or SPE1825 Honors)	3

*NON-NATIVE SPEAKERS OF ENGLISH MAY SUBSTITUTE LAN1105 FOR ENG1105.

EXPLORATION COURSES 22 cr

Exploring the liberal arts through a biblical worldview.

EXAMINING THE HUMAN CONDITION: History & Social Sciences	8 cr
HIS1005 History of Western Civilization (or HIS1825 Honors)	4
Social Sciences (any ANT-, CRJ-, ECO-, GEO-, POS-, PSY-, or SOC-prefix course[s]; COM1005, COM2107, or 4105; or MIN3045 or MIN5045U)	4
REFLECTING GOD’S IMAGE: Fine Arts & Literature/ENGAGING COMMUNITIES AND CULTURES	6 cr
BIA2026 Christianity and Culture (2 cr) or ICS2015 World Religions (4 cr)	2-4
Fine Arts: Art, Music, Theater, Film (see page 43); Literature (Any LIT-prefix course[s] or SPA3325); Cross Cultural Selective (see page 43) or Modern World Language	2-4
UNDERSTANDING THE NATURAL WORLD: Science & Mathematics	8 cr
Mathematics (MAT-prefix course[s] or PSY3208)	4
Lab Science (one laboratory science course)	4

IMMERSION COURSES 8 cr

Probing the depths of a biblical worldview.

BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW: Texts & Application	8 cr
BIB-prefix electives, Spiritual Formation and Integration Selectives (see page 43), or Theological Philosophy Selectives (see page 43)	8

CONCENTRATION: Focused study through a biblical worldview 15 cr

General Studies Concentration (15 cr)
Select a combination of any electives.

Intercultural Studies Concentration (15 cr)
ANT2045 Cultural Anthropology (SEE SOCIAL SCIENCE REQUIREMENT ABOVE)
PHI2016 Ethics (SEE PHILOSOPHY REQUIREMENT ABOVE)
ICS2015 World Religions (SEE ENGAGING COMMUNITIES AND CULTURES REQUIREMENT ABOVE)
Select 4–6 credits from the following:
SOC1035 Introduction to Sociology 4
ICS3015 Race and Ethnicity in America 4
ICS3209 Urban Community Development 2
ICS3067 Social Justice 2
Select 9–11 credits of general electives.