

Interdisciplinary Studies: Design Your Own Major - B.A.

Curriculum

The Interdisciplinary Studies: Design Your Own bachelor's degree program provides opportunities for students who want to design their own program of study by connecting courses across disciplines. Guided by a team of faculty advisers, students acquire expertise in multiple disciplines and are prepared to navigate and excel in a variety of work environments.

Students are eligible to enroll in the Interdisciplinary Studies: Design Your Own major after completing one semester of coursework at the university.

Upon completion of the program, graduates are expected to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of individual disciplines and the ability to integrate concepts and skills from multiple disciplines to create innovative frameworks.
- Synthesize multiple perspectives and apply interdisciplinary methods to explore complex issues and contemporary problems.
- Communicate interdisciplinary ideas and concepts in ways that demonstrate awareness of perspective, audience and disciplinary conventions.
- Engage in reflective learning practices and leverage insights to inform future inquiry.

Interdisciplinary Studies: Design Your Own Major

A four-year program leading to the bachelor of arts degree

Major Courses

33–39 semester credits of 2 or 3 distinct academic disciplines ****	33-39
One research course	3
IDST1001 Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies	1.5
IDST3100 Interdisciplinary Project Development	1.5
IDST4900 Interdisciplinary Studies: DY0 Capstone Project	3

Applied/Experiential Learning

Choose 12 credits from the following: ****	12
ASCI4799 College of Arts & Sciences Internship	
DEE3999 Directed Experiential Education ^D	
RSCH3810 Undergraduate Laboratory and Field Research	
RSCH3830 Undergraduate Research Experience	
RSCH4020 Honors Directed Academic Experience	
Study Abroad ^{5a}	

University Core Curriculum

Communicating	9
ENG1020 Rhetoric & Composition I	
ENG1021 Rhetoric & Composition II	
ENG1030 Communication Skills	
Connecting	6
Two courses with the Connecting attribute (ECNG), one at the 2000 level, one at the 4000 level	
Experiencing	6
Two courses with the Experiencing attribute (EEXP), different disciplines	
Measuring	6
MATH1002 A Survey of College Mathematics (or higher, based on student's placement)	
MATH2001 Statistics I	
Exploring	3
One course with the Exploring attribute (EEPL)	
Interacting	6
Two courses with the Interacting attribute (EINT), different disciplines	
A&S Electives	6
Two courses with the Arts & Sciences elective attribute (EASC)	
Free Electives [#]	
18-24 credits selected from 1000-4999 numbered offerings within the university	18-24
Total Credits	120.0

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If the major consists of 2 distinct academic disciplines, student must complete between 15–21 semester credits (5–7 courses) in each discipline. If the major consists of 3 distinct academic disciplines, students must complete between 9–15 semester credits (3–5 courses) in each discipline. No more than 21 semester credits may be taken in any one discipline.

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Of the 33–39 semester credits (11–13 major courses), 15 semester credits (5 courses) must be at the 3000 or 4000 level, not including the IDST4900 Interdisciplinary Studies: DY0 Capstone Project.

Students are responsible for meeting prerequisites.

In lieu of an internship, directed experiential education, research course, or study abroad, students may use the Applied/Experiential Learning credits towards a minor.

^D Directed Experiential Education (DEE) opportunities are based on project availability with community partners and student eligibility. For more information, visit Experiential Education & Career Services (EE&CS).

^{5a} To be eligible to count toward Applied/Experiential Learning, a Study Abroad offering must meet certain requirements. Contact JWU Global to discuss eligible Study Abroad options for this degree program.

In addition to classes, free elective credits may be applied to a number of options such as internship, study abroad, Directed Experiential Education courses and courses in a specialization or minor as relevant. For students who qualify for the J2 program, up to four graduate courses may apply. Students are strongly encouraged to contact a faculty advisor before scheduling free elective credits.

Note: Students must pass MATH0010 Pre-Algebra or have equivalent placement scores to enroll in required math courses.

Note: Students must pass ENG0001 Writing Workshop or have equivalent placement scores to enroll in ILS 2000-level courses.

In collaboration with academic colleges Study Abroad offer several options, direct enroll with international universities, domestic and digital options meet with a Study Abroad Advisor to learn more about how your major, minor, free electives, experiential learning and transferable courses would benefit by a Study Abroad program. There are many options for students during a semester, spring and/or summer breaks. Faculty-led, exchange, and direct-enroll programs range in duration from one week to a full semester or full year. Financial aid may be applied, and some partners offer external scholarships. Visit the study abroad website for information, program descriptions and online applications. Where will you go? Wherever you decide, make the best of your educational journey!

Admissions Requirements

Please see a campus catalog for Admissions Requirements for this program.

Accelerated Program Options

J2 Program

The JWU J2 program allows qualified students enrolled in a matriculating undergraduate program to take graduate level courses at JWU. Students interested in pursuing this option should meet with their academic advisor to discuss their interest, qualifications and plans. The undergraduate student may take up to four graduate courses (maximum 12 credits) and are limited to 6 credits a semester and 3 credits per session (Fall Session I and Fall Session II).

The completion of graduate credits to fulfill undergraduate program requirements does not guarantee acceptance into the graduate program after completion of the baccalaureate degree. Matriculating undergraduate students who wish to formally enroll in a graduate program must fulfill all requirements for entrance into the intended graduate program and complete a graduate program application.

Note: Not all graduate courses are included as part of this policy. Courses offered as part of the Master of Arts in Teaching, Master of Education, Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies and doctoral courses are excluded from this policy and are restricted to program majors only. Additional courses and/or programs as determined by individual colleges may also have restricted access.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to enroll in graduate level courses (excludes: Masters of Arts in Teaching, Masters of Education, Masters of Science in Physician Assistant Studies, doctoral courses and other programs as outlined by the colleges).

Undergraduate students must meet the following criteria:

- Undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher
- Completed and registered undergraduate credits at least 90 credits
- Meet the individual course prerequisites

Appeal to Eligibility Criteria: College dean or designee will receive a copy of the Petition Form, Student's GPS and email requesting appeal if the student requests to appeal the GPA or earned/registered credit criteria. College dean/designee will review and determine approval.

These courses carry graduate credit and will replace undergraduate degree requirements when applicable, traditionally free-electives (maximum of 12 credits). The course will be applied to the undergraduate degree in the order in which they are taken (if required) and will also be applied towards both the students undergraduate and graduate GPA.

Students should maintain enrollment in at least 12 credits of undergraduate coursework to maintain full-time status; graduate course enrollment is not calculated into undergraduate full-time status. For students already attending full-time as undergraduates (12 credits or more) and paying the full-time tuition, the graduate credits will be included in full-time tuition fee. Students attending part-time (11 credits or less) will pay the cost per-credit undergraduate tuition for the graduate course.

Course registration will be based on space availability and students enrolled in graduate level courses will be required to maintain good academic standing at the undergraduate and graduate level.