

Interdisciplinary Studies Major

The Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies (<https://www.apu.edu/clas/programs/interdisciplinary-studies-major>) degree program is for students whose vocational or intellectual goals do not lead them into one of APU's existing degree programs, and who seek additional guidance in exploring and discerning vocational calling for themselves and others. With the assistance of an assigned advisor, students design their own study pathway, drawing from two or three disciplines, which must then be approved by the core administrative and faculty team of the Interdisciplinary Studies Program.

Program Learning Outcomes

Successful graduates of the interdisciplinary studies major will be skilled in the following:

1. Vocational Identity: Able to demonstrate a growing understanding of how God has uniquely created them in relation to personal gifts and strengths.
2. Virtuous Character: Able to explain a commitment to and a personal plan for becoming a person of virtuous character.
3. Faithful Engagement: Able to articulate how God is at work in their chosen field and how they can contribute to that work.
4. Career Development: Able to outline a personal career plan with clear timelines and action steps.
5. Vocational Coaching: Able to skillfully utilize resources, competencies, and skills to help others understand and pursue a vocational calling.
6. Creative Integration: Able to thoughtfully and innovatively integrate interdisciplinary competencies in writing and professional practice.
7. Skilled Execution: Able to demonstrate a cross-disciplinary approach to critical thinking, problem solving, and various intellectual and practical competencies.

Career Opportunities

To help prepare for their chosen vocation, students are required to complete a 3-unit internship, as well as a capstone course, prior to graduation.

Program Requirements

The interdisciplinary studies major comprises 54 units, including an 18-unit core and 36 units of courses in 2-3 disciplinary areas of at least 12 units each, which offers students the ability to demonstrate increasing complexity and depth in chosen disciplinary areas. Fifteen of the 36 interdisciplinary units must be upper-division, and 6 units must be at the 400 level (which may require students to take additional courses to satisfy prerequisites). Each option requires students to develop a statement of purpose/learning in order to form the major, and then to develop a conceptual depth in each area.

Typical pathways include:

- 2 disciplinary areas at 18 units each
- 3 disciplinary areas at 12 units each
- 2 disciplinary areas at 24 and 12 units, or 21 and 15 units

Code	Title	Units
Exploring and Discerning Vocation Core		
VOC 200	Exploring Vocation ¹	3
LDRS 322	Leadership Strengths and Skills	3
LDRS 303	Career and Life Planning	3
VOC 300	Writing 3: Writing Within and Between Disciplines ²	3
VOC 450	Interdisciplinary Internship ³	3
VOC 499	Interdisciplinary Capstone	3
Cross-Disciplinary Courses		
Courses in 2-3 disciplinary areas of at least 12 units each; 15 of the 36 units must be upper-division, and 6 units must be at the 400 level.		36
Total Units		54

¹ Meets the General Education Civic Knowledge and Engagement requirement.

² Meets the General Education Writing 3 requirement.

³ Meets the General Education Integrative and Applied Learning requirement.