INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES, B.A.I.S. (COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES)

Learning Outcomes

• Students will identify interdisciplinary approaches to scholarship through thematic or problem-focused study. They will demonstrate the ability to use information, concepts, analytical approaches, and methods involved in at least two related fields.
• Students in the BAIS and BSIS programs will synthesize a personalized set of outcomes and independently work towards achieving them.
• Students in the BAIS or BSIS program will be admitted to graduate/ professional school or will be hired in entry-level positions in their fields within three (3) years of graduation.

Admissions

Entrance Requirements

New freshmen who meet University admissions standards are eligible for admission to degree programs offered by the college. A student who wishes to enter the College of Arts and Sciences from another college on the Columbia campus must be in good standing and have a cumulative GPA of 2.00 or higher. A student who wishes to enter the College of Arts and Sciences from another UofSC campus must fulfill one of the following requirements:

1. Be in good standing, meet the admission requirements for a baccalaureate degree on the Columbia campus, and have a cumulative GPA of 2.00 or higher.
2. Be in good standing and have completed 30 semester hours with a GPA of 2.00 or higher on a UofSC campus.

Some programs in the College of Arts and Sciences have special admission requirements established by the department or committee that supervises the specific degree program, for example, Cardiovascular Technology, Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Economics, Environmental Science, the Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies, and the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies. These requirements are listed in the sections of this bulletin that describe department and special degree programs.

Degree Requirements (120 hours)

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Founding Documents Requirement

All undergraduate students must take a 3-credit course or its equivalent with a passing grade in the subject areas of History, Political Science, or African American Studies that covers the founding documents including the United State Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, the Emancipation Proclamation and one or more documents that are foundational to the African American Freedom struggle, and a minimum of five essays from the Federalist papers. This course may count as a requirement in any part of the program of study including the Carolina Core, the major, minor or cognate, or as a general elective. Courses that meet this requirement are listed here (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/founding-document-courses/).

1. Carolina Core Requirements (32-44 hours)

CMW – Effective, Engaged, and Persuasive Communication: Written (6 hours)

must be passed with a grade of C or higher

• any CC-CMW courses (http://www.sc.edu/about/offices_/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/and_divisions/provost/academicpriorities/undergradstudies/carolinacore/courses/foundational-courses.php?search=CMW)

ARP – Analytical Reasoning and Problem Solving (6-8 hours)

• any CC-ARP courses (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

SCI – Scientific Literacy (8 hours)

• Two 4-credit hour CC-SCI courses (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

GFL – Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding: Foreign Language (0-6 hours)

Demonstration of proficiency in one foreign language equivalent to the minimal passing grade on the exit examination in the 122 course is required. Students can demonstrate this proficiency by successfully completing Phase II of the Proficiency Test or by successfully completing the 122 course, including the exit exam administered as part of that course.

• CC-GFL courses (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

It is strongly recommended that students continuing the study of a foreign language begin college-level study of that language in their first semester and continue in that language until their particular foreign language requirement is completed.

GHS – Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding: Historical Thinking (3 hours)

• any CC-GHS course (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

GSS – Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding: Social Sciences (3 hours)

• any CC-GSS course (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

AIU – Aesthetic and Interpretive Understanding (3 hours)

• any CC-AIU course (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)
CMS – Effective, Engaged, and Persuasive Communication: Spoken Component ¹ (0-3 hours)
  • any overlay or stand-alone CC-CMS course (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

INF – Information Literacy ¹ (0-3 hours)
  • any overlay or stand-alone CC-INF course (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

VSR – Values, Ethics, and Social Responsibility ¹ (0-3 hours)
  • any overlay or stand-alone CC-VSR course (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

¹ Carolina Core Stand Alone or Overlay Eligible Requirements – Overlay-approved courses offer students the option of meeting two Carolina Core components in a single course. A maximum of two overlays is allowed. The total Carolina Core credit hours must add up to a minimum of 31 hours. Some programs may have a higher number of minimum Carolina Core hours due to specified requirements.

2. College Requirements (15-18 hours)

Foreign Language (0-3 hours)
  • only if needed to meet 122-level proficiency

History (3 hours)
The College of Arts and Sciences requires one additional GHS course beyond the Carolina Core GHS requirement.
  • If the Carolina Core GHS requirement is fulfilled by a U.S. history course, the College of Arts and Sciences history requirement must be fulfilled by a non-U.S. history course.
  • If the Carolina Core GHS requirement is fulfilled by a non-U.S. history course, the College of Arts and Sciences history requirement must be fulfilled by a U.S. history course.

Please select the College of Arts and Sciences history requirement from the approved list of U.S. and non-U.S. history courses (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/history-requirement/).

Social Science and Fine Arts or Humanities (12 hours)
  • Social Science (3 hours)
    • The College of Arts and Science requires one 3-hour Social Science Course (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/courses-acceptable-social-science/)
  • Fine Arts/Humanities (9 Hours)
    • A Bachelor of Arts from the College of Arts and Sciences requires three 3-hour Fine Arts/Humanities Courses (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/courses-acceptable-fine-arts-humanities/)
Procedure
The following procedures shall be followed in designing a program of interdisciplinary studies:

• The candidate shall apply to the College Academic Affairs and Advising Office for declaration of an interdisciplinary studies program.
• The candidate must submit to the College Academic Affairs and Advising Office a written statement of goals concerning a potential interdisciplinary studies program.
• The College Academic Affairs and Advising Office will help the candidate formulate an interdisciplinary program committee, which shall consist of faculty members from the student's areas of interdisciplinary interest. The members of the interdisciplinary program committee shall be appointed by the College Academic Affairs and Advising Office, who will designate one member as chair and as the student's academic advisor.
• The interdisciplinary program committee shall meet with the student and prepare a program of studies leading to the Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies. This program shall include a written justification for the specific program of studies designed with the student. The program of study must be approved by the committee prior to the completion of 75 hours. The committee and College Academic Affairs and Advising Office must approve any subsequent changes in the student's program.
• The candidate's academic advisor shall advise the student each semester and shall sign the necessary registration and other advisor's forms. Advising shall adhere to the student's approved program of studies. The academic advisor shall consult with the interdisciplinary program committee for approval should deviation from the original program become necessary or advisable. All changes shall be registered with the College Academic Affairs and Advising Office.

Major Map
A major map is a layout of required courses in a given program of study, including critical courses and suggested course sequences to ensure a clear path to graduation.

Major maps are only a suggested or recommended sequence of courses required in a program of study. Please contact your academic advisor for assistance in the application of specific coursework to a program of study and course selection and planning for upcoming semesters.