

## Liberal Studies

**Wanda Raiford**, Associate Teaching Professor,  
*Department of English and Director, Liberal Studies*  
**Vanessa Sohan**, Associate Professor, *Department of*  
*English, Writing and Rhetoric Program and Associate*  
*Director, Liberal Studies*  
**Tempestt Morgan**, Program Coordinator, *Liberal Studies*

### Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies

The Interdisciplinary Studies Bachelor of Arts degree recognizes that career satisfaction, mobility, and success require an entrepreneurial matching of academic learning to new or emerging job categories, and is, therefore, designed to help students discover their unique competence and develop a coherent, efficient career-centric program of study, whether as a first-time-in-college, a transfer from another college or university, or an employee seeking career advancement. Its multi- or interdisciplinary curriculum also ensures that students will have developed the critical-analytical skills increasingly required in a globally-competitive employment market.

The 33 hours of upper-division coursework for the B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies are to be taken within the College of Arts, Sciences and Education or, as appropriate, from other FIU colleges or schools.

The degree may be taken face to face or entirely online (online course offerings will vary semester-to-semester).

#### Degree Program Hours: 120

#### Lower Division Preparation

#### Common Prerequisite Courses

For a list of all state-approved common prerequisites, including alternatives, visit <https://cpm.flvc.org>.

No specific courses required; all students transferring from Florida community colleges are encouraged to complete the Associate in Arts degree.

#### Upper Division Program

#### Required Courses: (33 credits)

#### Core Courses in Interdisciplinary Studies Major (6)

IDS 3073 Understanding Your Liberal Studies Major 3  
*To be taken at least three semesters before the intended last semester before graduation. Positions students for success in a self-designed, interdisciplinary, non-career-aligned major as they pursue an individualized and focused program of study.*

IDS 4890 Capstone 3  
*To be taken at least one semester before the semester of anticipated graduation to solidify degree focus and prepare for post-baccalaureate career or advanced degrees.*

#### Other Major Requirements (27)

27 credit hours of 3000- or 4000-level courses distributed in the areas below. All courses in the major must be completed with a grade of "C" or better.

With assistance from the Interdisciplinary Studies advisors, students build a concentration relevant to their future career or post-BA educational goals. For students admitted into the Honors College, the B.A. degree requirements for both the Interdisciplinary Studies B.A. and Honors College upper-division curriculum may be satisfied by taking 12 credit hours of Interdisciplinary Honors (IDH) courses appropriate to the categories below.

Some courses may require prerequisites and labs. When required, lab courses will be counted as an elective and not towards meeting the minimum credits of a specific category. As appropriate, Global Learning courses may count towards the major requirements.

All courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or better.

For a full listing of applicable specific courses within the categories and department fields below, consult the Interdisciplinary Studies program advising sheets at <http://liberalstudies.fiu.edu/>.

**Human Aspirations around the World** 6 hours  
*Courses in Literature, Philosophy, Religion, History, Art History, Art, Performing Arts (Theater and Music) or for Honors College students IDH 3034/4007*

**Defining Social Spheres** 6 hours  
*Courses in Anthropology, Sociology, Psychology, Criminal Justice, International Relations, Political Science, Economics, Management/Public Relations or for Honors College students IDH 3034/4007*

**Science and its Applications** 6 hours  
*Courses in Chemistry, Biology, Earth and Environment, Engineering, Computer Science, Biomedical Engineering, or for Honors College students IDH 3034/4007*

**Expertise Focus, theory or applied** 9 hours  
*Two additional courses from the areas above, in consultation with a program advisor, to build upon subject-matter expertise, or for Honors College students IDH 3034/4007*

### Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies

The Liberal Studies B.A. (in each track) combines the time-tested strength of a well-rounded education with innovative ways of seeing our 21<sup>st</sup>-century world and the knowledge or applied skills needed to be productive in that world. Students select one of four tracks: Health and Human Concerns; Humanities and Cultural Traditions; Law, Business and Society; or Education, Policy, and Community Track. These thematic tracks--at once flexible and focused--ensure that student knowledge and skill sets will be cohesive, in-depth, and targeted towards diverse future career opportunities.

The 36 credit hours of upper-division coursework for the B.A. in Liberal Studies should be taken within the College of Arts, Sciences and Education; optionally, up to 9 hours of the 36 hours may be taken from other FIU colleges or schools when designated in the tracks below.

#### Degree Program Hours: 120

#### Lower Division Preparation

#### Common Prerequisite Courses and Equivalencies

**FIU Course(s)**      **Equivalent Course(s)**

None

None

Courses which form part of the statewide articulation between the State University System and the Florida College System will fulfill the Lower Division Common Prerequisites.

Please visit <https://cpm.flvc.org> for a current list of state-approved common prerequisites.

**Common Prerequisites**

No specific courses required; all students transferring from Florida community colleges are encouraged to complete the Associate in Arts degree.

**Core Courses in Liberal Studies Major (6)**

IDS 3073 Understanding Your Liberal Studies Major 3  
To be taken at least three semesters before the intended last semester before graduation. Positions students for success in a self-designed, interdisciplinary, non-career-aligned major as they pursue an individualized and focused program of study.

IDS 4890 Capstone 3

To be taken at least one semester before the semester of anticipated graduation to solidify degree focus and prepare for post-baccalaureate career or advanced degrees.

**Upper Division Requirements (36)**

Students--in consultation with their Liberal Studies advisor--should take 30 hours of 3000- or 4000-level courses in the Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, Humanities, and Writing. The number of hours taken in each category is dependent on your selected track.

Some courses require prerequisites and labs. As appropriate, Global Learning courses may count towards meeting the major requirements within the tracks below.

All courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or better.

For a full listing of applicable specific courses within the categories and department fields below, consult the Interdisciplinary Studies program advising sheets at <http://liberalstudies.fiu.edu/>.

**Students must select one of the tracks below:**

**Health and Human Concerns Track (30)****Natural Sciences (12)**

*Biology, Chemistry, or Biochemistry*

**Social Sciences (9)**

*Psychology, Global and Sociocultural Studies, Politics and International Relations, or Public Administration*

**Humanities (6)**

*English, History, Humanities, Philosophy, or Religious Studies*

**Writing (3)**

*ENC 3311 "Advanced Writing and Research" or equivalent ENC 3000 or 4000 level course*

**Humanities and Cultural Traditions Track (30)****Natural Sciences (3)**

*Biology, Marine Sciences, or Earth and Environment*

**Social Sciences (6)**

*Asian Studies, African and African Diaspora Studies, Latin American Studies, Women's & Gender Studies, or Global & Sociocultural Studies*

**Humanities (18)**

*English, History, Art History, Humanities, Greek, Latin, Modern Languages, Philosophy, or Religious Studies*

**Writing (3)**

*ENC 3311 "Advanced Writing and Research" or equivalent ENC 3000 or 4000 level course*

**Law, Business and Society Track (30)****Natural Sciences (3)**

*Biology, Marine Sciences, or Earth and Environment*

**Social Sciences (18)**

*Labor Studies, Economics, Global & Sociocultural Studies, Politics and International Relations, Public Administration, Criminal Justice, Law, or Business*

**Humanities (6)**

*English, History, Humanities, Philosophy, or Religious Studies*

**Writing (3)**

*ENC 3311 "Advanced Writing and Research" or equivalent ENC 3000 or 4000 level course*

**Education, Policy, and Community Track (30)****Natural Sciences (9)**

SCE 4310	Content and Methods of Teaching	
	Elementary Science	3
PET 3325/PET 3325L	Kinetic Anatomy	3
EEC 4211	Integrated Math and Science in Early Childhood	3
SMT 3100	Knowing and Learning in Math and Science	3

**Social Sciences (9)**

EDF 4780	The Teacher and the Law	3
EDF 4604	Cultural and Social Foundations of Education	3
EDG 3321	Managing Teaching Environments: Instructional Decisions and Classroom Management	3
EDP 3004	Educational Psychology	3
EDP 3273	Child Development	3
EDP 4274	Early Social and Emotional Development	3
SSE 4380	Developing a Global Perspective	3
SOW 4932	Current Topic in Social Work: Service-Learning: Social Change and Contemporary Social Issues	3
CPO 4053	Political Repression and Human Rights	3
ECO 4321	Radical Political Economy	3
ANT 3212	World Ethnography	3

**Humanities (9)**

ARE 3313	Experiencing Art in Elementary Schools	3
DAE 3300	Dance in the Elementary, Middle, and Secondary School	3
EDF 3521	Education in History	3
EEX 3070	Teaching Students with Exceptionalities in Inclusive Environments	3

EEC 3242	Art in Early Childhood Education	3
LAE 4405	Children's Literature	3
PHM 4362	Global Justice	3

### Writing and Communication in and across disciplines (3)

RED 3313	Language and Literacy Development	3
RED 4100	Emergent Literacy	3
RED 4150	Content and methods of Teaching Intermediate Literacy	3
RED 4325	Content Area Reading	3
TSL 3080	ESOL Principles and Practices I	3
SPA 3000	Acquisition of Speech and Language Skills	3
ENC 4331	Writing, Rhetoric, and Community	3
ENC 3354	Writing for Social Action	3

## Bachelor of Arts in Natural and Applied Sciences

The Natural and Applied Sciences Bachelor of Arts degree provides an opportunity for students with diverse interests in STEM to combine courses from a variety of departments and to develop an array of competencies and skills that are aligned with their educational and career goals. This degree is designed for students who have a deep interest and aptitude for the STEM disciplines, but who would like to expand the focus of their studies to include emphasis in two or more of those areas as a foundation for an inter-disciplinary career, such as in health advocacy, research, and analytics.

It is also designed for students who wish to continue their studies in a graduate or professional program.

The 33 hours of upper-division coursework for the B.A. in Natural and Applied Sciences are to be taken within the College of Arts, Sciences and Education, as appropriate, from other FIU colleges or schools.

Degree requirements include a 3- credit hour Cornerstone course "Understanding Your Liberal Studies Major," IDS 3073, to be taken at least three semesters before the intended last semester before graduation. IDS 3073, positions students for success in a self-designed, interdisciplinary, non-career-aligned major as they pursue an individualized and focused program of study. Majors also take IDS 4890, a 3-credit hour Capstone course, to be taken at least one semester before the semester of anticipated graduation to solidify degree focus and prepare for post-baccalaureate career or advanced degrees.

### Degree Program Hours: 120

### Lower Division Preparation

### Common Prerequisite Courses

For a list of all state-approved common prerequisites, including alternatives, visit <https://cpm.flvc.org>.

No specific courses required; all students transferring from Florida community colleges are encouraged to complete the Associate in Arts degree.

### Upper Division Program

### Required Courses: (33 credits)

Twenty-one hours of 3000- or 4000-level courses distributed in the areas below (in special cases, exceptions may be made for the more challenging lower division science courses). All courses in the major must be completed with a grade of "C" or better.

With assistance from the Natural and Applied Sciences CASE advisors, students build a concentration relevant to their future career or post-BA educational goals. Some courses may require prerequisites and labs. For a full listing of applicable specific courses within the categories and department fields below, consult the Interdisciplinary Studies program advising sheets at <http://liberalstudies.fiu.edu/>.

Students will take 21 hours of upper-level STEM courses, across these areas:

### Physical Sciences 6 hours

*Courses in Astronomy, Chemistry, Earth Sciences, Geology, Systemic Geography, Meteorology, General and Chemical Oceanography, Physics, and Physical Sciences, and IDS 3212*

### Life and Health Sciences 6 hours

*Courses in Biology, Botany, Biochemistry, Process Biology, Biological Oceanography, Environmental Science, Entomology, Health Information Management, Health Sciences 3537 and 4553, Human Nutrition, Occupational Therapy, Public Health, Science Education, Zoology, IDS 3189 and IDS 4232*

### Applied Sciences 6 hours

*Courses in Building Construction, Biomedical Engineering, Computer Applications, Civil Construction Engineering, Computer Design Architecture, Computer Engineering, Computer General Studies, Civil Engineering, Computer Science, Computer Networks, Computer Theory, Computer Programming, Computer Technology and Skills, Civil Water Resources, Engineering Science, Electrical Engineering, Engineering Support, Industrial Engineering, Materials Engineering, Mechanical and Chemical Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Geography Information Science, Interdisciplinary Computing, Calculus, Discrete Mathematics, Mathematics Education, Applied Mathematics, Algebraic Structures, Statistics, IDS 3214, IDS 4174*

### Expertise Focus 3 hours

*An additional course, in consultation with a program advisor, to build upon subject-matter expertise in any of the areas listed above.*

### Other requirements (12 hours):

### Communication in STEM 3 hours

A 3000/4000 level course with the following prefix: ENC, COM, SPC

### Capstone/Professional Development 9 hours

IDS 3073, Cornerstone and IDS 4890 Capstone or comparable course; IDS 4949 or other research, internship or professional development credit-earning opportunity. *To be taken at least one semester before the intended last semester before graduation to solidify degree focus and prepare for post-BA career or advanced degrees.*

## Bachelor of Arts in Natural and Applied Sciences Medical Sciences Major

### Common Prerequisites (31-33 credits):

BSC 2010 and BSC 2010L (4 credits)  
 BSC 2011 and BSC 2011L  
 or BOT 1010 and BOT 1010L (4 credits)  
 CHM 1045 and CHM 1045L (4 credits)  
 CHM 1046 and CHM 1046L (4 credits)  
 CHM 2210 and CHM 2210L  
 or PHY 2048 and PHY 2048L  
 or PHY 2053 and PHY 2048L (5 credits)  
 CHM 2211 and CHM 2211L  
 or PHY 2049 and PHY 2049L  
 or PHY 2054 and PHY 2049L (4-5 credits)  
 MAC 2311 or STA 3111 (3-4 credits)  
 MAC 2312 or STA 3112 or STA 3123 (3-4 credits)

### Major Requirements (39-40 credits):

#### Physical Sciences (12-13 credits):

CHM 2210 and CHM 2210L  
 or PHY 2048 and PHY 2048L  
 or PHY 2053 and PHY 2048L (5 credits)\*  
 CHM 2211 and CHM 2211L  
 or PHY 2049 and PHY 2049L  
 or PHY 2054 and PHY 2049L (4-5 credits)\*  
 BCH 3033 or CHM 4304 (3 credits)

#### Life and Health Sciences (9 credits):

PCB 3702 or PCB 3703 or PCB 4724 (3 credits)  
 PCB 3063 (3 credits)  
 PCB 4023 (3 credits)

#### Communication in STEM (3 credits):

Select any 3000/4000 level with the following prefix: ENC, COM, SPC

#### Capstone/Professional Development (6 credits):

IDS 4890 or comparable course (3 credits)  
 IDS 4949 or any other research, internship or professional development opportunity (3 credits)

#### Expertise Focus (9 credits):

- 1) An additional 3 credits from any of the areas above
- 2) 6 credits in any 3000/4000 level course with the following prefix: PSY, SOP, DEP, CLP, EXP, PSB, SYG, SYO, SYA, SYP

<sup>1</sup>Counts toward UCC Natural Science Group 1

<sup>2</sup>Counts toward UCC Natural Science Group 2. Students who plan to apply for a graduate health program will need to take BSC 2011 and lab.

<sup>3</sup>Counts toward UCC Mathematics Group 1

<sup>4</sup>Counts toward UCC Mathematics Group 2

\*Student must select course **not** already taken as Common Prerequisite. For example, if student took PHY 2048 and PHY 2048L as a common prerequisite, they should take CHM 2210 and CHM 2210L for the Physical Science requirement.

## Course Descriptions

### Definition of Prefixes

IDS-Interdisciplinary Studies  
 Courses that meet the University's Global Learning requirement are identified as GL.

**IDS 2395 Civic Literacies (3).** This course provides student with the knowledge, concepts, and critical thinking skills necessary to make well-reasoned, informed, and ethical political decisions in a participatory democracy.

**IDS 2930 Faculty Scholars Seminar (1).** Provides freshman Faculty Scholars the opportunity to participate in the interdisciplinary study of significant themes. May only be taken twice.

**IDS 3073 Understanding Your Liberal Studies Major (3).** This course guides majors on the journey to designing their own subject-matter and intellectual focus in one of the three Liberal Studies undergraduate degrees.

**IDS 3383 Psychedelic Compound Fundamentals (3).** This course covers the chemical structure of psychedelics compounds, initial therapeutic applications, later criminalization, and the recent growth of psychedelic research and business centers.

**IDS 3949 Cooperative Education in Liberal Studies (3).** A student majoring in Liberal Studies may spend one semester fully employed in industry in a capacity relating to the major. This course must be taken as an elective.

**IDS 4384 Psychedelics Today: Science, Therapy, Policy, and Ethics (3).** An in-depth examination of current topics related to psychedelics today including the most up to date scientific research, emergence of psychedelic-assisted therapy and changing policy landscape. Prerequisite: IDS 3383

**IDS 4890 Interdisciplinary Studies Capstone: Applying Knowledge (3).** Preparation for course-of-study and guided academic/career self-assessment; senior year internship, service learning, or research project. Students complete a portfolio demonstrating applied expertise. Students seeking a prerequisite exception must ask for Program approval. Prerequisite: IDS 3073

**IDS 4920 Liberal Studies Colloquia (3).** Individual sections will study, from an interdisciplinary perspective, issues selected and presented jointly by College faculty. Specific topics will be announced in advance.

**IDS 4949 Internship in Liberal Studies/Interdisciplinary Studies (0-6).** This variable credit course (0-6 credits) can be used to allow both Liberal Studies and Interdisciplinary Studies' students to take an internship and use that experience towards their degree.

## Course Descriptions

### Definition of Prefixes

GRE-Classical Greek; GRW-Classical Greek Literature; HUM-Humanities; LAT-Latin  
 Courses that meet the University's Global Learning requirement are identified as GL.

**GRE 1130 Classical Greek I (5).** Emphasis on grammar, and on basic reading and writing skills. GRE 1131 Classical Greek II (5). Emphasis on grammar, and on basic reading and writing skills. Prerequisite: GRE 1130.

**GRE 2200 Intermediate Classical Greek (3).** Emphasis on grammar, and on acquiring intermediate reading and writing skills. Prerequisite: GRE 1131.

**HUM 1020 Introduction to Humanities (3).** An interdisciplinary survey of how human beings have perceived themselves and the world around them, through literature, philosophy, religion, music and the arts.

**HUM 2512 Art and Society (3).** A study of the relationship between art and culture in different periods, including patronage, the role of the artist, and the relationship between art and economic, political, religious, and ideological forces.

**HUM 3214 Ancient Classical Culture and Civilization (3).** Explores the culture of the ancient Greek and Latin worlds from an interdisciplinary perspective and studies the varied conceptions of the individual, society, and nature. Written work meets the state composition requirement.

**HUM 3306 History of Ideas (3).** The historical development of fundamental concepts through an interdisciplinary cultural approach. Nature, freedom, beauty, virtue, alienation, and relativism are traced in literature, art, and philosophy including the social context of developing ideas. Meets the state composition requirement. Prerequisites: ENC 1101 and ENC 1102 or equivalent.

**HUM 3432 The Roman World (3).** An in-depth examination of selected cultural monuments and events of the Roman Republic and Empire and of the forces that helped shape them.

**HUM 3939 Special Topics (3).** An examination of specific topics in the humanities. The topics may vary from semester to semester. (May be repeated with a change in content.)

**HUM 3949 Cooperative Education in Humanities (3).** A student majoring in Humanities may spend one or two semesters fully employed in industry in a capacity relating to the major.

**HUM 4024 Plagues and Pandemics: Global Perspectives (3).** This problem-oriented course focuses on analysis of Plagues and the philosophic, artistic, scientific, social, and political history and impact of widespread epidemic diseases causing high mortality.

**HUM 4431 The Greek World (3).** An in-depth examination of selected cultural monuments and events of the Greek World in the Classical and Hellenistic periods and of the forces that helped shape them. (May be repeated with change in content.)

**HUM 4543 Literature and Philosophy (3).** The interpretation of literature and philosophy from an interdisciplinary perspective. In addition to philosophical novels, poetry, and drama, the course may examine the philosophical scrutiny of literature.

**HUM 4555 Symbols and Myths (3).** An in-depth examination of mythology and symbolic language within the cultural and psychodynamic forces that inform them. This course gives special emphasis to Classical myths.

**HUM 4580 Film Humanities (3).** Studies the significance of film in Western culture: the language, semiotics and technique of films with the aid of appropriate cinematographical material.

**HUM 4906 Independent Study (1-3).** Directed independent research. Requires prior approval by instructor. (May be repeated with a change in content.)

**LAT 1130 Latin I (5).** Emphasis on grammar and on acquiring basic reading and writing skills.

**LAT 1131 Latin II (5).** Emphasis on grammar and on acquiring reading and writing skills. Prerequisite: LAT 1130.

**LAT 2200 Intermediate Latin (3).** Emphasis on grammar and on acquiring basic reading and writing skills. Prerequisite: LAT 1131.