

## The Bachelor of Integrated Studies Degree Program

The Bachelor of Integrated Studies degree (BIS) is designed for students whose interests and goals fall outside the parameters of traditional majors. It provides individualized plans for a diverse student population. Interdisciplinary in nature, it builds upon the strong foundation of our Liberal Arts Core (LAC) and provides depth in two or more content areas. Students develop new approaches to problem solving utilizing an integrated approach demonstrated through written and oral communication skills and higher order thinking.

While requiring substantial investment on the part of the student, the program places a high priority on academic advising. Each student will work closely with an assigned advisor from the introductory course through to the Senior Seminar.

Initially, BIS students will enroll in BIS2003 or 3003/Introduction to Integrated Studies. As part of that course, the student will develop a Statement of Purpose which will act as a guide for the plan of study. Until successfully completing this course, all students in the program will be considered conditionally admitted.

In developing the plan of study, students are reminded that at least 42 hours must be taken at the junior and/or senior level. A maximum of seven hours of "D" will be accepted in the LAC and elective area, but a grade of "C" or better is required in all other areas.

### Degree Requirements:

Liberal Arts Core 45 Critical Thinking/ Technology

(Student must take minimum of one course from each area) 12 BIS2003 or 3003/

Introduction to Integrated Studies 3

BIS4003/ Senior Seminar

(Note BIS2003/3003 may not be taken with BIS4003) 3

Electives 12 Program Options: Choose one

Option 1: Emphasis Area coursework from either 2 areas split 30 45 credits/15 credits or 3 areas of 15 credits each

Aviation

Business

Education A (EDE/EDU/EDM/SPE)

Education B (HPE/HPR/ATP)

English/Foreign Language/Philosophy

Family and Consumer Sciences

Fine Arts (Courses from no more than three areas)

Mathematics and Computer Science

Military Science

Recreation

Sociology/Psychology

Sciences

Social Sciences

Interdisciplinary (Courses to be selected by student and advisor, with approval of advisor.  
Maximum of 15 hours in Interdisciplinary emphasis.)

Option 2: Coursework in two or more disciplines from among or across the categories 45 listed below. (NOTE: students should limit their study to no more than 2 disciplines from each of two categories.)

Natural Sciences:

Biological Sciences (Biology/Botany, Zoology)

Physical Sciences (Chemistry, Physics)

Mathematics

Social Sciences:

Anthropology

Economics

Geography

Political Science

Psychology

Sociology

Humanities:

Art/Art History

History

Literature and Language

Music and Music Education

Philosophy

Theater and Dance

Applied Fields:

Aviation

Business

Communication

Mass Media

Criminal Justice

Computer Science

Education

Physical Education

Recreation

Engineering

Family and Consumer Sciences

Human Services

Military Science

Option 3: Coursework representing at least 2 disciplines arranged thematically 45 (NOTE: A Proposal will be developed by the student with the assistance of the advisor and approved by the Director)

Total Hours 120

ISD2003/3003: Introduction to Integrated Studies (3 credits)

ISD2003/3003 introduces the student to the concept of integrated studies and guides him/her through the process of developing a degree plan based on areas of interest. One of the requirements for this online course is the development of a statement of purpose, which will articulate the student's reason for majoring in integrated studies and, in turn, guide in the development of the degree plan. Students will also develop an e-portfolio, and (if taking this course at the 3000 level), a capstone project. The student will be considered a conditionally admitted major until successful completion of this course.

ISD4033: Senior Seminar in Integrated Studies (3 credits)

ISD4033 is the capstone course for the IS degree. It is usually taken during the final semester before graduation. ISD2003/3003 is a prerequisite. ISD4033 may not be taken concurrently with ISD2003/3003. This on-line course will guide students through the final stages of the capstone project, help them complete the e-portfolio, and help them prepare for graduation. As part of the capstone project, students will present a public defense.