

# INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

College of Arts and Humanities  
Department of Interdisciplinary Studies

## Program Description

Interdisciplinary Studies (IDS) is a broad-based, liberal arts and sciences major that focuses on developing exemplary skills in written and oral communication, textual analysis, critical thinking, research methods, and the ability to bring a wide range of resources to bear in approaching complex problems. Because it combines knowledge systems across the meta-disciplines of the Humanities, Social Sciences, and Natural Sciences, an IDS major is great preparation for both the workplace and for entry into graduate or professional schools. IDS is part of a national network of Programs for Accelerated College Education (PACE) that are designed for working, adult students who want to earn a bachelor's degree in a reasonable period of time while they maintain a full-time job. While all admitted students are welcome, IDS/PACE students are primarily transfers who enter CSUDH with 60 units and junior-class standing.

## Features

IDS/PACE offers major concentrations in four areas of study: American Studies, Comparative Cultures, Environmental Studies, and Global Studies. As a PACE program, IDS courses are scheduled at times that function well for working people, including week nights and weekends, as well as in hybrid and online formats. For students whose schedules require that they attend classes only on the weekends, IDS offers a full Weekend College format.

## Academic Advising

Interdisciplinary Studies provides each student with a faculty advisor, a person who will assist the student in choosing classes, in defining a direction for the program of studies, and in coping with problems associated with both traditional and nontraditional areas of university life. The faculty advisor will expect to meet with each of his or her students at least once each semester to discuss progress-to-date and to plan the next semester's course of study. Students are encouraged to see their mentors more often during the school year as problems, concerns and new ideas arise.

## Preparation

While an associate of arts degree before entering IDS/PACE is not necessary, we advise you to complete most of your lower division General Education requirements before transferring. Applicants will qualify for admission to IDS/PACE if they have completed 60 transferable semester units, have a grade point average of "C" (2.0) or better and have completed the General Education Basic Skills courses (The "Golden Four": Speech, Composition, Critical Thinking, and a transferable math) with grades of "C-" or better. The maximum number of transferable units from a community college is 70 semester units. Always check the University Catalog for current transfer requirements.

IDS/PACE is open to all students who are admitted to the University. Working students who find that the regular programs of the campus do not meet their specific needs should contact the IDS/PACE Office for an appointment with a faculty advisor.

## Graduation With Honors

An undergraduate student may be a candidate for graduation with Honors in Interdisciplinary Studies provided he or she meets the following criteria:

1. A minimum of 36 units in residence at CSU Dominguez Hills;
2. A minimum grade point average of at least 3.5 in all courses used to satisfy the upper division requirements in the major.

## Career Possibilities and Graduate School

With its focus on critical thinking and writing and comprehensive course offerings, IDS/PACE graduates have the skills and knowledge to promote in workplace and successfully pursue graduate school. Our graduates have gone on to attend graduate school in Social Work, Public Health, English, Psychology, Public Administration, Business, Museum Studies, and Law.

## Undergraduate Programs

### Bachelor

- Interdisciplinary Studies, Bachelor of Arts (<https://catalog.csudh.edu/academics/interdisciplinary-studies/interdisciplinary-studies-ba/>)

### Minor

- Environmental Studies, Minor (<https://catalog.csudh.edu/academics/interdisciplinary-studies/environmental-studies-minor/>)
- Global Studies, Minor (<https://catalog.csudh.edu/academics/interdisciplinary-studies/global-studies-minor/>)
- Interdisciplinary Studies, Minor (<https://catalog.csudh.edu/academics/interdisciplinary-studies/interdisciplinary-studies-minor/>)

## Faculty

Patricia Kalayjian, Interim Department Chair  
Jenney Hall, Annemarie Perez, Vivian Price

Program Office: SCC 130, (310) 243-3649, (310) 243-3640

## Emeriti Faculty

Patricia Cherin, Patricia Kalayjian, Catherine Jacobs

## Courses

### IDS 210. Introduction to Environmental Studies. (3 Units)

Prerequisite(s): None. Recommended prerequisite(s): None. Co-requisite(s): None. Recommended co-requisite(s): None. Provides students with an overview of environmental philosophy, policy, and literature examining a range of interrelated social and scientific aspects of ecological, socioeconomic, political, aesthetic, and technological factors that influence the quality of life on earth. Offered Fall, Spring, Summer

### IDS 255. Lang & Meth Of Sci (PACE). (3 Units)

Offered Infrequent

### IDS 295. Special Topics in Interdisciplinary Studies. (3 Units)

A broad study of an issue or a concept in Interdisciplinary Studies that is of special interest to faculty and students. Topics vary (e.g., Special Topics: Labor and the Environment, Environmental Ethics, Global Sustainability; Environmental Literature; Water in the American West). Repeatable course. Three hours of lecture per week. Offered Fall

**IDS 300. Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies. (3 Units)**

Provides an introduction to the theories and practices of interdisciplinary studies in humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. Course includes research methods, writing for the various disciplines, and development of analytical and synthesizing skills necessary for success in Interdisciplinary Studies.

Offered Fall

**IDS 304. Issues in Global Studies. (3 Units)**

Explores issues confronting our global community by employing multi-disciplinary, transnational, and post colonial approaches; examines how global studies is defined and its impact historically and currently; acquaints students with regional concerns as distinct from and contributing to global issues.

Offered Fall, Spring

**IDS 310. Global Climate Change. (3 Units)**

Examines the history of climate science and how acceptance and denial of science impacts the geopolitical landscape, including personal, regional, national, and global responsibility to implement a transition to a just and sustainable future on a finite planet.

Offered Fall, Spring

**IDS 312. Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Humanities. (3 Units)**

Each topic for this course examines an important issue in the Humanities, using a methodology incorporating multiple disciplines and placing the content in a historical and cultural context.

Offered Fall, Spring

**IDS 316. LA Detectives. (3 Units)**

An examination of crime in Los Angeles across fiction, non-fiction, and film, especially the LA noir tradition. Particular attention is paid to gender, race, and class and their accompanying disclosures and how crime stories mediate these discourses.

Offered Fall, Spring

**IDS 317. Race and Popular Culture. (3 Units)**

From an interdisciplinary perspective, this class will examine the intersections of race and popular culture. By doing so, this course will explore how popular culture is central to negotiating racial meaning in American society.

Offered Fall, Spring

**IDS 318. Interdisciplinary Approach to Cultural Pluralism. (3 Units)**

Each topic for this course examines an important social issue in the Social Sciences, using a methodology incorporating multidisciplinary approaches, cultural diversity, and social interaction. Repeatable for credit with different topics.

Offered Fall, Spring

**IDS 320. Interdisciplinary Topics in Human Studies. (3 Units)**

Provides an in-depth study of a topic in human behavior and attitudes. The topic will be examined using interdisciplinary perspectives. Examples of topics include class and careers, immigration and cultural impact and poverty. Repeatable course. Three hours of seminar per week.

Offered Fall, Spring, All terms

**IDS 321. Global Los Angeles. (3 Units)**

How does a locality - Los Angeles - become identifiable as a global city? One aspect of LA's global status is its diverse population, but other influences include international trade, economic interests, popular culture, environmental entanglements, among many interrelated globalizing factors.

Offered Fall, Spring

**IDS 322. Transnational Stories. (3 Units)**

Using literature, film, and other visual and narrative forms, course explores the differences and commonalities of representation in the works of the human imagination in a global and historical context.

Offered Fall, Spring

**IDS 324. Consumerism in the US. (3 Units)**

This course examines the key issues that are tied to American consumerism including advertising, class identity, globalization, the impact on the environment. Additionally, this course will pay close attention to how race, gender, and class intersect with consumerism.

Offered Fall, Spring

**IDS 325. Global Gender and Sexuality. (3 Units)**

Examines the emergence and development of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender rights movements around the world. Course themes include the intersectionalities of race/ethnicity and class with gender and sexuality; the dynamic nature of identity; and cultural, political, religious, and historical contexts.

Offered Fall, Spring

**IDS 326. Perspectives in Human Studies. (3 Units)**

Special Topics course using nonstandard times and/or days to explore issues in the human behavior and attitudes. Repeatable course.

Offered Fall, Spring, All terms

**IDS 330. Interdisciplinary Topics in Civilizations. (3 Units)**

Provides an in-depth analysis of a major topic in the history of ideas and institutions through the study of the topic in relation to the disciplines relevant to the topic. Sample topics include archetypal patterns in literature and history of modern thought. Repeatable course.

Offered Fall, Spring, Summer, All terms

**IDS 332. Global Conflict and Cooperation. (3 Units)**

Using social science methods and providing an historical context, course explores ways in which globalization may generate social, political, economic, or environmental pressures and conflicts as well as elicit and even enable cooperation among individuals, localities, regions, and nations.

Offered Fall, Spring

**IDS 336. American Studies in the Humanities. (3 Units)**

Provides an in-depth analysis of an issue, region, perspective, or historical era of the United States from a comparative, multidisciplinary humanities perspective. Courses incorporate some of the following disciplines: literature, history, film, philosophy, art, and drama. Repeatable with different topics.

Offered Fall, Spring, All terms

**IDS 340. Interdisc Perspectives. (3 Units)**

Offered Infrequent

**IDS 341. Developing a Digital Professional Identity. (1 Units)**

Introduces writing concepts critical to transitioning into a professional writing practice. Students will learn to recognize and apply patterns of writing in professional settings. Students will assess and synthesize organizational information and compose digital compositions for public facing content.

Offered Fall, Spring

**IDS 345. Writing Adjunct. (3 Units)**

Prerequisite(s): ENG 108/109 or ENG 110 required. IDS 345 provides the opportunity for students to develop a writing practice that allows them to situate themselves as writers, readers, and students within broader disciplinary conversations. Students will become fluent readers and writers across a variety of disciplines as they establish a writing practice. Using writing and assignments from other courses, students will learn and apply theories and scholarship from a variety of disciplines in order to write original essays and/or research projects. At the end of IDS 345, students will create a writing portfolio to document the transformation of their writing. Students are welcome to take IDS 345 for writing support. IDS 345 fulfills the GVAR requirement Repeatable for credit. A-C/NC grading.

Offered Fall, Spring, Summer

**IDS 350. Interdisciplinary Topics in Environmental Studies. (3 Units)**

Provides an in-depth examination of major concepts in environmental science, including ecology, evolution, diseases, loss of biodiversity, global warming, and the public policies needed to address complex contemporary problems. Courses involve methods of scientific inquiry. Repeatable with different topics.

Offered Fall, Spring

**IDS 360. Special Studies in Civilizations. (1-3 Units)**

Prerequisites: Upper division status and permission of instructor. This course will investigate one or more special topics in Western and/or Non Western civilizations. Instruction will usually include off-campus activity such as, but not limited to, foreign travel. Repeatable course

Offered Infrequent

**IDS 395. Special Topics. (1-3 Units)**

Intensive study of a particular aspect of interdisciplinarity. Topic may provide the opportunity to pursue a creative endeavor in a seminar setting. Repeatable for credit. Exact topic will be listed in the class schedule.

Offered As needed

**IDS 398. Writing Adjunct (Competency Certification). (2 Units)**

Prerequisite: IDS 397. IDS 397 and IDS 398 are two linked courses that provide the opportunity for students to develop a writing practice that allows them to situate themselves as writers, readers, and students within broader disciplinary conversations. Students will become fluent readers and writers across a variety of disciplines as they establish a writing practice. Students will learn and apply theories and scholarship from a variety of disciplines in order to write original essays and/or research projects. At the end of the IDS 398 students will create a writing portfolio to document the transformation of their writing. When both IDS 397 and IDS 398 are taken, the two courses fulfill GVAR.

Offered Fall, Spring

**IDS 490. Interdisciplinary Studies Senior Seminar. (3 Units)**

Prerequisite IDS 300. Students draw from their interdisciplinary perspectives and methodologies to address contemporary issues and review and apply theories and information from previous classes.

Offered Fall, Spring

**IDS 491. Thematic Proj Proposal. (1 Units)**

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. Supervised development of a proposal which describes the Thematic Project. Proposal will define a problem, outline means to solve problem and describe the final product resulting from the project. Completed proposal contain advisor's justification and will be approved by committee. CR/NC grading.

Offered Fall, Spring

**IDS 492. Thematic Proj Fieldwork. (1-4 Units)**

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. Supervised activity in fieldwork and/or research necessary to carry through a thematic project. Repeatable course.

Offered Infrequent

**IDS 493. Them Proj:Final Product. (1-4 Units)**

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. Supervised activity in preparation of the final product necessary to carry through a thematic project. Repeatable course.

Offered Infrequent

**IDS 494. Independent Study. (2-15 Units)**

Independent pursuit of a topic or project which is proposed by the student. Study must be interdisciplinary and must be approved, in advance, by faculty member supervising study. Repeatable course.

Offered Infrequent

**IDS 498. Directed Research. (1-3 Units)**

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. The student develops and completes an individual study under faculty supervision. Repeatable course.

Offered Infrequent