

Interdisciplinary Studies



Overview/Areas of Interdisciplinary Study/Courses

Interdisciplinary teaching and scholarship cross boundaries between academic disciplines or schools of thought to expand traditional limits on knowledge and to address new and emerging challenges. The epidemiology of AIDS and the dynamics of climate change, for example, require the insights and resources of multiple disciplines. The Whitworth 2021 strategic plan emphasizes interdisciplinary studies as essential to a comprehensive and relevant liberal arts education and to subsequent vocational service and success.

Interdisciplinary studies at Whitworth entail a range of offerings, including academic majors, minors and signature general-education courses such as Core 150, 250 and 350. Several of these areas of study incorporate significant programmatic and co-curricular elements such as events, speakers and leadership/service opportunities.

Interdisciplinary Majors

American Studies, History Emphasis (<http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/history/#americanstudies>)

Art History (<http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/art>)

Bioinformatics (<http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/mathcomputerscience/#bioinformatics>)

Cross-Cultural Studies, History Emphasis (<http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/history/#crossculturalhistory>) or Political Science Emphasis (<http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/politicalscience/#crossculturalpolisci>)

Human Computer Interaction (<http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/mathcomputerscience>)

International Studies, History Emphasis (<http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/history/#internationalstudieshistory>) or Political Science Emphasis (<http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/politicalscience/#internationalpolisci>)

Mathematical Economics (<http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/mathcomputerscience/#mathecon>)

Peace Studies, Political Science Emphasis (<http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/politicalscience/#peacestudies>)

Visual Design in Computing (<http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/art>)

Area of Concentration

Students who wish to integrate related courses from a variety of academic disciplines have the option of declaring an area of concentration in lieu of choosing a departmental major. Here are the guidelines for an area of concentration:

- You must declare the area of concentration before the first semester of your junior year or be a transfer senior.
- Your AOC must involve an in-depth study in one topical area.

- Be sure your AOC reflects an integration of disciplines into one topic.
- Be prepared to meet the AOC requirement of 40-60 credits.
- Remember that your AOC must be at least as rigorous as a departmental program.
- If your AOC involves teacher certification, you must clear it through the School of Education.
- Keep in mind that your AOC cannot include more than four independent studies.
- Be sure to include one writing-intensive course in your AOC.

Interdisciplinary Minors

Asian Studies (<http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/asianstudies>)

Development Studies (http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/interdisciplinarystudies/development_studies)

Editing & Publishing (http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/interdisciplinarystudies/editing_and_publishing)

Environmental Studies (http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/interdisciplinarystudies/environmental_studies)

Film & Visual Narrative Studies (http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/interdisciplinarystudies/film_and_visual_narrative)

Latin American Studies (http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/interdisciplinarystudies/latin_american_studies)

Leadership Studies (<http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/leadershipstudies>)

Medieval & Early Modern Studies (http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/interdisciplinarystudies/medieval_early_modern_studies)

Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) (<http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/interdisciplinarystudies/tesol>)

U.S. Cultural Studies (<http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/usculturalstudies>)

Visual Communication (http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/interdisciplinarystudies/visual_communication)

Women's & Gender Studies (<http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/womensgenderstudies>)

Core Worldview Studies Program (<http://catalog.whitworth.edu/undergraduate/generaleducation>)

Font Notice

This document should contain certain fonts with restrictive licenses. For this draft, substitutions were made using less legally restrictive fonts. Specifically:

Times was used instead of Adobe Garamond Pro.

The editor may contact Leepfrog for a draft with the correct fonts in place.