Interdisciplinary Studies

Interdisciplinary Studies (IDS) Courses

IDS 2013. Introduction to Learning and Teaching in a Culturally Diverse Society. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Introductory course for all prospective teachers. This course is designed to help students understand the complexity of K–12 teaching in our contemporary society. Students will examine the history, policies and practices that have shaped schooling in the United States. Contemporary dilemmas of equity, the achievement gap, and other marginalizing practices will be considered to better understand the culture of schooling and classrooms, and the complex role of the teacher. Emphasis will be on, but not limited to, students as learners, curriculum standards and assessment, effective teaching practices for diverse learners, professionalism, and the sociopolitical challenges confronting today’s teachers. Field experience required.

IDS 2083. Technology for Learning and Teaching. (3-1) 3 Credit Hours.
This course focuses on integrating instructional technology into learning and teaching environments. Students will investigate theoretical and practical issues surrounding the use of instructional technologies. Participants will gain practical experience in curriculum planning that takes specific advantage of technology to enhance and extend learning. Course requirements are aligned with national and state technology standards.

IDS 2113. Society and Social Issues. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
This course explores contemporary social issues resulting from modern globalization and transnationalism from diverse disciplinary perspectives. Students investigate data and relate scholarship to understand the nature of global changes, as well as their impact on the world’s people and global societies. Personal and social responsibility in relation to social issues will be explored through a variety of global, national, regional, and community-based topics. Students will be expected to synthesize disciplinary studies and demonstrate their connections of global issues to local contexts through written, oral, and visual representations. May be applied toward the Core Curriculum requirement in Social and Behavioral Sciences.

IDS 2403. Physical Science. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: Completion of Mathematics and Science Core Curriculum requirements. Study of fundamental laws that govern the universe, including mechanics, thermodynamics, electromagnetism, and quantum theory, and how these relate to physics and chemistry. Topics will include but not be limited to: basic scientific problem-solving techniques, fundamental forces; energy and how it is conserved and transformed; matter; atomic structure; and chemical interactions. (Credit cannot be earned for both IDS 2403 and IDS 3234.).

IDS 2413. Earth Systems Science. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: Completion of Mathematics and Science Core Curriculum requirements. This course provides a look at the Earth system as a whole. Emphasis will be on the interrelationships between biological, geological, hydrological, climatological, and human systems on local, continental and global scales. The interactions between the hydrosphere, atmosphere, biosphere, cryosphere, and lithosphere that together make up the Earth system will be studied. This interdisciplinary view of our planet highlights the manner in which all systems of the Earth control or influence each other. (Formerly IDS 3213. Credit cannot be earned for both IDS 2413 and IDS 3213. Credit cannot be earned for both IDS 2413 and IDS 3224.).

IDS 3003. STEM in Social Contexts. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: IDS 2113, WRC 1013 and WRC 1023. An exploration of inquiry in STEM fields and how it is situated in local and global sociocultural contexts across time. This course uses an interdisciplinary approach to studying the nature of inquiry, knowledge, and theory development, as well as the mutual relationships between STEM fields and social contexts. (Formerly titled “Science and Humanity.”).

IDS 3013. Diversity, Equity, and the Social Sciences. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: IDS 2113. This course offers learners opportunities to explore issues of diversity and equity by examining the social construction of race, class, sex, sexuality and other markers that may cause social oppression. Students will be invited to engage in in-depth inquiry about knowledge production and identity construction within the dominant discourse, as well as in critical reflection on social transformation practices in schools and communities.

IDS 3123. Culture, Literature, and Fine Arts. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: IDS 2113, WRC 1013, and WRC 1023. An exploration of global changes, as well as their impact on the world’s people and global societies. Personal and social responsibility in relation to social issues will be explored through a variety of global, national, regional, and community-based topics. Students will be expected to synthesize disciplinary studies and demonstrate their connections of global issues to local contexts through written, oral, and visual representations. May be applied toward the Core Curriculum requirement in Social and Behavioral Sciences.

IDS 3201. Inquiry in Physical Science. (0-3) 1 Credit Hour.
Prerequisites: Completion of Mathematics and Science Core Curriculum requirements. Hands-on experimental inquiry with standard laboratory tools and techniques in the fields of physics and chemistry. Major themes include energy, forces, and atomic and subatomic interactions. (Credit cannot be earned for both IDS 3201 and IDS 3234.).

IDS 3211. Inquiry in Earth Systems Science. (0-3) 1 Credit Hour.
Prerequisites: Completion of Mathematics and Science Core Curriculum requirements. Course familiarizes students with laboratory and field tools, techniques, and safety issues and allows them to form a better understanding of major topics in Earth systems science, especially in the areas of hydrology, soils, atmosphere, land cover, and GPS. Students will participate in scientific inquiry investigations of the Earth’s systems and components. (Credit cannot be earned for both IDS 3211 and IDS 3224.) (Formerly titled “Advanced Earth Systems Science Laboratory.”).
IDS 3224. Earth Systems Science Investigations. (2-4) 4 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: Completion of Mathematics and Science Core Curriculum requirements. Integrated online lecture and laboratory course that provides a look at the Earth system as a whole. Emphasis will be on the interrelationships between biological, geological, hydrological, and human systems on local, continental and global scales. The interactions between the hydrosphere, atmosphere, biosphere, and lithosphere that together make up the Earth system will be studied. This interdisciplinary view of our planet highlights the manner in which all systems of the Earth influence each other. Credit for IDS 3224 is equivalent to credit for both IDS 2413 and IDS 3211. Credit cannot be earned for IDS 2413 (or IDS 3213) and IDS 3211 if this course is taken.

IDS 3234. Investigations in Physical Science. (2-4) 4 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: Completion of Mathematics and Science Core Curriculum requirements. Integrated online lecture and laboratory course that provides learners with varied opportunities to build an understanding of intricate relationships commonly addressed in the fields of physics and chemistry, and to evaluate these relationships as a holistic system. Explorations of conceptual ideas will include varied methods of engagement, including hands-on and minds-on experimentation. Credit for IDS 3234 is equivalent to credit for both IDS 2403 and IDS 3201. Credit cannot be earned for IDS 2403 (or IDS 3203) and IDS 3201 if this course is taken.

IDS 3713. Interdisciplinary Inquiry. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: IDS 2113, IDS 3003, IDS 3103, IDS 3123, WRC 1013, and WRC 1023. This course fosters opportunities for engaging in the study of thinking in the sciences, social studies, mathematics, language arts, and fine arts through interdisciplinary investigations. Course experiences include development, practice, and analysis of ways of inquiring in several subject areas and seeking their implications for interdisciplinary inquiries toward critical reflection and transformative praxis.

IDS 4913. Independent Study. (0-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: Permission in writing (form available) from the instructor, the student’s advisor, the Department Chair, and the Dean of the College in which the course is offered. Independent reading, research, discussion, and/or writing under the direction of a faculty member. May be repeated for credit, but not more than 6 semester credit hours of independent study, regardless of discipline, will apply to a bachelor’s degree.

IDS 4993. Honors Thesis. (0-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: Enrollment limited to candidates for honors in the Department of Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching during the last two semesters; consent of the Honors College. Supervised research and preparation for an honors thesis. May be repeated once with advisor’s approval.