

Interdisciplinary Studies Minor Directed Study Application

What is the Interdisciplinary Studies Directed Study?

The Interdisciplinary Studies Directed Study is a College of General Studies course that is a required component of the CGS minor in which a student pursues independent research for four academic credits with a CGS faculty member. In consultation with a CGS faculty member who will guide and supervise the interdisciplinary directed study, the student will create and submit a proposal for the four-credit interdisciplinary directed study to Associate Dean O'Brien Hallstein. Done as a capstone experience, the student and faculty member may choose to focus on any topic, problem, or issue that gives the student the opportunity to deepen their understanding and appreciation of how disciplines intersect and can work together to problem solve, create new knowledge and/or ways of thinking at the intersections of the humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences disciplines. For more information on the Interdisciplinary Studies Minor, visit <http://www.bu.edu/cgs/academics/minor-in-interdisciplinary-studies/>

College of General Studies Policies for a Four-Credit Interdisciplinary Studies Directed Study

- In collaboration with the supervising CGS Professor, the student and professor will clearly identify the topic and submit a proposal for the Interdisciplinary Directed Study. Developing a thorough and academically rigorous proposal takes time, so the professor and student should make time to meet prior to completing the proposal.
- The four-credit Interdisciplinary Directed Study course may not be used to fulfill a CGS required course.
- A CGS Interdisciplinary Directed Study must involve a subject area within the liberal arts and must be interdisciplinary. A student may not undertake a Interdisciplinary Directed Study in any other program to meet the minor requirement.
- The supervising faculty must be a CGS professor.
- A student may not receive more than four credits for one Interdisciplinary Directed Study.
- If taking an Interdisciplinary Directed Study places a student into an overload, the student is responsible for paying overload charges at the current tuition credit rate.
- A student may not complete more than one four-credit Interdisciplinary Directed Study for the Interdisciplinary Studies Minor.

Guidelines for arranging an Interdisciplinary Studies Directed Study

- Identify the topic. How will the topic be addressed with an interdisciplinary approach? What problem will be addressed? What are your research questions?
- Arrange an initial conference with the supervising faculty member(s). The purpose of the meeting is to design a cogent plan for completion of the course. Topics to discuss:
 - **Readings:** What will you be reading—journal articles, essays, books? Specify the number of pages.
 - **Writing:** What are the specific writing requirements? Journal entries, annotated bibliographies, research papers, etc.? How many pages for each assignment?
 - **Exams:** Will there be an examination component to the Study?
 - **Experiential or Field Work:** Is there an experiential piece to your Interdisciplinary Directed Study, e.g., lab work, other field experiences, filming, podcasting, photographing?
 - **Contact Hours with your Professor:** How often will you meet with your professor? What will be the nature of the meetings?
 - **Timeline:** When are your assignments due? When will your exams take place (if applicable)?

There are two sections of the application. One is to be completed by the student, the other by the supervising faculty member. Once the application is complete, the student submits it to CITL, Room 215.

Student Section

Student Name:	BUID#:
Phone #:	Email:
Address:	
Class Year:	CGS Team:

Date of application:				
Directed Study is for:	FALL	SPRING	SUM1	SUM2
Division of Directed Study:	HU	NS	RH	SS
Check if Directed Study is Four-Credits				
Supervising Faculty Member:				
Phone:		Email:		
Supervising Faculty Member:				
Phone:		Email:		
If applicable, please list previous Directed Studies:				

Please address the following and attach to application:

- State the objective and rationale for the Interdisciplinary Directed Study course. Include a detailed description of your plan of study: the topic, interdisciplinary approach, problem/issue addressed, your research question(s), a complete bibliography of the required readings, a description of the writing, field experience, and or digital-media requirements, a timeline of due dates and contact hours, any other requirements of the course agreed upon by you and your professor.
- Please describe how the Interdisciplinary Directed Study fits in with the Interdisciplinary Studies Minor as well as your future academic and career goals.

Supervising Faculty Member Section

Attendance: Approximate number of meetings:		Percentage of final grade reflected by attendance:	
Written Work: How will the 25 pages of required writing be met?	Approx. length of each writing assignments:	Percentage of final grade reflected by writing:	
Other requirements for final grade (please specify and include percentages):			Four-Credit Directed Study Check if Yes

Signatures

You and your supervising faculty must sign the application below (you do not have to obtain the Divisional Chair's and Interdisciplinary Directed Study Coordinator's signatures).

Student: _____ Date: _____

Supervising Faculty: _____ Date: _____

Supervising Faculty: _____ Date: _____

CGS Student Services Office use only

Divisional Chair: _____ Date: _____

Interdisciplinary Directed Study Coordinator: _____ Date: _____
(Associate Dean OBrien Hallstein, Room 215)