

INTERDISCIPLINARY SOCIAL SCIENCES

Mission Statement

At UWF, Interdisciplinary Studies is dedicated to providing excellence in education, personal growth, civic awareness and unique learning experiences by offering cutting-edge programs relevant to the needs of employers in Northwest Florida and beyond. Designed for students desiring a focused yet broad exposure to the complex and interconnected issues, the Interdisciplinary Studies programs provide student-centered learning opportunities for explaining phenomenon, solving problems, creating new knowledge or raising new questions in ways that would have been unlikely through single disciplinary focus. Each of the streams within the Interdisciplinary Social Sciences degree--Children and Society, Nature and Society, and Diversity Studies--provides a program of study developed around central organizing principles with opportunities for focused research and integrated learning experiences that foster both depth of knowledge in a particular discipline as well as breadth of knowledge across the core intellectual disciplines. Each stream culminates in a capstone experience that offers the student opportunities for significant research, independent study, internship, or other type of immersion/placement experience.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students graduating with a degree in Interdisciplinary Social Sciences should be able to:

Content

- Appraise the knowledge, concepts, techniques, and methodology appropriate to the cross- or multi-discipline nature of the Capstone Project
- Identify major issues, debates, or approaches appropriate to the cross- or multi-discipline nature of the Capstone Project
- Synthesize complex information appropriate to the cross- or multi-discipline nature of the Capstone Project
- Develop an argument or project and defend or present it appropriately in accordance with the methods of the cross- or multi-discipline nature of the Capstone Project

Critical Thinking

- Exhibit cross-discipline-based higher order thinking skills
- Distinguish the essential features and underlying issues of a significant problem appropriate to the cross- or multi-discipline stream.
- Select and organize credible evidence to support converging arguments
- Solve cross- or multi-discipline-based problems using strategies appropriate to the subject of the Capstone Project

Communication

- Communicate effectively in one-on-one or group contexts
- Present a complex body of information appropriate to the cross- or multi-discipline stream in written and oral formats clearly and concisely
- Employ writing conventions suitable to the research method and/or creative process of the subject of the Capstone Project

Integrity/Values

- Practice appropriate standards related to respect for intellectual property
- Practice appropriate professional standards of behavior
- Contribute materially to the social needs appropriate to the cross- or multi-discipline stream in an honest, responsible, and respectful manner

Project Management

- Exhibit disciplined work habits as an individual
- Apply cross- or multi-discipline-based knowledge to design a problem-solving strategy
- Conceive, plan, and execute a high-quality research and/or creative capstone project in the appropriate to the cross- or multi-disciplinary context

Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

Students pursuing a baccalaureate degree in Interdisciplinary Social Sciences will be assessed through their performance in the Interdisciplinary Social Sciences core classes and the capstone project. In the core classes, focused exercises and projects will be used to assess progress in the domains of Content, Critical Thinking, Communication, and Integrity/Values. The Capstone Project, a demanding and stream-specific culminating learning experience, will be used to assess overall achievement in all five domains.

Jobs Prospects for Interdisciplinary Social Sciences Graduates

Children and Society

Child Welfare
Advocate
Guidance Counselor
Teacher
Social Worker
Guardian Ad Litem
Case Manager
Parole Officer

Diversity Studies

Human Resources
Community Organizer
Businesses
Public Administration
Activist
Community Agencies
Government Agencies

Nature and Society

Environmental Agencies
Governmental Services
Journalist
Activist
Environmental Educator
Non-Profit Agencies
Conservation Agencies

Find Out More about Interdisciplinary Studies:

<http://uwf.edu/cse/departments/interdisciplinary-studies/>