ABOUT THE MAJOR

The Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies is an inquiry-centered degree for students who want to engage in extended study of a complex problem—one with multiple dimensions or interacting parts that cannot be adequately addressed fully within the confines of a single discipline (field of study). For example, a comprehensive answer to the question, “Can democracy work at a global scale?”, would need to combine insights from a mix of disciplines, such as political science, sociology, mass communications, psychology, geography, economics, philosophy, history, and literature. Addressing complex problems necessitates: depth of knowledge in multiple academic fields, intellectual boundary-crossing in search of ideas, concepts, and techniques, and integration of these to produce a comprehensive solution or understanding. Thus, the BIS offers an academic pathway for students who want to work both within and across multiple academic disciplines while systematically developing the techniques and tools of interdisciplinary inquiry and problem-solving.

ABOUT THIS MAP

The Four-Year Plan is designed only as a guide. It does not guarantee; 1) that all courses listed will be offered during a given semester, or 2) if they are offered that the scheduling will not conflict. Estimated time of completion is based on 15 hour semesters, with no summer classes. A change in hours or courses taken during the summer will either reduce (taking 18 hrs or summers) or extend (taking less than 15 hrs) the time needed. Use this map to help plan and guide your experience at UWG, including academic, co-curricular, and discovery opportunities. Everyone’s experience is different and activities in this map are suggestions. Always consult with your advisors whenever possible for new opportunities and updates.

WHERE CAN YOU GO WITH THIS DEGREE?

- Analytical Chemist
- Biomedical Scientist
- Crime Scene Investigator
- Detective
- Educator
- Forensic Computer Analyst
- Forensic Scientist
- Scientific Laboratory Technician
- Science Writer
- Toxicologist

ADD A CERTIFICATE

- Forensic Sciences
- Geographic Information Systems
- Microbiology

Visit westga.edu/program-maps for the latest version of this major map.

VISIT WOLFWATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION.

HAVE A QUESTION? CHECK IN WITH YOUR ADVISOR!

UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA
YEAR 1

TERM 1: FALL
A1: ENGL 1101
English Composition I
3 CR
B2: MATH 1111/1112/1113
College Algebra, Trigonometry & Analytic Geometry, or Precalculus
3 CR
D1: ANTH 1105
Introduction to Physical Anthropology
3 CR
B1: ORAL COMMUNICATIONS
3 CR

MILESTONES:
• COMPLETE ENG. 1101 WITH C OR BETTER
• CONSIDER A POSSIBLE MINOR DECLARATION AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE TO SELECT THE APPROPRIATE LAB SCIENCE COURSES
• TAKE ANTH 1105

TERM 2: SPRING
A1: ENGL 1102
English Composition II
3 CR
B2: XIDS 2002
Recommended First-Year Seminar
2 CR
D1: BIOL 1108/2108 + LAB
Principles of Biology I
4 CR
F: CRIM 1100
Introduction to Criminal Justice
3 CR
C1: FINE ARTS
3 CR

MILESTONES:
• COMPLETE ENG. 1102 WITH C OR BETTER
• TAKE CRIM 1100

TERM 1: FALL
F: XIDS 2000
Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies
3 CR
E1: HIST 1111 OR 1112
World History
3 CR
F: CHEM 1211 + LAB
Principles of Chemistry I
4 CR
F: MATH 1111/1112
If needed
3 CR
ANTH 4125
World History
3 CR

MILESTONES:
• TAKE XIDS 2000
• TAKE ANTH 4125
• DECLARE YOUR MINOR (IF INTERESTED)

TERM 2: SPRING
F: CHEM 1212 + LAB
Principles of Chemistry II
4 CR
E2: HIST 2111 OR 2112
US History
3 CR
CHEM 3130
Modern Forensic Science
3 CR
C2: PHIL 2030
Introduction to Ethics
3 CR
BIS AREA COURSE
Discipline 1
3/4 CR

MILESTONES:
• TAKE CHEM 3130
• COMPLETE BIOL AND CHEM 1000/2000 LEVEL COURSES
• BEGIN BIS AREA COURSES

TERM 2: SPRING

PAVE YOUR PATH
• Complete a self-assessment to see what careers and majors are right for you.
• Visit Office of Career and Graduate School Connections.
• Create your profile on Handshake.
• Consider applying for an on-campus job.

PAVE YOUR PATH
• Work with your IDS professors in XIDS 3000 to establish your degree plan, including identifying your complex problem and exploring how and what disciplines can help inform your inquiry.

FINISH YOUR COURSEWORK
• Make sure to take XIDS 2000: Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies to start your intellectual, boundary-crossing journey!
• Discover your interests in your core classes. These can help you establish your disciplines.

FINISH YOUR COURSEWORK
• Attend UNG Scholars’ Day.
• Check what university associations and community organizations relate to your disciplines.

CONNECT OFF-CAMPUS
• Complete an internship in your field.
• Consider a summer or part-time job.
• Ask your department about networking opportunities with alumni.

CONNECT OFF-CAMPUS
• Take a fitness class, climb the rock wall, or join an intramural team.
• Consider whether counseling is right for you: take a mental health screening.

BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVES
• Visit Wolves Vote to learn about the voting process and registration.
• Consider volunteering for a campaign or organization in your community.

BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVES
• Take a fitness class, climb the rock wall, or join an intramural team.
• Consider whether counseling is right for you: take a mental health screening.

TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF
• Visit Health Services.
• Get the Wolf Life to see all your options.
• Visit the Center for Economic Education and Financial Literacy.

TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF
• Complete a self-assessment to see what careers and majors are right for you.
• Visit Office of Career and Graduate School Connections.
• Create your profile on Handshake.
• Consider applying for an on-campus job.

PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE
• Draft your resume and attend a resume blitz.
• Learn about how to network on social media and update your Handshake profile.
• Draft your personal statement.
• Visit the graduate school to find out about graduate programs and admission requirements.

PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE
• Draft your resume and attend a resume blitz.
• Learn about how to network on social media and update your Handshake profile.
• Draft your personal statement.
• Visit the graduate school to find out about graduate programs and admission requirements.

TERM 2: SPRING
16 FALL CREDIT HOURS + 16/17 SPRING CREDIT HOURS = 32/33 CREDIT HOURS

TERM 1: FALL
16 FALL CREDIT HOURS + 15 SPRING CREDIT HOURS = 31 CREDIT HOURS
### YEAR 3

#### TERM 1: FALL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E3: POLS 1101 American Government</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIS AREA COURSE Discipline 1</td>
<td>3/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIS AREA COURSE Discipline 2</td>
<td>3/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELECTIVE/MINOR</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELECTIVE/MINOR</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MILESTONES:**
- Complete at least 2 BIS AREA courses
- Begin minor/elective

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#### TERM 2: SPRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XIDS 3000 Interdisciplinary Methods</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIS AREA COURSE Discipline 3</td>
<td>3/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E4: SOCIAL SCIENCE</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELECTIVE/MINOR</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MILESTONES:**
- Complete Core
- Take XIDS 3000, complete capstone plan
- Continue taking BIS area courses
- Continue minor/elective

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#### YEAR 4

#### TERM 1: FALL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XIDS 4000 Interdisciplinary Capstone</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIS AREA COURSE Discipline 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ELECTIVE/MINOR</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**MILESTONES:**
- Complete XIDS 4000 capstone, submit project
- Continue BIS area courses
- Continue minor/elective

#### TERM 2: SPRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIS AREA COURSE Discipline 5</td>
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<td>ELECTIVE/MINOR</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELECTIVE/MINOR</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MILESTONES:**
- Complete all BIS area courses
- Complete all required courses
- Total credit hours required to graduate: 120

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### CRUSH YOUR COURSEWORK
- Work with your IDS professors in XIDS 3000 to establish your degree plan, including identifying your complex problem and exploring how and what disciplines can help inform your inquiry.
- Attend UWG Scholars’ Day.
- Check out students’ stories of their experiences.
- Complete an internship in your field.
- Consider a study abroad program. Check out students’ stories of their experiences.
- Take a fitness class, climb the rock wall, or join an intramural team.
- Draft your resume and attend a resume blitz.
- Request references from professors and supervisors.
- Draft your resume cover letter and personal statement and revise it with career services.

### FIND YOUR PLACE
- In a student organization? Suggest you all complete an implicit bias workshop.
- Consider running for an officer position in a student organization.
- Hone your leadership skills by mentoring new IDS majors!
- Ask for advice from professionals in your field of interest.
- Explore career shadowing opportunities.

### BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVES
- Assess your cultural competency.
- Consider working abroad and research visa regulations.
- Explore practices of creating more inclusive careers.
- Explore a farmer’s market for fresh produce.
- Develop a post-graduation exercise plan.
- Explore career shadowing opportunities.

### CONNECT OFF-CAMPUS
- Consider a study abroad program. Check out students’ stories of their experiences.
- Ask for advice from professionals in your field of interest.
- Explore career shadowing opportunities.
- Request references from professors and supervisors.
- Draft your resume cover letter and personal statement and revise it with career services.
- Attend business fairs and career fairs at UWG and across the state.
- Attend an interview workshop.
- Apply for graduate programs.

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**15/17 FALL CREDIT HOURS + 15/16 SPRING CREDIT HOURS = 30 CREDIT HOURS**