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?

- Educator
- Educational Administration & Leadership
- Human Resources Management
- Journalism
- Legislative Assistant
- Public Relations Manager or Specialist
- Research Analyst
- School Counseling & Admissions
- Training & Professional Development
- Writer

ADD A CERTIFICATE

- Discipline Specific Writing
- Ethics
- Human Rights Advocacy
- Nonprofit Management & Community Development
- Social Services

Visit westga.edu/program-maps for the latest version of this major map.
### YEAR 1

#### TERM 1: FALL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A1:</strong> ENGL 1101 English Composition I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E1 OR E2</strong> World or US History</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B2:</strong> XIDS 2002 First Year Seminar</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>F:</strong> XIDS 2000 Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>D1:</strong> SCIENCE + LAB</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**MILESTONES:**
- **COMPLETE ENGL 1101 WITH C OR BETTER**
- **COMPLETE LAB SCIENCE**
- **DECLARE MAJOR COMPLETE**

#### TERM 2: SPRING

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A1:</strong> ENGL 1102 English Composition II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A2:</strong> MATH 1401 (Recommended) Elementary Statistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E1 OR E2</strong> World or US History</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B1:</strong> ORAL COMMUNICATIONS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>F:</strong> DISCIPLINE 1 FOUNDATION COURSE</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MILESTONES:**
- **COMPLETE ENGL 1102 C OR BETTER**
- **COMPLETE AREA A2 MATH**
- **EARN 15 OR MORE CREDIT HOURS**

#### CRUSH 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.

#### FIND YOUR PLACE

- **COMPLETE ENGL 1102 WITH C OR BETTER**
- **COMPLETE LAB SCIENCE**
- **DECLARE MAJOR COMPLETE**

#### BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVES

- **COMPLETE CORE**
- **COMPLETE ENGL 1101 WITH C OR BETTER**

#### TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

- **COMPLETE A2 CORE**
- **COMPLETE AREA A2 MATH**
- **EARN 15 OR MORE CREDIT HOURS**

#### PAVE YOUR PATH

- **COMPLETE A2 CORE**
- **COMPLETE AREA A2 MATH**
- **EARN 15 OR MORE CREDIT HOURS**

### YEAR 2

#### TERM 1: FALL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>E3:</strong> POLS 1101 American government</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>F:</strong> ELECTIVE Any course at 1000 or 2000 level</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C1:</strong> FINE ARTS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>D1:</strong> NON-LAB SCIENCE</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>F:</strong> DISCIPLINE 2 FOUNDATION COURSE</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MILESTONES:**
- **COMPLETE CORE**
- **COMPLETE AREA A2 MATH**
- **COMPLETE ENGL 1101 WITH C OR BETTER**

#### 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.

#### FIND YOUR PLACE

- **COMPLETE CORE**
- **COMPLETE ENGL 1102 WITH C OR BETTER**
- **COMPLETE AREA A2 MATH**

#### BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVES

- **COMPLETE CORE**
- **COMPLETE ENGL 1102 WITH C OR BETTER**
- **COMPLETE AREA A2 MATH**

#### TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

- **COMPLETE A2 CORE**
- **COMPLETE AREA A2 MATH**
- **EARN 15 OR MORE CREDIT HOURS**

#### PAVE YOUR PATH

- **COMPLETE A2 CORE**
- **COMPLETE AREA A2 MATH**
- **EARN 15 OR MORE CREDIT HOURS**

15 FALL CREDIT HOURS + 15 SPRING CREDIT HOURS = 30 CREDIT HOURS

15 FALL CREDIT HOURS + 15 SPRING CREDIT HOURS = 30 CREDIT HOURS
**TERM 1: FALL**

**DISCIPLINE 1 CLASS**
3000 or 4000 level course
3 CREDIT HOURS

**DISCIPLINE 2 CLASS**
3000 or 4000 level course
3 CREDIT HOURS

**ACADEMIC ELECTIVE**
1000-4000 level course
3 CREDIT HOURS

**UPPER DIVISION ELECTIVE**
1000-4000 level course
3 CREDIT HOURS

**MILESTONE:**
• **XIDS 3000 REQUIRES A GRADE OF C OR BETTER**

**TERM 2: SPRING**

**XIDS 3000**
Interdisciplinary Methods
3 CREDIT HOURS

**DISCIPLINE 1 CLASS**
3000 or 4000 level course
3 CREDIT HOURS

**DISCIPLINE 2 CLASS**
3000 or 4000 level course
3 CREDIT HOURS

**ACADEMIC ELECTIVE**
1000-4000 level course
3 CREDIT HOURS

**UPPER DIVISION ELECTIVE**
1000-4000 level course
3 CREDIT HOURS

**MILEStoneS:**
• MEET WITH DISCIPLINARY MENTORS ABOUT DEGREE PLAN AND CAPSTONE PROJECT
• SUBMIT PLAN FOR CAPSTONE PROJECT

**TERM 3: FALL**

**DISCIPLINE 1 CLASS**
3000 or 4000 level course
3 CREDIT HOURS

**DISCIPLINE 2 CLASS**
3000 or 4000 level course
3 CREDIT HOURS

**ACADEMIC ELECTIVE**
1000-4000 level course
3 CREDIT HOURS

**UPPER DIVISION ELECTIVE**
1000-4000 level course
3 CREDIT HOURS

**MILESTONE:**
• **APPLY FOR GRADUATION**

**TERM 4: FALL**

**DISCIPLINE 1 CLASS**
3000 or 4000 level course
3 CREDIT HOURS

**DISCIPLINE 2 CLASS**
3000 or 4000 level course
3 CREDIT HOURS

**ACADEMIC ELECTIVE**
1000-4000 level course
3 CREDIT HOURS

**UPPER DIVISION ELECTIVE**
1000-4000 level course
3 CREDIT HOURS

**MILESTONE:**
• This is the time for your XIDS capstone! Make sure you have 9 hours of 3000–4000 level coursework for each of your two disciplines!

**TERM 2: SPRING**

**XIDS 4000**
Interdisciplinary Capstone
3 CREDIT HOURS

**ACADEMIC ELECTIVE**
1000-4000 level course
3 CREDIT HOURS

**ACADEMIC ELECTIVE**
1000-4000 level course
3 CREDIT HOURS

**ACADEMIC ELECTIVE**
1000-4000 level course
3 CREDIT HOURS

**UPPER DIVISION ELECTIVE**
1000-4000 level course
3 CREDIT HOURS

**MILESTONE:**
• **APPLY FOR GRADUATION**

**TERM 3: FALL**

**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.

**FIND YOUR PLACE**
• Attend UWG Scholars’ Day.
• Check out what university associations and community organizations relate to your disciplines.

**BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVES**
• In a student organization? Suggest you all complete an implicit bias workshop.
• Consider a study abroad program. Check out students’ stories of their experiences.

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

**TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF**
• 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.

**PAVE YOUR PATH**
• 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 3: FALL**

**CRUSH YOUR COURSEWORK**
• This is the time for your XIDS capstone! Make sure you have 9 hours of 3000–4000 level coursework for each of your two disciplines!

**FIND YOUR PLACE**
• Hone your leadership skills by mentoring new IDS majors.
• Consider running for an officer position in a student organization.

**BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVES**
• Assess your cultural competency.
• Consider working abroad and research visa regulations.
• Explore practices of creating more inclusive careers.

**CONNECT OFF-CAMPUS**
• Ask for advice from professionals in your field of interest.
• Explore career shadowing opportunities.

**TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF**
• Explore a farmer’s market for fresh produce.
• Develop a post-graduation exercise plan.
• Explore your loan repayment options and complete your exit counseling.

**PAVE YOUR PATH**
• 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.