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?

- Conservation biologist
- Environmental scientist
- Environmental educator
- Fire ecologist
- Land reclamation inspector
- National resources manager
- Park ranger
- Soil and water conservationist
- Watershed scientist
- Wetland ecologist

ADD A CERTIFICATE

- Atmospheric Science
- Global Studies
- Health and Society
- Microbiology
- Stream Restoration
- Wildlife Ecology

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!
YEAR 1

TERM 1: FALL

A1: ENGL 1101
3 CREDIT HOURS
English Composition I

A2: MATH 1111
3 CREDIT HOURS
College Algebra

E1: HIST 1111 OR 1112
3 CREDIT HOURS
World History

E3: POLS 1101
3 CREDIT HOURS
American Government

B1: ORAL COMMUNICATIONS
3 CREDIT HOURS

TERM 2: SPRING

A1: ENGL 1102
3 CREDIT HOURS
English Composition II

F: MATH 1113
4 CREDIT HOURS
Precalculus

F: BIOL 1107 + LAB
4 CREDIT HOURS
Principles of Biology I

E2: HIST 2111 OR 2112
3 CREDIT HOURS
US History

B2: INSTITUTIONAL OPTIONS
1 CREDIT HOUR

MILESTONES:
• COMPLETE ENGL 1101 WITH C OR BETTER
• COMPLETE AREA A2 ELECTIVE MATH

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

TERM 2: SPRING

XIDS 2000
3 CREDIT HOURS
Interdisciplinary Studies

D1: CHEM 1212 + LAB
4 CREDIT HOURS
Principles of Chemistry II

D2: MATH 1401
3 CREDIT HOURS
Elementary Statistics

F: GEOL 1121 + LAB
3 CREDIT HOURS
Physical Geology

MILESTONES:
• COMPLETE CHEM 1212/1211L WITH C OR BETTER
• COMPLETE XIDS 2000 WITH C OR BETTER
• COMPLETE BIS DEGREE PLAN AND SUBMIT TO REGISTRAR

3 SUMMER CREDIT HOURS = 31 CREDIT HOURS

TERM 3: SUMMER

E4: ECON 2106
3 CREDIT HOURS
Principles of Microeconomics

14 FALL CREDIT HOURS + 14 SPRING CREDIT HOURS + 3 SUMMER CREDIT HOURS = 31 CREDIT HOURS
### YEAR 3

#### TERM 1: FALL
- **BIOL 3135**
  - Ecology
  - 4 credit hours
- **WFE1: BIOL 4427**
  - Conservation Biology
  - 4 credit hours
- **HD1: ECON 3480**
  - Environment & Natural Resource Economics
  - 3 credit hours
- **ELECTIVE**
  - 3000/4000 level elective
  - 4 credit hours

#### 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.

#### MILESTONES:
- Complete BIOL 3135
- Complete XIDS 3000 with C or better & finish capstone proposal/plan

#### TERM 2: SPRING
- **XIDS 3000**
  - Interdisciplinary Methods
  - 3 credit hours
- **WFE2: BIOL 4425**
  - Fire Ecology
  - 4 credit hours
- **ELECTIVE**
  - 3000/4000 level elective
  - 3 credit hours
- **C2: HUMANITIES**
  - 3 credit hours

#### MILESTONES:
- Complete BIOL 3135
- Complete XIDS 3000 with C or better & finish capstone proposal/plan

#### TERM 3: SUMMER
- **HD2: POLS 4209**
  - Environmental Policy
  - 3 credit hours

15 FALL CREDIT HOURS + 13 SPRING CREDIT HOURS + 3 SUMMER CREDIT HOURS = 31 CREDIT HOURS

#### TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF
- 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.

#### PAVE YOUR PATH
- Complete an internship in your field.
- Consider a summer or part-time job.
- Ask your department about networking opportunities with alumni.

### YEAR 4

#### TERM 1: FALL
- **AWL1: GEOL 3603**
  - Environmental Geology
  - 3 credit hours
- **WFE3: BIOL 4424**
  - Wildlife Habitat Ecology
  - 4 credit hours
- **HD3: GEOG 3405**
  - Geographies of Sustainability
  - 3 credit hours
- **ELECTIVE**
  - 3000/4000 level elective
  - 4 credit hours

#### 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!

#### MILESTONES:
- Complete XIDS 4000 with C or better along with capstone project
- Reach 39 credit hours at 3000/4000 level & 120 credit hours total

#### TERM 2: SPRING
- **XIDS 4000**
  - Interdisciplinary Capstone
  - 3 credit hours
- **METHODS: ENGL 3405**
  - Professional & Technical Writing
  - 3 credit hours
- **ELECTIVE**
  - 3000/4000 level elective
  - 4 credit hours

#### MILESTONES:
- Complete XIDS 4000 with C or better along with capstone project
- Reach 39 credit hours at 3000/4000 level & 120 credit hours total

#### TERM 3: SUMMER
- **HD2: POLS 4209**
  - Environmental Policy
  - 3 credit hours

14 FALL CREDIT HOURS + 14 SPRING CREDIT HOURS = 28 CREDIT HOURS

#### 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
- 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.