Interdisciplinary Liberal Studies

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Interdisciplinary Liberal Studies (IDLS) is the undergraduate major for students pursuing teaching licensure in inclusive early childhood education (early childhood education, preK-3 and early childhood special education, birth to five), elementary education (PreK-6), middle grades education (6-8) and special education (K-12). The IDLS major meets Virginia teacher competencies by providing breadth and integration across the content areas of English and language arts, history, social sciences, mathematics, natural sciences, and technology. IDLS requirements vary by education program, as outlined in this section, and a current IDLS checksheet is available at www.jmu.edu/idls/. Students declaring the IDLS major must also declare one of the teacher education programs previously listed. Detailed information on teacher education programs is in the College of Education section of this catalog.

In the unusual circumstance that a student exits the education licensure pre-professional program late in his/her college career, the IDLS director may permit the student to complete the IDLS degree with the addition of an appropriate minor.

Major and Degree Requirements

Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Liberal Studies for Inclusive Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education and Special Education Licensure

Degree Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Courses</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IDLS and General Education core</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remaining General Education</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDLS upper-level concentration</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education program</td>
<td>35-47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>0-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>120</strong></td>
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Core Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Requirements</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Arts and Communication Writing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GWR 103. Critical Reading and Writing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Communication (choose one)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCOM 121. Fundamental Communication: Presentations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCOM 122. Fundamental Communication: Individual Presentations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCOM 123. Fundamental Communication: Group Presentations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature (choose one)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GENG 235. Survey of English Literature: From Beowulf to the 18th Century</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GENG 236. Survey of English Literature: 18th Century to Modern</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GENG 247. Survey of American Literature: From the Beginning to the Civil War</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GENG 248. Survey of American Literature: From the Civil War to the Modern Period</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GENG 239. Studies in World Literature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GENG 260. Survey of African-American Literature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History/Social Sciences</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GHIST 101. World History to 1500</td>
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<tr>
<td>GHIST 102. World History Since 1500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. History</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>GHIST 225. U.S. History</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPOSC 225. U.S. Government</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics (choose one)</td>
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<tr>
<td>GECON 200. Introduction to Macroeconomics</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECON 201. Principles of Economics (Micro)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography (choose one)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEGG 200. Geography: The Global Dimension</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEGG 280. Human Geography: The Cultural Landscape</td>
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<tr>
<td>GANTH 195. Cultural Anthropology</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology (choose one)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPSYC 160. Life Span Human Development</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health (choose one)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GKN 100. Lifetime Fitness and Wellness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GTH 100. Personal Wellness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

http://www.jmu.edu/catalog/12
Mathematics

Fundamentals of Math (all required)  
MATH 107. Fundamentals of Math I  
MATH 108. Fundamentals of Math II  
MATH 207. Fundamentals of Mathematics III

Natural Sciences

9

IDLS students should select Track II in Cluster Three

GSCI 161. Science Processes  
GSCI 162. The Science of the Planets  
GSCI 163. The Matter of Matter  
GSCI 164. Physical Science: Learning Through Teaching  
GSCI 165. The Way Life Works  
GSCI 166. Environment in Context

Upper Level concentration requirement

21 hours in either math/science/technology or humanities/social sciences.

When students in IECE, ELED or EXED declare the IDLS major, they also select an upper-level concentration in either mathematics/science or humanities/social sciences. The concentration provides depth and integration beyond the core requirements. Course requirements for each concentration are listed in the IDLS checklist online at http://www.jmu.edu/idls/IDLSChecklists.shtml.

Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Liberal Studies for Middle Education Licensure

Degree Requirements Credit Hours

IDLS and General Education core 46
IDLS upper-level concentration 36-42
Education program 32
Elective 0-6

120

The IDLS middle education curriculum consists of 46 hours of core requirements and 36-42 hours in the content concentrations, depending upon which concentrations are selected. Students will select two concentrations from four: science, mathematics, social studies and language arts. Mathematics and science concentrations are 18 hours. Language arts and social studies concentrations are 21 hours. Any combination of concentrations will satisfy the teacher licensure endorsement requirements for Middle Grades licensure in Virginia. The Middle Grades curriculum of IDLS is open only to Middle Grades licensure students.

Core Requirements for IDLS Middle Education

Students follow the General Education check sheet for their catalog year, and complete these specific IDLS core requirements:

Cluster 2: Must select GIST 102 from Group One
Cluster 3: Must select Track 2 (the GSCI 16X series); must complete the series with GSCI 166; must take MATH 108 in addition to MATH 107
Cluster 4: Must select GECO 200
Cluster 5: Must select GSYSY 160

Middle Education Concentration Options

Middle education students will complete the required courses for any two of the four areas: science, mathematics, language arts and social studies.

Concentration Credit Hours

Science 18

ASTR 301. Searching for Life in the Universe  
BIO 366. Plants and the Environment  
CHEM 280. Practical Applications in Chemistry for Teachers  
GEOL 301. Earth Science for Teachers  
ISAT 495. Technology in our World

Social Science 21

HIST 350. Virginia History  
ANTH 368. Modern American Culture  
GEOG 280. Human Geography: The Cultural Landscape  
Choose one:  
ANTH 327. Ancient North American Civilizations  
HIST 453. Patterns of Global History  
Choose one:  
REL 305. Islamic Religious Tradition  
REL 310. Hindu Traditions  
REL 312. Religions of East Asia  
REL 320. Judaism  
REL 385. Buddhism  
HIST 339. Selected Themes, when topic is American Religious History  
POSC 240. Comparative Politics  
IDLS 400. Seminar in Liberal Studies

Mathematics 18

MATH 207. Fundamentals of Mathematics III  
MATH 304. Principles of Algebra  
MATH 305. Principles of Geometry  
MATH 306. Principles of Analysis  

Language Arts 21

Choose one:  
ENG 421. Traditional English Grammar  
ENG 422. Modern English Grammar  
Choose one:  
ENG 325. Romantic Poetry  
ENG 331. Modern Poetry  
ENG 332. Contemporary Poetry  
ENG 362. African American Poets  
ENG 367. Women’s Poetry  
Choose one:  
ENG 299. Writing about Literature  
ENG 396. Advanced Composition  
WRTC 346. Teaching Writing  
Choose one:  
ENG 440. Texts for Teachers I (poetry or drama)  
ENG 441. Texts for Teachers II (fiction or nonfiction)  
Any upper level English elective  
Choose one:  
ENG 456. Shakespeare’s Tragedies and Romances  
ENG 457. Shakespeare’s Comedies and Histories

http://www.jmu.edu/catalog/12
Choose one:
- ENG 330. The Nineteenth Century Novel
- ENG 355. Southern Literature
- ENG 356. Modern American Novel
- ENG 357. Contemporary American Fiction
- ENG 361. African American Fiction Writers
- ENG 368. Women's Fiction
- IDLS 400. Seminar in Liberal Studies

1 Students who select endorsements in Social Science and Language Arts will take IDLS 400 once, and then a 300-400 elective in one area. The IDLS 400 is an interdisciplinary course drawing upon materials from language arts and social science disciplines. As such, the course is suitable for students coming from an LA endorsement concentration, SS endorsement concentration, or both.

**IDLs Advisement**

IDLs majors are assigned two advisers, one to guide them through teacher education program requirements and another to guide them through IDLS major requirements. Students should check with both advisers regularly to ensure timely graduation. These advisers are assigned when students officially declare their education program and IDLS major. To declare, students must acquire education and IDLS academic unit head signatures on a “Change or Declaration of Major” form.

**Teacher Licensure**

To be eligible for teacher licensure in inclusive early childhood, elementary, middle school and special education, students graduating with the Bachelor of Science degree in IDLS must complete the appropriate teacher education program at the undergraduate and graduate (Master of Arts in Teaching) levels.

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