
Interdisciplinary Liberal Studies

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[Print Version of Catalog](#) ■

Department of Interdisciplinary Liberal Studies

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. Students declaring the IDLS major must also declare one of the teacher education programs 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.

Degree and Major Requirements

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

Degree Requirements

Required Courses	Credit Hours
IDLS and General Education core	53
Remaining General Education	6
IDLS upper-level concentration	21
Education program	35-47
Elective	0-5
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	120

Core requirements

Core Requirements

Credit Hours

Language Arts and Communication

Writing

[WRTC 103](#). Critical Reading and Writing

Oral Communication (choose one)

[SCOM 121](#). Fundamental Communication: Presentations

[SCOM 122](#). Fundamental Human Communication: Individual Presentations

[SCOM 123](#). Fundamental Human Communication: Group Presentations

Literature (choose one)

[ENG 235](#). Survey of English Literature: From Beowulf to the 18th Century

[ENG 236](#). Survey of English Literature: 18th Century to Modern

[ENG 247](#). Survey of American Literature: From the Beginning to the Civil War

[ENG 248](#). Survey of American Literature: From the Civil War to the Modern Period

[ENG 239](#). Studies in World Literature

[ENG 260](#). Survey of African-American Literature

History/Social Sciences

Global History (both required)

6

[HIST 101](#). World History to 1500

[HIST 102](#). World History Since 1500

U.S. History

[HIST 225](#). U.S. History

Government

[POSC 225](#). U.S. Government

Economics (choose one)

[ECON 200](#). Introduction to Macroeconomics

[ECON 201](#). Principles of Economics (Micro)

Geography (choose one)

[GEOG 200](#). Geography: The Global Dimension
[GEOG 280](#). Human Geography: The Cultural Landscape
[ANTH 195](#). Cultural Anthropology
 Psychology
[PSYC 160](#). Life Span Human Development
 Health (choose one)
[KIN 100](#). Lifetime Fitness and Wellness
[HTH 100](#). Personal Wellness
 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
[ISCI 171](#). Earth and Planetary Science for Teachers
[ISCI 172](#). Physical Science for Teachers
[ISCI 173](#). Life and Environmental Science for Teachers
 Upper Level concentration requirement

IDLS Concentration

In addition to the IDLS core, students will complete an IDLS concentration to provide depth and integration beyond core requirements. The four concentration options are noted below, with each option requiring seven upper-level courses.

- Option 1: Math and Science and Technology. Take four courses in math and three in science and technology, or take three in math and four in science and technology.
- Option 2: Humanities and Social Sciences. Choose a humanities and social science track (1-7) and take six courses in that track, plus the [IDLS 400](#) capstone.
- Option 3: Math and Humanities and Social Sciences. Choose a humanities and social science track (1-7). Take three courses in the humanities and social sciences track and four in math, or take four in the humanities and social sciences track and three in math. The humanities and social sciences courses can include [IDLS 400](#), but it is not required.
- Option 4: Science and Technology and Humanities and Social Sciences. Choose a humanities and social science track (1-7). Take three courses in the humanities and social sciences track and four in science and technology, or take four in the humanities and social sciences track and three in science and technology. The humanities and social sciences courses can include [IDLS 400](#), but it is not required.

The current list of concentration courses is available on the IDLS website.

Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Liberal Studies for Middle Education Licensure

Required Courses	Credit Hours
IDLS and General Education core	46
IDLS upper-level concentration	36-42

Education program	32
Elective	0-6
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	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](#) planning guide for their catalog year, and complete these specific IDLS core requirements:

- [Cluster 2](#): Must select [HIST 102](#) from Group One
- [Cluster 3](#): Must select Track 2 (the ISCI 17X series); must complete the series with [ISCI 173](#); must take [MATH 108](#) in addition to [MATH 107](#)
- [Cluster 4](#): Must select [ECON 200](#)
- [Cluster 5](#): Must select [PSYC 160](#)

Middle Education Concentration Options

Middle education students will complete the required courses for any two of the four concentration areas: science, mathematics, language arts and social studies. IDLS middle education concentrations provide depth and integration beyond core requirements. The current list of concentration courses is available on the IDLS website.

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.