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. 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

IDLS and General Education core
Remaining General Education
IDLS upper-level concentration
Education program
Elective

Credit Hours

53
6
21
35-47
0-5
120

Core Requirements

Core Requirements

Language Arts and Communication
Writing
GWRTC 103. Critical Reading and Writing
Oral Communication (choose one)
GCOM 121. Fundamental Communication: Presentations
GCOM 122. Fundamental Human Communication: Individual Presentations
GCOM 123. Fundamental Human Communication: Group Presentations
Literature (choose one)
GENG 236. Survey of English Literature: From Beowulf to the 18th Century
GENG 237. Survey of English Literature: 18th Century to Modern
GENG 247. Survey of American Literature: From the Beginning to the Civil War
GENG 248. Survey of American Literature: From the Civil War to the Modern Period
GENG 239. Studies in World Literature
GENG 260. Survey of African-American Literature

History/Social Sciences

Global History (both required) 6
GHIST 101. World History to 1500
GHIST 102. World History Since 1500
U.S. History 4
GHIST 225. U.S. History
Government 4
GPOSC 225. U.S. Government
Economics (choose one) 3
GECO 200. Introduction to Macroeconomics
ECON 201. Principles of Economics (Micro)
Geography (choose one) 3
GEGEO 200. Geography: The Global Dimension
GEOG 280. Human Geography: The Cultural Landscape
GANTH 195. Cultural Anthropology
Psychology 3
GPSYC 160. Life Span Human Development
Health (choose one) 3
GKIN 100. Lifetime Fitness and Wellness
GHTH 100. Personal Wellness

http://www.jmu.edu/catalog/14
Mathematics
Fundamentals of Math (all required) 9
MATH 107. Fundamentals of Math I 3
MATH 108. Fundamentals of Math II 3
MATH 207. Fundamentals of Mathematics III 3

Natural Sciences 9
IDLS students should select Track II in Cluster Three
GSCI 161. Science Processes 1
GSCI 162. The Science of the Planets 2
GSCI 163. The Matter of Matter 1
GSCI 164. Physical Science: Learning Through Teaching 2
GSCI 165. The Way Life Works 1
GSCI 166. Environment in Context 2

Upper Level concentration requirement 21

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

Degree Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Requirement</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IDLS and General Education core</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDLS upper-level concentration</td>
<td>36-42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education program</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>0-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 HIST 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 GECON 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.

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