



Interdisciplinary Liberal Studies Major (ELED, IECE, SPED Licensure)

Thank you for your interest in IDLS, the required content-area major for Inclusive Early Childhood (birth – 3rd grade), Elementary (PK-6th grade), and Middle Grades (6th - 8th grade) undergraduate pre-professional programs. It is the recommended content-area major for Special Education (K-12th grade).

The IDLS major equips prospective classroom teachers with a substantial, interdisciplinary knowledge of subjects in the liberal arts, social sciences, sciences and math.

The major consists of a **core** and **concentration**:

- The IDLS **core** consists of 100-200 level courses in subject areas mandated by the state of Virginia for all classroom teachers. Courses in the core meet students' general education requirements and BS degree requirements.
- The IDLS **concentration**: Majors also select one concentration area in a range of subjects at the 300-400 level (seven courses, 21 credit hours). Concentration courses give our majors an opportunity to explore interdisciplinary subjects that most interest them and in more depth than the core. Courses approved for these concentrations are updated each semester and posted on the main IDLS website, <https://www.jmu.edu/idls/>.

IDLS majors must also complete a teaching **minor** in one of these license areas:

- Elementary Education: Contact Dr. Joy Myers, 540.568.6255 | email: myersjk@jmu.edu
- Inclusive Early Childhood: Contact Dr. Mira Williams at 540.568.3473 | email: efex@jmu.edu
- Special Education: Contact Dr. Sharon Blatz at 540.568.6784 | email: efex@jmu.edu
- Middle Grades Education: Contact Dr. Katie Dredger at 540.568.4550 | email: middlesecondaryeduc@jmu.edu

Advising: IDLS majors have an IDLS advisor and an education minor advisor. IDLS advisors help students with course scheduling and can grant permission for course substitutions in the major. Education advisors help with course scheduling and licensure requirements. Students should contact both advisors regularly.

IDLS core requirements* (IECE, ELED and SPED minors)

Student Name _____ GPA _____ VCCS Waiver _____

Student ID # _____

| Language Arts | | Natural Sciences | | Remaining General Education Requirements | |
|--|----------------------------|--|---|---|------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> WRTC 103 | Written Communication | <input type="checkbox"/> ISCI 171 | Earth and Planetary Science for Teachers | Critical Thinking (choose one) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SCOM 121, 122, or 123 | Oral Communication | <input type="checkbox"/> ISCI 172 | Physical Sciences for Teachers | <input type="checkbox"/> BUS 160, HIST 150, ISAT 160, SMAD 150, PHIL 120, 150 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ENG 235, 236, 247, 248, 239, or 260 | Literature Survey | <input type="checkbox"/> ISCI 173 | Life and Environmental Science for Teachers | Visual & Performing Arts (choose one) | |
| | | Social Sciences | | <input type="checkbox"/> ART 200, ARTH 205, 206, MUS 200, 203, THEA 210 | |
| History | | <input type="checkbox"/> POSC 225 | United States Government | Mathematics*** | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HIST 101 | World History to 1500 | <input type="checkbox"/> PSYC 160 | Developmental Psychology | <input type="checkbox"/> MATH 107 | Fundamentals I |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> KIN 100 or HTH 100 | Personal Wellness | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HIST 102 | World History 1500-Present | <input type="checkbox"/> ECON 200 or 201** | Economics | <input type="checkbox"/> MATH 108 | Fundamental II |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HIST 225 | United States History | <input type="checkbox"/> GEOG 200, 280 or ANTH 195** | Geography | <input type="checkbox"/> MATH 207 | Mathematical Problem Solving |

Notes

* Core courses may not double-count for Concentration area.

** When fulfilling the IDLS "Economics" and "Geography" requirements, students should take ECON 200 and either ANTH 195 or GEOG 200 to also complete General Education requirements in the Cluster 4, Global Experience area.

*** Students must earn a "C-" or better to progress to the next math course in the sequence.

| Requirements for the COE Admission | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> WRTC 103 | <input type="checkbox"/> MATH | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUC 300 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PSYC 160 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2.5 > GPA | <input type="checkbox"/> EXED 200 |

Upper-Level IDLS Concentration (select any one option)

All options require *seven approved* courses (21 credit hours)* at the upper level:

- ❖ **Option 1: Math**/Science***/Technology** (3-4 approved courses in Math and 3-4 courses in Science)
- ❖ **Option 2: Humanities and Social Sciences** (6 approved courses in Humanities and Social Sciences plus IDLS 400, a capstone course). HSS courses must be from at least four different disciplines and only one can be a 200-level course. This option requires selection of a "track" or theme; see IDLS website for "track" choices.
- ❖ **Option 3: Math and Humanities and Social Sciences** (3-4 approved courses in Math and 3-4 approved courses in Humanities and Social Sciences). HSS courses must be from at least four different disciplines and only one can be a 200-level course. This option requires selection of a "track" or theme; see IDLS website for "track" choices.
- ❖ **Option 4: Science and Humanities and Social Sciences** (3-4 approved courses in Science, 3-4 approved courses in Humanities and Social Sciences). HSS courses must be from at least four different disciplines and only one can be a 200-level course. This option requires selection of a "track" or theme; see IDLS website for "track" choices.

Notes

* All courses must be selected from those approved by IDLS each semester. Current approved lists are posted on the IDLS website several weeks before enrollment period.

** Students seeking the Algebra I Endorsement should take the four recommended mathematics courses plus MATH 135.

*** Science course selection should cover biological, earth, and physical sciences (i.e. physics and chemistry). Contact an IDLS advisor for recommendations.

We welcome your questions!

Our office is located in Mountain Hall Rm. 118 on the JMU Campus.

Visit our website at www.jmu.edu/idls for FAQs, forms, education program support and many other resources.

Email general inquiries to garberdv@jmu.edu; academic advising to moghtamx@jmu.edu.