
New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences

www.west.asu.edu/newcollege

Emily F. Cutrer, PhD, Dean

PURPOSE

The New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences offers academic programs that prepare students to take their places as active participants in a rapidly changing social, political, and natural environment. These programs seek to provide students with the skills necessary for independent thinking and effective expression; an understanding and appreciation of diverse cultures past and present; sensitivity to the aesthetic dimensions of human endeavor and the natural environment; and, an appreciation and understanding of scientific perspectives and methods as tools for understanding nature and society. The college's integrating principle or focus is social concern and community engagement.

The college has built a blend of interdisciplinary, integrative, and disciplinary programming that transcends academic boundaries while providing much of the general studies for the campus. The college's teaching and research are guided by a linkage of theory and practice, engaging the local community through service learning activities, internships, and arts programming.

ORGANIZATION

The New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences houses the following academic units:

- Department of Integrated Natural Sciences
- Department of Integrative Studies
- Department of Interdisciplinary Arts and Performance
- Department of Language, Cultures, and History
- Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences
- Department of Women's Studies

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

The Master of Arts degree in Interdisciplinary Studies is a collegewide interdisciplinary program offered by faculty representing the different disciplines that make up the college.

Interdisciplinary Studies

Master's Program

www.west.asu.edu/mais

602/543-6241

FAB N230D

**Candice D. Bredbenner, PhD,
Director and Associate Dean**

Professors: Cutrer, Kirby, Lerman, McGovern, Mueller

Associate Professors: Anokye, Bredbenner, Broaddus, Collins-Chobanian, Cuádriz, Elenes, Gilkeson, Hattenhauer, Mengesha, Miller, Murphy Erfani, Sabatini, Stryker, Taylor, Vaughan, Wertheimer

Assistant Professors: Cabrera, Clark, Marshall, Simmons, Ukpanah

Senior Lecturer: Soto

Fine Arts Specialists: Kennedy, St. Clair

MASTER'S PROGRAM

The Master of Arts degree in Interdisciplinary Studies is a graduate program designed to fulfill the needs of postbaccalaureate students who wish to pursue an advanced degree for

1. job advancement or redirection,
2. personal development and intellectual growth, or
3. preparation for further graduate study.

Prospective students include those working in the public educational system, particularly secondary education teachers who intend to increase and integrate their knowledge in content areas; those employed in the corporate sector and social service system; and professionals who wish to return to the university and pursue enrichment in liberal arts areas.

The degree is composed of 30 semester hours of course work. Three required core courses develop advanced critical thinking skills and knowledge of current research tools, technologies, and methodologies in a variety of fields. Working with a faculty mentor, each student plans a set of emphasis courses to meet their educational goals. Emphasis courses may be selected from graduate course offerings

NEW COLLEGE OF INTERDISCIPLINARY ARTS AND SCIENCES

from departments throughout the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences, as well as from other colleges and schools with approval from the director. Examples include a plan to study ethics and environment, media and ethnicity, urban studies, and the arts. The program of study may include one elective course and will conclude with a capstone experience requiring a written or applied project.

Admission. Admission to the master's program is open to individuals who meet the following criteria:

1. holders of baccalaureate degrees from institutions with regional accreditation,
2. demonstrated promise of success through previous schooling and experience,
3. have academic and career goals that are compatible with the educational objectives of the program, and
4. have taken the Graduate Record Examination (GRE).

The GRE requirement may be waived if the applicant has attended a graduate or professional school that required a standardized admission test.

Application. Application packets are available from the Office of Graduate Studies and the Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies Program Office. The Office of Graduate Studies must receive the application, application fee, and an official transcript from every university or institution attended before an application can be considered. GRE scores must be sent directly to ASU by ETS. The appropriate program forms, letters of recommendation, a résumé, a writing sample, and a personal statement must be sent to the program office. The application deadline is March 15 for fall semester.

Students may elect to take the degree in conjunction with the graduate Certificate in Gerontology.

Send application, application fee, and transcripts to

GRADUATE STUDIES
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY
PO BOX 37100
PHOENIX AZ 85069-7100

All other information for admission processing should be sent to

MA IN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES PROGRAM
NEW COLLEGE OF INTERDISCIPLINARY ARTS
AND SCIENCES
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY
PO BOX 37100
PHOENIX AZ 85069-7100

Admission Process. Each application is reviewed by a faculty committee. Candidates are selected after consideration of the undergraduate GPA, GRE scores, academic and work experiences, letters of recommendation, personal statement, and writing sample, as specified by program application forms.

Program Requirements. This 30-semester-hour degree program includes the following courses:

Required courses

MAS 500 Perspectives in Interdisciplinary Studies.....	3
MAS 501 Models of Inquiry for Contemporary Issues	3

MAS 505 20th Century Thought: Concepts of Change, Culture, and Mind	3
MAS 585 Capstone Course.....	3
Emphasis area.....	15-18
Elective	0-3
Total.....	30

Emphasis Area. Working with a faculty mentor, students select 15 to 18 semester hours of graduate-level course work that reflects a particular area of specialty or interest.

MASTER OF ARTS IN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES (MAS)

MAS 500 Perspectives in Interdisciplinary Studies. (3)

fall and spring

Introduction to interdisciplinary studies through explorations of epistemological and rhetorical practices that bridge traditional disciplines.

MAS 501 Models of Inquiry for Contemporary Issues. (3)

fall, spring, summer

Provides a critical survey of current models of inquiry, tools, processes, and methods in different fields.

MAS 505 20th-Century Thought: Concepts of Change, Culture, and Mind. (3)

fall, spring, summer

Introduces graduate-level interdisciplinary study of key thinkers, movements, theories, and paradigms in 20th-century thought.

MAS 510 Science and Religion: Cosmologies and World Views. (3)

once a year

Examines science and religion, stressing modern scientific findings and philosophical/ historical debates and dialogues.

MAS 511 Technology, Environment, and Humanity. (3)

once a year

Critically analyzes technology in relation to human and environmental issues.

MAS 512 History and Philosophy of the Social Sciences. (3)

once a year

Examines the development, historical context, and long-term importance of major theories of human nature from the 17th century until today.

MAS 513 Sociology of Everyday Life. (3)

once a year

Examines institutional ethnography, a way of exploring the particular and generalized social relations that shape people's everyday experiences. Prerequisite: graduate standing or instructor approval.

MAS 553 Latin American Cities. (3)

once a year

Interdisciplinary study of Latin American world cities (e.g., Mexico City, Santiago), emphasizing integration with U.S. cities, including Los Angeles and Phoenix.

MAS 585 Capstone Course. (3)

fall, spring, summer

Assists students in preparing their capstone project, which represents the culmination of their study for the MA in Interdisciplinary Studies.

Omnibus Courses. For an explanation of courses offered but not specifically listed in this catalog, see "Omnibus Courses," page 56.

SOCIOLOGY (SOC)

For more SOC courses, see "Course Prefix Index," or access www.asu.edu/aad/catalogs/courses. The campus designation—E (East), M (Tempe), or W (West)—may affect how courses may be used to fulfill requirements.

W SOC 400 Perspectives on Aging. (3)

selected semesters

Broad overview of gerontological issues, including physical aging, retirement, living options, caregiving, theoretical background, death. Cross-listed as W GRN 400. Credit is allowed for only W GRN 400 or W SOC 400.

Omnibus Courses. For an explanation of courses offered but not specifically listed in this catalog, see "Omnibus Courses," page 56.