

## **Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies**

The Master of Arts Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies is a highly challenging academic program for the self-motivated student with a clear perception of objectives and a background which will allow advanced study in the disciplines combined in the program. This individualized degree is designed to accommodate unique student interests or to prepare students for fields which require programs not presently offered at the university. It is not a replacement for existing degree programs but an enrichment of the university's offerings.

Students should explore the resources of the campus needed for an Interdisciplinary Studies M.A. in terms of course offerings, library resources, facilities, and faculty expertise. This committee must consist of no less than three tenured/tenure-track, full-time faculty members at CSUSB. The committee members should come from the disciplines that make up your plan of study. You may want to check with the department chairs for suggestions as to faculty with expertise in your areas of interest. The faculty you choose should meet your needs in developing a multidisciplinary program of study. One of the three members must agree to serve as chair of your committee.

### **Proposal Guidelines**

The proposal should be completed by the student with the guidance of his/her committee members.

Proposals can be submitted at any time, though every effort should be made to turn it in early enough in the term to receive approval prior to registration for the next term.

Submit the completed proposal to the Dean of Graduate Studies. The proposal will be forwarded to the University Curriculum Committee for consideration. The University Curriculum Committee will review all interdisciplinary studies proposal and reserves the right to reject the proposal or suggest revisions. The Committee meets regularly throughout the academic year (Fall, Winter and Spring).

The proposal should be filled out with great care and accuracy. Hastily done or carelessly prepared proposals are unlikely to convince the Curriculum Committee of its seriousness. Your interdisciplinary studies proposal will not only be evaluated for its uniqueness and content, but also for your writing ability. Though your committee is to assist you, the ultimate responsibility for the proposal is your own. The signature of the Chair of the University Curriculum Committee on the proposal for the Master's Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies signals acceptance of an applicant to the program.

The Dean of Graduate Studies will notify the student in writing of the decision of the University Curriculum Committee. This may be approval or a request for resubmission.

If approval is recommended by the University Curriculum Committee, the student is formally admitted into the program in either conditionally classified or classified status

### **Important Information**

No more than 12 units of proposed course work can be taken prior to submission of the proposal to the University Curriculum Committee.

Modification of an Approved Study Plan requires approval of the Interdisciplinary Studies Graduate Committee and the Dean of Graduate Studies on an official Request for Change in Study plan form.

At graduation, the diploma will read: Master of Arts - Interdisciplinary Studies - (focus of Study). The focus of study will come directly from the proposed title on the student's Approved Study Plan.

California State University, San Bernardino  
Interdisciplinary Studies M.A. Degree  
**PROPOSAL**

1. Prepare a written proposal (2-8 pages) in which you:
  - A. Identify the title the interdisciplinary program of study in which you wish to engage (i.e., Interdisciplinary Studies Master's Degree in (50-space limit) and describing the purpose or focus of this specially designed degree program;
  - B. Explain why this course of study cannot be pursued within one department with electives from other departments.
  - C. Explain how this program relates to your educational and career goals.
  - D. Indicating your background, both academic and experiential, for undertaking this study.
  - E. List the five upper-division prerequisite courses, each with a grade of "B" (3.0) or better, in the major discipline of the proposed program. The determination of the major discipline is subject to the approval of the University Curriculum Committee;
  
2. Complete the master program approved study plan with a list of CSUSB courses appropriate to your educational and career goals. List a minimum of 48 units of course work, 70% of which must consist of 500- or 600- level courses, to be included in the Interdisciplinary Studies M.A. As an interdisciplinary program, these courses should include work from two or more departments. To avoid later difficulties with key courses that are not offered prior to graduation, reasonable substitutions should be listed where possible. The program of study must include a course in research methods in the major discipline and a synthesizing experience (comprehensive examination, project or thesis).
  
3. List the three faculty members that will serve on your graduate committee. The three faculty members must be selected from more than one academic discipline. The faculty member who will chair the advisory committee must write a statement explaining the learning outcomes of the program.

**Interdisciplinary Studies  
Master's Program  
Approved Study Plan**

<b>DO NOT COMPLETE SHADED AREAS</b>
---

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Coyote ID # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Title \_\_\_\_\_

Dept	Course #	Course Title	Units	Qtr.Taken	Grade
Total Degree Units (34 units must be at the 500 or 600 level)					

Total Thesis/Project Units: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Other Independent Study Units (8 unit maximum): \_\_\_\_\_

(NOTE: Independent Study titles should be specific to the content of the course you are taking, and not listed as Directed Graduate Studies. Use these codes for any independent study: Business and Public Administration - ADMN 695; Education - EDUC 601; Humanities - HUM 695; Natural Sciences - NSCI 695; Social & Behavioral Sciences - SSCI 695)

Alternate Courses (in case of scheduling difficulties):


Any changes made to this program after approval by the University Curriculum Committee must be approved by your Committee Chair and the Dean of Graduate Studies, including any alternate courses to be used, must be submitted on a "Change of Study Plan" form to the Dean of Graduate Studies.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**UCC Chair (print name)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Committee Chair _____	Dept _____
Classified _____	UDWR Satisfied _____
Adv. To Candidacy _____	Thesis/Project Completed _____

**California State University, San Bernardino**  
**Interdisciplinary Studies M.A. Degree**  
**PROPOSAL**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Coyote ID# \_\_\_\_\_ Proposed Title: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

**PROPOSAL APPROVAL AND CONSENT TO SERVE AS GRADUATE COMMITTEE MEMBER**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Committee Chair** (*print name*)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Committee Member** (*print name*)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Committee Member** (*print name*)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

---

---

**Recommendation of the University Curriculum Committee:**

Application has been:

\_\_\_\_\_ Approved with the following changes:      Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Approved      Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Denied      Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**UCC Chair** (*print name*)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

*Interdisciplinary Studies M.A. Program Application forms were approved by the  
Committee on Graduate Education on 5/22/89*