

SPRING 2024

Course Descriptions

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

ISD 1198 - Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies

Instructor: Dr. Brian Wooten

Through this course, students learn about the field of interdisciplinary studies and make connections between classroom experiences and the broader world. In order to facilitate this exploration, students examine complex contemporary issues in the Humanities, Social Sciences, and Natural Sciences and gain a familiarity with academic and popular forms of writing, media, and research. The interdisciplinary learning process involves research, articulating knowledge, using evidence to draw conclusions, and self-reflection.

ISD 2000 - Introduction to Diversity & Social Justice

Instructor: Dr. TBD

This course is required for students pursuing an ISD certificate. The course introduces students to global theories and practices of diversity and social justice with a focus on 20th century social movements in the US. It addresses the roots of interdisciplinarity through prominent scholars concerned with diversity and social justice. Students learn about social movements that have had a significant impact on our own time, including women's liberation and anti-globalization.

ISD 3001 - Integrative Approaches to Social Justice and Inclusion

Instructor: Dr. Kate Schaab

In this course, learners explore how the power of integrative thinking and methods can be leveraged toward a more socially just and inclusive society. Using the framework of intersectionality, learners examine the interdependent systems of discrimination, disadvantage, and inequity experienced by individuals or groups related to the individual's or groups' interconnected identity characteristics. Using social constructivist pedagogies, learners function as a community in which they explore and share their own interdisciplinary expertise and perspectives to articulate problems and conceptualize solutions related to social justice and inclusion.

ISD 3003 - Critical Science Literacy

Instructor: Dr. Sara Giordano

In this course, students actively participate in efforts to increase public, democratic, participation in science through critical science literacy. This course allows students to understand science in context. Students become more familiar with understanding how basic scientific research is conducted and are introduced to critical understandings of science in society.

ISD 3100 - Interdisciplinary Studies Research Methods

Instructor: Dr. Sara Giordano

This is an introductory course on the nature of interdisciplinary academic inquiry. Students acquire a foundational understanding of research methods interdisciplinary scholars and professionals use. Topics may include an introduction to social scientific and/or humanities-based methods and qualitative and quantitative analysis. The class discusses strategies for selecting a framework and analytical approach and engage ethical questions associated with producing research in interdisciplinary studies.