UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

The Interdisciplinary Studies Program offers students degree programs which provide a broad background applicable to a variety of careers. The program has three emphases: liberal arts, prior learning and interdisciplinary studies.

This program is intended to serve:

- students who prefer a broad liberal arts concentration (Liberal Arts);
- students who have acquired substantial specialized training and experience outside the academic classroom (Prior Learning);
- students who wish to complete an interdisciplinary option using two or three academic disciplines (Interdisciplinary).

BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA)

Student Learning Outcomes—students will:

- be prepared for career mobility and adaptability by selecting the appropriate academic concentration;
- select the program option to craft a degree plan to enhance career goals and objectives.

Required courses in the following programs of study may have prerequisites. Reference the course description section for clarification.

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES: LIBERAL ARTS

The Liberal Arts option is designed to give students a breadth of academic experience to enrich their lives and broaden their understanding of the human experience. Students participating in this program complete 60 upper division credits from the following three categories: Humanities, Sciences and Social Sciences. A 20/20/20 credit combination must be completed in these three breadth areas. These categories parallel the GECRs but are broader categories and are not restricted to those particular departments and courses. These courses must be completed in addition to Eastern Washington University’s GECR requirement. Final approval of the degree plan is required by the senior director of Interdisciplinary Studies.

Total credits for above major 60 credits

Note: two years of a single high school foreign language or one year of a single college level foreign language is required.

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES: PRIOR LEARNING

This program is designed for the adult who comes to Eastern with professional or paraprofessional preparation and experience. Students design a 60-credit upper-division emphasis that meets their specific goals and objectives. Specific courses are not required other than the Portfolio Development course (ITDS 300). This course enables the adult learner to translate experiential learning into elective credit through the development of a portfolio. Portfolios are submitted to faculty members who determine the credit award. A student may earn up to 45 elective credits for prior learning experience that can be applied only to the Interdisciplinary Studies degree. Portfolio assessment does require a fee: please contact the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies for current fee.

Total credits for above major 60 credits

Note: two years of a single high school foreign language or one year of a single college level foreign language is required.

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES (60 CREDITS)

This option is for students who prefer an interdisciplinary option, combining 60 upper division credits from two or three academic departments, programs or certificates. Interdisciplinary Studies students follow the guidance of department chairs to design their courses in an area that an existing major does not accommodate. Pre-approval is required from departments or program directors and the Interdisciplinary Studies director.

Total credits for above major 60 credits

Note: two years of a single high school foreign language or one year of a single college level foreign language is required.

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES: ADDICTION STUDIES

Note: see Addiction Studies for complete list of courses or contact Addiction Studies for more information.

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES: PHILOSOPHICAL STUDIES

Note: two years of a single high school foreign language or one year of a single college level foreign language is required.

Required Courses (30 credits)

PHIL 301 Introduction to Formal Logic (5)
PHIL 320 History of Ancient Western Philosophy (5)
PHIL 321 History of Modern Western Philosophy (5)
PHIL 322 History of Contemporary Western Philosophy (5)

Students must also complete at least two 400 level philosophy classes that are listed in the catalog. These two classes must combine for at least 10 credits.

Capstone Requirement (4–5 credits)

All students must complete either ITGS 400 or any Senior Capstone class with their advisor’s approval.

Interdisciplinary Stream Electives (26–30 credits)

Students must complete at least 26–30 additional upper division credits from the classes designated in their respective stream. Students may count relevant classes not listed in the streams, including transfer credits, with their advisor’s approval.

Minimum credits for above major 60 credits

MAJOR IN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES LEADING TO A MASTER OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (MOT)

The Advanced Standing Master of Occupational Therapy program will allow a student to complete the requirements for an undergraduate degree while enrolled in courses required for the first year of the professional Occupational Therapy program. The student begins the occupational therapy track in the senior year, earns a Bachelor of Arts degree in Interdisciplinary Studies and applies to the Advanced Standing MOT program, which can be completed over the next one and half years. This program will introduce occupational therapy to undergraduate students early in their career development.

Note: two years of a single high school foreign language or one year of a single college level foreign language is required.
Admission to Combined Bachelor’s and Master of Occupational Therapy Program

The student first meets with the Admissions Coordinator of the Occupational Therapy Department for review of prerequisites, the course of study and a discussion of occupational therapy as a profession. A student pursuing a BA in Interdisciplinary Studies will be referred to the director of Interdisciplinary Studies for formal application.

Students interested in working toward a combined Bachelor’s and Master of Occupational Therapy should contact Carrie Walker, Admissions Coordinator, Department of Occupational Therapy, Eastern Washington University, 310 N. Riverpoint Blvd., Box R, Spokane WA 99202-1675 or call 509.368.6560 or contact cwalker@ewu.edu.

Students interested in the Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies major are encouraged to meet with an advisor from the Department of Occupational Therapy during the sophomore year and no later than the spring of the junior year. During the first three years of the Interdisciplinary Studies major with an emphasis in Occupational Therapy, the student develops a course of study to address his or her interests, as well as meet university and interdisciplinary studies’ major requirements. Additionally, during this time, the student fulfills the prerequisite requirements for the Advanced Standing MOT.

Students who require advising in the Interdisciplinary Studies major with an emphasis in Occupational Therapy should contact John Neace, Director, Interdisciplinary Studies, 300 Senior Hall, Cheney, WA, 99004-2414 or call 509.359.6524 or jneace@ewu.edu.

Admission into the occupational therapy track is offered only one time per year with students beginning the program summer quarter. A group interview is required for admission into the occupational therapy track. The deadline for applications is the January 1st prior to the expected summer quarter admission. The department admission committee will review and evaluate all applicants’ admission materials and prerequisites. Check with the department for exact admission deadlines: 509.368.6560.

Occupational Therapy Track Admission Criteria

• Completion of 122 or more undergraduate credits and all general education requirements for EWU.

• Completion of all prerequisite courses for application to the occupational therapy track. All of the prerequisite courses must be completed prior to admission into the occupational therapy track.

Additional Requirements

The admissions process in occupational therapy is highly competitive. The requirements listed below are the minimum acceptable requirements to apply to the program and are not indicative of the competitive range of students generally accepted into the program.

The following are the minimum acceptable requirements:

• Minimum cumulative GPA ≥3.0 in the last 60 graded quarter hours;

• Minimum cumulative GPA ≥3.0 for all prerequisite courses with no course <2.5.

Students enrolled in the occupational therapy track must complete the schedule of courses in the MOT curriculum toward completion of a BA in Interdisciplinary Studies.

Note: see Occupational Therapy for the list of courses.

Note: A student may elect to discontinue the occupational therapy track and decide not to pursue the Master of Occupational Therapy. The student may complete the remaining 180 credits toward graduation in courses outside the occupational therapy curriculum and meet the graduation requirements for a Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies.

If they can get you asking the wrong questions, they don’t have to worry about the answers.
—Thomas Pynchon, writer (b. 1937)