

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

www.interdisciplinary.neu.edu

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The Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences offers students the opportunity to study in a broad range of interdisciplinary programs suited to their curricular or career objectives and also permits students to design their own independent programs of study. The center is a resource for students who want to obtain more information about the various interdisciplinary programs, apply for interdisciplinary scholarships, join our affiliated academic organizations, enroll in special courses, and participate in our innovative community partnerships.

The center also supports and coordinates the individual programs. Interdisciplinary programs consist of freestanding majors, dual majors, minors, and concentrations. This vast array permits students the flexibility to explore the boundaries at the cutting edge of existing disciplines and to explore areas of secondary or personal interest and nontraditional courses of study. For more information on the programs, contact the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies (1 Nightingale Hall) at 617.373.2427 or the individual program directors. The interdisciplinary programs of the college follow.

Interdisciplinary Majors

Behavioral Neuroscience	See page 98.
Biochemistry	See page 101.
Cinema Studies* (dual majors)	See page 116.
Environmental Studies*	See page 126.
Human Services*	See page 154.
International Affairs*	See page 161.
Linguistics*	See page 171.
Multimedia Studies (dual majors)	See page 179.

*A minor is also available.

Double Majors

Students with interests in two separate fields have traditionally pursued both by enrolling in a double major. A double major allows students to combine two majors of their choice within the College of Arts and Sciences. Students pursuing a double major must complete all requirements for each major plus the NU Core. The college allows double counting across the NU Core and major requirements for students completing a double major. Students earning two majors within the college that have different degree designations choose the degree they will earn. The major associated with that degree is then considered the first major and the other major is the second major.

Dual Majors

The integrated dual major allows students to link concepts across disciplinary boundaries. Dual-major options are limited to those combinations for which faculty from two majors have identified nine or more courses from each major, plus an additional one or two “capstone” or integrative courses, that specifically help students link the concepts learned in both majors. Students pursuing dual majors complete the NU Core, and the college allows double counting between the NU Core and major requirements. Currently, the following dual majors are offered within the College of Arts and Sciences:

American Sign Language and Human Services
 American Sign Language and Psychology
 American Sign Language and Theatre
 Biology and Geology
 Biology and Environmental Geology
 Cinema Studies and Communication Studies
 Cinema Studies and English
 Cinema Studies and Journalism
 Cinema Studies and Languages, Literatures, and Cultures
 Cinema Studies and Philosophy
 Cinema Studies and Theatre
 Environmental Geology and Chemistry
 Environmental Geology and Environmental Studies
 Environmental Geology and Mathematics
 Environmental Geology and Physics
 Environmental Studies and History
 Environmental Studies and International Affairs
 Environmental Studies and Philosophy
 Environmental Studies and Political Science
 Geology and Chemistry
 Geology and Mathematics
 Geology and Physics
 Human Services and International Affairs
 International Affairs and Anthropology
 International Affairs and Economics
 Jewish Studies and Religion
 Linguistics and English
 Linguistics and Psychology
 Mathematics and Physics

Languages, Literatures, and Cultures and International Affairs
 Multimedia Studies and Digital Art
 Multimedia Studies and Graphic Design
 Multimedia Studies and Music with Concentration
 in Music Technology
 Physics and Philosophy
 Political Science and Economics
 Political Science and International Affairs
 Psychology and Education

The following dual majors are offered by the College of Arts and Sciences in conjunction with other colleges at the University:

Computer Science and Biology (College of Computer and Information Science)
 Computer Science and Cognitive Psychology (College of Computer and Information Science)
 Computer Science and Digital Art (College of Computer and Information Science)
 Computer Science and Mathematics (College of Computer and Information Science)
 Computer Science and Multimedia Studies (College of Computer and Information Science)
 Computer Science and Music with Concentration in Music Technology (College of Computer and Information Science)
 Computer Science and Physics (College of Computer and Information Science)
 Electrical Engineering and Physics (College of Engineering)
 Human Services and Criminal Justice (College of Criminal Justice)
 Information Science and Cognitive Psychology (College of Computer and Information Science)

Students interested in these dual majors should contact the participating college or department, or consult interdisciplinary major details. Information may also be obtained at the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, 9 Holmes Hall, 617.373.2427. Other dual majors, both within the College of Arts and Sciences and across colleges, are currently under development or undergoing the University's review process.

Independent Major

Students who can demonstrate that none of the established major programs in the College of Arts and Sciences provide preparation for their academic or professional goals may petition to design an independent major. The independent major is expected to be interdisciplinary in nature, crossing two or more disciplines. Independent major proposals must be submitted to the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies at least one semester prior to the semester in which the student wishes to begin the new major. All proposals should state clearly how the student will explore linkages among the disciplines involved in the independent major. Course requirements

include fourteen to fifteen full courses approved by two or more faculty advisors who will serve as the major's sponsors as well as facilitators for the student. All independent majors must also include a major research effort.

Applicants must have attained sophomore status or above, not be on academic probation, and have two full semesters of course work or more remaining from the time the proposal is approved.

For proposal guidelines and submission information, contact the program coordinator in the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies (1 Nightingale Hall) at 617.373.2427.

Teacher Preparation

Northeastern University's Department of Education offers teacher preparation programs that are approved by the Massachusetts Department of Education. All programs require that students complete an appropriate Arts and Sciences major along with a minor in education at the elementary or secondary level. All Arts and Sciences majors, except American Sign Language and human services, are approved majors for students seeking licensure at the elementary level. A minor in education at the secondary level requires a major in math, physics, chemistry, biology, political science, history, English, or Spanish. Completion of an Arts and Sciences major, education minor, and student teaching enables students to earn an initial teaching license in Massachusetts. Massachusetts participates in the interstate reciprocity agreement with many other states. See page 141 for details or contact the Department of Education (26 Nightingale Hall) at 617.373.4216.