

Integrative Studies

Department Information

Department of Integrative Studies Staff	(251) 460-6263
Chair	Paige A. Vitulli
Assistant Professors	Manders, Moody

Department of Integrative Studies website
<http://www.southalabama.edu/colleges/ceps/integrative/index.html>

The Department of Integrative Studies (INGS) includes the Interdisciplinary Studies programs. Faculty are professionals from various backgrounds including business, political science, instructional design, teacher education, interdisciplinary studies, community counseling, educational research, and child development.

The **Interdisciplinary Studies degree** is a customizable program which can be taken fully online, offering a BA or BS which builds skills in communication, cultural competency, analytical thinking, leadership, and teamwork. Diversity is valued among learners and emphasis is on the importance of becoming an active leader, effective team member, and engaged global citizen.

The Interdisciplinary Studies (IST) degree is designed to give students a variety of options in earning a Bachelor's degree tailored to meet their needs and interests. The Department of Interdisciplinary Studies (IST) offers a fully on-line degree.

Areas Of Study

Interdisciplinary Studies (BS or BA)
 Minor in Interdisciplinary Studies

Courses

Interdisciplinary Stds (IST) (IST)

IST 100 Freshman Seminar 2 cr

A course for first-time students that assists with maximizing the student's potential to achieve academic success and to adjust responsibly to the individual and interpersonal challenges presented by college life. The course provides an introduction to the nature of higher education and a general orientation to the functions and resources of the University. Extensive reading and writing assignments relevant to the student's first year experience are required.

IST 101 Foundations of Inter Studies 3 cr

This course will assist students with clarifying educational goals, understanding effective learning methods, and becoming acquainted with university resources, diversity, and culture. It introduces students to basic theories and principles of education and development, with emphasis on liberal education. The focus is to develop written and oral skills to enhance students' critical thinking and problem solving abilities. Assists students in defining competencies needed for success in academic study, professional leadership, and career opportunities. Students will develop a working knowledge of Sakai, Skype and WebEx.

IST 125 Professional Conduct 3 cr

Introduces students to primary sources in ethical theory and includes readings and discussions of theories of human nature. Provides a basis for understanding one's rationale for personal moral decisions and offers a foundation for an approach to the ethics of business.

- IST 200 Clinical Observation** 1 cr
Clinical Observations (Medicine, Dentistry, Optometry, and Veterinary Medicine). This course gives the student clinical exposure to various health-care services. It is designed to help students make informed decisions when selecting a career in the health professions. A written report on the clinical experience or a scenario dealing with medical ethics is required. May be repeated for a maximum of six hours credit. Prereq: Permission of Chair of Preprofessional Advisory Committee.
- IST 201 Seasons of Life** 3 cr
An interdisciplinary media-assisted course in which students study human development from the biosocial, cognitive, and psychosocial perspectives with special emphasis on the adult years. Through readings, audio, written exercises, and class discussions, students explore the theories and research findings of life span development which enable them to reflect on their own lives as well as the lives of others.
- IST 210 Introduction to Disability** 3 cr
This course will provide students from any discipline the opportunity to develop the knowledge and skills needed to effectively work with people with disabilities in a variety of settings. Disability is examined as a type of diversity. Topics include: the history and sociological context of disability; the impact of disability on the individual and family; advocacy and civil rights; current trends in services and supports for children and adults with disabilities; and respectful language and interaction. Students will actively engage in readings, discussions, and writing on disability issues.
Pre-requisite: EH 102 Minimum Grade of C or EH 105 Minimum Grade of C.
- IST 250 Career Planning and Develop** 3 cr
Principles, methods, and practice in career planning and development with an emphasis on career information, self-analysis, exploration of careers, career opportunities, and guidelines for goal achievement.
- IST 290 Special Topics -** 1 TO 3 cr
A variable topics course treating special themes. May be repeated for credit when course content varies.
- IST 300 Global Orientn-Ed Abroad** 1 cr
Study Abroad applicants will prepare for their study abroad experience through an examination of selected country-specific reading as well as cross-cultural orientation materials. Travel safety, University of South Alabama policies and procedures for study abroad, and advice for cultural adjustment will be covered during the course. IST 300 satisfies the requirements of LG 394.
- IST 302 Interdis and Critical Thinking** 3 cr
Provides students an introduction to the field of interdisciplinary studies and an opportunity to critically reflect on the experience of self, education, and career and the relationship among these three phenomena.
- IST 305 Issues in Human Services** 3 cr
An interdisciplinary course for students who plan to work in the helping professions (counseling, social work, nursing etc.). Guest speakers from various disciplines present information about their fields. Discussion topics include: similarities and differences in the helping professions, the helping relationship, empathic communication, multicultural and legal issues, and stress and burnout management.
- IST 310 Global Leadership** 3 cr
This course helps prepare students to assume global leadership roles in their careers and the community at large. Students explore leadership theories and principles as well as investigate leadership qualities among historical and contemporary individuals. In addition, students confront present-day global issues and argue viewpoints orally, as well as through persuasive and technical papers. Students are expected to complete an interdisciplinary project based on global issues.
Pre-requisite: (ACT English 27 or SAT Critical Reading 610 or University - EH101 Exempt P or EH 101 Minimum Grade of C or EH 110 Minimum Grade of C or EH 190 Minimum Grade of C or USA 010 Minimum Grade of S) and (EH 102 Minimum Grade of C or EH 105 Minimum Grade of C).
- IST 315 Women's Issues in Wrkpl-Comm** 3 cr
This course will examine contemporary issues faced by women in the workplace and the community from an interdisciplinary perspective. Some of the topics to be covered are gender communication issues, developing a leadership plan, playing the game, power talk, conflict management from a woman's point of view, international development, and women, sexuality and labor.
- IST 320 Cultural Competency** 3 cr
An interdisciplinary exploration of issues related to interactions between diverse groups in teams, communities, and organizations. Reviews research from a variety of disciplines, introduces the history and law of equal opportunity in the U.S., and examines the costs and benefits of diversity. Topics include prejudice, stereotyping, affirmative action, barriers to mobility, discrimination, marginalization, mentoring, cooperative teamwork, and international issues.
- IST 330 Analytical & Info Lit.-W** 3 cr
This course examines principles of qualitative and quantitative research methods and their application to interdisciplinary studies in the social sciences. Emphasis is on the development of functional literacy for information expressed quantitatively and thoughtful integration of such information into academic and practical research.
Pre-requisite: EH 102 Minimum Grade of C or EH 105 Minimum Grade of C.
- IST 350 Adv Verbal & Written Comm - W** 3 cr
This course builds on the foundation laid in freshman composition, stressing critical thinking, analysis, and research. It aims to prepare students oral presentations, research and writing papers.

IST 401 Adults in Society 3 cr

Adults in Society is a media-assisted course that uses print material, videos, written assignments, and class discussions to explore issues which relate to adult development. Using an interdisciplinary approach, students will examine the relationship of adults to their families, work and communities.

IST 420 Comm. Dev and Leadership 3 cr

Presents the conceptual foundations of community development and leadership, including basic concepts, methods and literature. Students will study theories of leadership, community development and human capital, investigate public relationships, examine community decision-making and responsible civic action. The course lays foundations for further study and practice in the field. Students will experience the interdisciplinary approaches to community development, leadership, politics, civic responsibility and teamwork.

IST 425 Workplace Learning & Dev 3 cr

This project-based course explores workplace learning and development. It will introduce students to interdisciplinary learning and motivational theories necessary to prepare them to be effective in today's changing workplace, and provide them with the skills to problem-solve, lead and work as part of a team.

IST 430 Senior Research Thesis - W 3 cr

An in-depth research project in the student's concentration. Provides an opportunity for the student to design a comprehensive research project, analyze and synthesize research data, and develop expertise in a particular subject. Pre-requisite: (IST 350 Minimum Grade of D and IST 495 Minimum Grade of D).

IST 450 The Job Campaign 3 cr

Practical approach to career development designed to help students develop strategies for obtaining suitable employment and making career choices. Emphasis is on the principles, methods, and practice in achieving career goals through the study of careers, preparing resumes, writing letters of application, practicing job interview techniques, and identifying prospective employers.

IST 490 Special Topics - 1 TO 6 cr

A variable topics course treating special themes. May be repeated for credit when course content varies.

IST 494 Directed Studies 1 TO 6 cr

Directed Study of a topic consistent with the student's individualized program under the supervision of a member of the university faculty.

IST 495 Prof Leadership & Teamwork 3 cr

Students will examine their skills, abilities, personality, attitudes, values, interests, and behaviors within the context of current scholarship on leadership to increase awareness of their leadership competencies.

IST 498 Internship I-Capstone Exp-W 3 TO 9 cr

This internship course provides the student an opportunity to have an internship field experience and to reflect on and critically evaluate that internship experience, particularly as it relates to the interdisciplinary course of study. Students will prepare reports, write papers, make presentations, and engage in group discussion that critically considers their internship experience.

Pre-requisite: IST 350 Minimum Grade of C and (IST 302 Minimum Grade of D and IST 330 Minimum Grade of D).

IST 499 Honors Senior Thesis - H-W 3 TO 6 cr

A substantial research project reflecting a commitment to genuine scholarship in the student's field of study. Provides an opportunity for the student to design a comprehensive research project, analyze and synthesize research data, and develop expertise in a particular subject. Fulfills the senior project requirement for the honors program.

IST 500 Global Orientn-Ed Abroad-Grad 0 TO 1 cr

This is a pre-departure academic and orientation process course for all graduate students who plan on studying abroad in terms following their participating in this course. This course will facilitate the application, academic advising, pre-departure advising, and activities related to getting students ready for participation in their actual program abroad.

International Studies (IS) (IS)

IS 100 Global Issues 3 cr

This course introduces students to the basic structural components of the global system, including the nation-state system and the world economy, and explores the major schools of thought in such areas as security, economic prosperity and development, international law, gender and environmental studies. The course helps students understand the complex and interlinked issues facing global society, and current problems, and view the U.S. within a broader global context.

IS 193 Study Abroad 1 TO 6 cr

This course is an introductory International Studies course taught as part of a faculty-led study abroad program. Topics and credit hours vary based on availability.

IS 200 People-Nations - 3 cr

Variable content course focusing on particular nation or region of the world. Course offers a multi-disciplinary introduction to the people, society and politics. May be repeated for credit when content varies up to a total of 6 hours.

IS 210 Global Engagement Orientation 1 cr

This course introduces students to international global issues, allows students to identify opportunities for active engagement in these issues, and provides the framework for successful completion of the Global Engagement Certificate.

- IS 290 Special Topics -** **3 cr**
Study of selected topics within a particular Area Studies Concentration. May be repeated for credit when content varies.
Pre-requisite: IS 100 Minimum Grade of D.
- IS 293 Study Abroad** **1 TO 6 cr**
This course is an introductory International Studies course taught as part of a faculty-led study abroad program. Topics and credit hours vary based on availability.
- IS 363 Crime and Politics in LatinAm** **3 cr**
An examination of the violent crime epidemic affecting many parts of Latin America, with specific focus on the themes of democratic transition, political economy, and foreign relations with the United States. Same as PSC 363 and CJ 363.
Pre-requisite: (PSC 130 or CJ 105 or IS 100).
- IS 371 Studies in Russia** **3 TO 6 cr**
This course will cover specific topics in the history, politics, and culture of modern Russian civilization. May be repeated for credit when content varies.
- IS 372 Studies in E. Europe & C. Asia** **3 TO 6 cr**
This course will cover specific topics in the history, politics, and culture of modern Eastern European and Central Asian civilizations. May be repeated for credit when content varies.
- IS 390 Sp Top-** **1 TO 3 cr**
Advanced study of selected topics within a particular concentration. May be repeated for credit when content varies.
- IS 391 Study Abroad -** **0 TO 18 cr**
Study of selected topics within a particular Area Studies Concentration. May be repeated.
- IS 393 Study Abroad** **1 TO 6 cr**
This course is an advanced International Studies course taught as part of a faculty-led study abroad program. Topics and credit hours vary based on availability.
- IS 410 Global Engagement Capstone** **1 cr**
Global Engagement Capstone is required for students completing the Global Engagement Certificate (GEC), and is a one hour course designed to help students reflect on the 16 hours of coursework and nine hours of globally engaged activities they have completed. Students will create a portfolio during the course, which will be presented to students and affiliated faculty at its conclusion.
Pre-requisite: IS 210 Minimum Grade of P.
- IS 473 International Law** **3 cr**
This course covers major issues, cases and topics in public and private international law. Course coverage includes individuals and corporations, diplomatic relations, jurisdiction, human rights, economic relations, treaties, environmental law, and more.
Pre-requisite: (IS 100 Minimum Grade of C or PSC 130 Minimum Grade of C or CJ 105 Minimum Grade of C or CJ 205 Minimum Grade of C).
- IS 489 Leadership and World Leaders** **3 cr**
An overview of the definitions, characteristics, and typologies of leadership, with a focus on lives and legacies of global influential political leaders over the past century.
Pre-requisite: PSC 130 Minimum Grade of D or PSC 250 Minimum Grade of D or IS 100 Minimum Grade of D.
- IS 490 Special Topics** **3 cr**
Advanced study of selected topics within a particular Area Studies Concentration. May be repeated for credit when content varies.
Pre-requisite: IS 100 Minimum Grade of D.
- IS 491 Seminar on Terrorism** **3 cr**
Study of a terrorism from a sociopolitical perspective with an emphasis on causes, policy, tactics and operational characteristics and counter-terrorism operations. Cross-listed with CJ 491 and PSC 491.
Pre-requisite: CJ 105 Minimum Grade of C or CJ 205 Minimum Grade of C or PSC 130 Minimum Grade of C or IS 100 Minimum Grade of C.
- IS 492 Seminar -** **3 cr**
Advanced study of selected topics in international studies from a comparative perspective. May be repeated for credit when content varies.
Pre-requisite: IS 100 Minimum Grade of D.
- IS 493 Study Abroad** **1 TO 6 cr**
This course is an advanced International Studies course taught as part of a faculty-led study abroad program. Topics and credit hours vary based on availability.
- IS 494 Directed Studies** **1 TO 3 cr**
Directed research in the field of international studies. May be repeated or credit up to a total of 9 hours. Prerequisite: permission of IS Director
- IS 495 Senior Seminar - W** **3 cr**
The course seeks to provide an interdisciplinary and cross-regional overview of the fields and research opportunities within international studies.
Pre-requisite: EH 102 Minimum Grade of C.
- IS 496 Prof St Internship -** **3 TO 9 cr**
Practical learning experiences through occupational or professional work with an approved international organization, governmental agency, or international business
Prerequisite: Permission of IS Director

IS 499 Senior Honors Thesis**3 cr**

The course covers major theoretical perspectives in organizational psychology based on empirical research and case studies. Students will explore learning theory, group dynamics, and change in different types of learning organizations.

Pre-requisite: (EH 102 Minimum Grade of D or EH 105 Minimum Grade of D).

IS 591 Study Abroad**0 TO 12 cr**

Graduate level international exchange programs for University of South Alabama students.

Faculty

MANDERS, JEANETTE E.

Assistant Professor

BS, Spring Hill College

MED, University of Georgia

PHD, University of Georgia

MOODY, ERIC M.

Assistant Professor

BS, University of North Alabama

MBA, University of North Alabama

PHD, University of Florida