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| For Academic Affairs and Research Use Only |
| Proposal Number |  |
| CIP Code:  |  |
| Degree Code: |  |

**Program Modification Form**

**[X ] Undergraduate Curriculum Council**

**[ ] Graduate Council**

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| --- |
| **Modification Type: [ ]Admissions, [ ]Curricular Sequence, or [ ]Other**  |

Signed paper copies of proposals submitted for consideration are no longer required. Please type approver name and enter date of approval.

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| Nikesha Nesbitt | 4/24/2020 |

**Department Curriculum Committee Chair** |

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**COPE Chair (if applicable)** |
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| Nikesha Nesbitt | 4/24/2020 |

**Department Chair**  |

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**Head of Unit (if applicable)**   |
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| Nikesha Nesbitt | 4/24/2020 |

**College Curriculum Committee Chair** |

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**Undergraduate Curriculum Council Chair** |
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| Dr. Jill Simons | 4/24/2020 |

**College Dean** |

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**Graduate Curriculum Committee Chair** |
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**General Education Committee Chair (if applicable)**   |

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**Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs** |

1. **Contact Person** (Name, Email Address, Phone Number)

Nikesha Nesbitt; nnesbitt@astate.edu; 870-972-3574

1. **Proposed Change** (for undergraduate curricular changes please provide an 8-semester plan (appendix A), if applicable)

The proposed change is to remove the foreign language requirement from the Interdisciplinary Studies major and add the six hours to the Experiential Learning Requirements.

1. **Effective Date**

Fall 2020

1. **Justification –** *Please provide details as to why this change is necessary.*

A majority of our students who major in Interdisciplinary Studies have aspirations to pursue a graduate or professional program. Many of our alumni and current students have expressed that during the application admission process to these various programs more and more graduate admissions processes are putting an emphasis on experiential learning or learning beyond the classroom. The proposed changes will allow students in the program an opportunity to explore a variety of experiences outside the classroom and gain real world expertise that will also be degree applicable. Experiential learning, such as, internships, study abroad, honors or departmental thesis, service learning projects, cultural studies courses, or courses with an experiential component approved by the department, will help to enhance the undergraduate experience for students in this major.

**Bulletin Changes**

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| **Instructions**  |
| **Please visit** [**http://www.astate.edu/a/registrar/students/bulletins/index.dot**](http://www.astate.edu/a/registrar/students/bulletins/index.dot) **and select the most recent version of the bulletin. Copy and paste all bulletin pages this proposal affects below. Please include a before (with changed areas highlighted) and after of all affected sections.** **\*Please note: Courses are often listed in multiple sections of the bulletin. To ensure that all affected sections have been located, please search the bulletin (ctrl+F) for the appropriate courses before submission of this form.**  |

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES DEGREE PROGRAM**

The goal of this degree is to provide students with a rigorous intellectual exploration through an interdisciplinary platform that fosters the leadership, research, innovation, service, and academic competencies needed to face the challenges of the 21st century. The Bachelor of Science Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies (BSIS) is designed to offer highly motivated and self-directed students the opportunity to design their own major. As an alternative to traditional majors, the BSIS Program allows students to pursue their educational goals in areas not available within existing departmental curricula. With the help of a faculty sponsor, students select courses on the basis of a unifying issue, topic, theme, culture, period, or question which is considered the thematic study. Approved thematic courses must be interdisciplinary in nature, pull from at least two fields or disciplines, and may not duplicate an existing major. Courses may be chosen from any of the departments within the University. Experiential learning is strongly encouraged. Students may seek national exchange and study abroad opportunities, internships and independent studies as part of their thematic coursework. Approved upper-level cultural coursework can be used to fulfill the language requirement. Each student’s program of study is developed with the advice and approval of both the student’s chosen faculty sponsor and a BSIS advisor. Students seeking a minor must use classes independently of those used in the thematic study. Students seeking a double major concurrently with their Interdisciplinary Studies degree or students who have completed a degree and are returning to complete a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies may only apply their general education courses toward additional second program of study.

Admission into the program requires a minimum of a 2.75 GPA, 30 earned credit hours, a completed application, and acceptance by the Associate Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Studies and Program Director of Nontraditional Studies.

 The requirements for the BSIS major are as follows:

 1. A formal proposal written during the student’s enrollment in the Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies (IDS 2013), a three credit class.

2. Completion of at least 36 related upper-level courses (numbered 3000 or above) in student’s thematic study, totaling a minimum of 36 credits over a period of at least four semesters. Thematic study coursework and 18 hours of Interdisciplinary Studies courses must be completed with a grade of “C” or higher.

 3. Maintain a minimum overall GPA of 2.75

*The bulletin can be accessed at* [*https://www.astate.edu/a/registrar/students/bulletins/*](https://www.astate.edu/a/registrar/students/bulletins/)

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**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES DEGREE PROGRAM**

The goal of this degree is to provide students with a rigorous intellectual exploration through an interdisciplinary platform that fosters the leadership, research, innovation, service, and academic competencies needed to face the challenges of the 21st century. The Bachelor of Science Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies (BSIS) is designed to offer highly motivated and self-directed students the opportunity to design their own major. As an alternative to traditional majors, the BSIS Program allows students to pursue their educational goals in areas not available within existing departmental curricula. With the help of a faculty sponsor, students select courses on the basis of a unifying issue, topic, theme, culture, period, or question which is considered the thematic study. Approved thematic courses must be interdisciplinary in nature, pull from at least two fields or disciplines, and may not duplicate an existing major. Courses may be chosen from any of the departments within the University. **Experiential learning is required**. **The Department of Nontraditional Studies requires that its Interdisciplinary Studies majors take IDS 2023, IDS 3023, and select 6 hours of experiential learning electives in fields approved by their academic advisor to meet the experiential learning requirement. ~~Experiential learning is strongly encouraged. Students may seek national exchange and study abroad opportunities, internships and independent studies as part of their thematic coursework.~~ ~~Approved upper-level cultural coursework can be used to fulfill the language requirement.~~** Each student’s program of study is developed with the advice and approval of both the student’s chosen faculty sponsor and a BSIS advisor. Students seeking a minor must use classes independently of those used in the thematic study. Students seeking a double major concurrently with their Interdisciplinary Studies degree or students who have completed a degree and are returning to complete a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies may only apply their general education courses toward additional second program of study.

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**Major in Interdisciplinary Studies**

**Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies**

A complete 8-semester degree plan is available at https://www.astate.edu/info/academics/degrees/

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| **University Requirements:** |  |
|  See University General Requirements for Baccalaureate degrees(p.42) |  |
| **First Year Making Connections Course:**  | **Sem. Hrs.**  |
| UC 1013, Making Connections (or equivalent course)  | 3 |
| **General Education Requirements:**  | **Sem. Hrs.**  |
|  See General Education Curriculum for Baccalaureate degrees(p. 78) Requirements based on previous major. **Students with this major must take the following:**COMS 1203, Oral Communications (Required Departmental Gen. Ed. Options) | 35 |
| **Foreign Language Requirement:** | **Sem. Hrs.**  |
|  Foreign Language | 6 |
| **Major Requirements:** Grade of “C” or better required for all Approved Thematic Courses | **Sem. Hrs.** |
| Approved Thematic Course(must include at least 36 upper-level hours):  | 45 |
| **Experiential Learning** | **Sem. Hrs.** |
| IDS 2023, Introduction to Service Learning | 3 |
|  IDS 3023, Advanced Service Learning | 3 |
| **Research Course** | **Sem. Hrs.**  |
| IDS 2013, Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies | 3 |
| IDS 3013, Critical Thinking in the Profession | 3 |
| **Leadership Development** | **Sem. Hrs.**  |
| IDS 4023, Leadership in the Profession | 3 |
| **Senior Capstone** | **Sem. Hrs.**  |
| IDS 4013, Seminar in Professional Development | 3 |
| **Electives:**  | **Sem. Hrs.** |
| Electives  | 13 |
| **Total Required Hours:**  | **120** |

*The bulletin can be accessed at https://www.astate.edu/a/registrar/students/bulletins/*

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**Major in Interdisciplinary Studies**

**Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies**

A complete 8-semester degree plan is available at https://www.astate.edu/info/academics/degrees/

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| **University Requirements:** |  |
|  See University General Requirements for Baccalaureate degrees(p.42) |  |
| **First Year Making Connections Course:**  | **Sem. Hrs.**  |
| UC 1013, Making Connections (or equivalent course)  | 3 |
| **General Education Requirements:**  | **Sem. Hrs.**  |
|  See General Education Curriculum for Baccalaureate degrees(p. 78) Requirements based on previous major. **Students with this major must take the following:**COMS 1203, Oral Communications (Required Departmental Gen. Ed. Options) | 35 |
| **Major Requirements:** Grade of “C” or better required for all Approved Thematic Courses | **Sem. Hrs.** |
| Approved Thematic Course(must include at least 36 upper-level hours):  | 45 |
| **Experiential Learning** | **Sem. Hrs.** |
| IDS 2023, Introduction to Service Learning | 3 |
|  IDS 3023, Advanced Service Learning | 3 |
|  **Required Electives (must be approved by advisor)** | **6** |
| **Research Course** | **Sem. Hrs.**  |
| IDS 2013, Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies | 3 |
| IDS 3013, Critical Thinking in the Profession | 3 |
| **Leadership Development** | **Sem. Hrs.**  |
| IDS 4023, Leadership in the Profession | 3 |
| **Senior Capstone** | **Sem. Hrs.**  |
| IDS 4013, Seminar in Professional Development | 3 |
| **Electives:**  | **Sem. Hrs.** |
| Electives  | 13 |
| **Total Required Hours:**  | **120** |

*The bulletin can be accessed at https://www.astate.edu/a/registrar/students/bulletins/*

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**Appendix A, 8-Semester Plan**

(**Referenced in #2** - **Undergraduate Proposals Only)**

*Instructions: Please identify new courses in italics*.

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| **Arkansas State University-Jonesboro****Degree: Bachelor of Science (BSIS)****Major: Interdisciplinary Studies****Year: 2020-2021** |
| Students requiring developmental course work based on low entrance exam scores (ACT, SAT, ASSET, COMPASS) may not be able to complete this program of study in eight (8) semesters. Developmental courses do not count toward total degree hours. **Students having completed college level courses prior to enrollment will be assisted by their advisor in making appropriate substitutions. In most cases, general education courses may be interchanged between semesters.** A minimum of 45 hours of upper division credit (3000-4000 level) is required for this degree. |
| **Year 1** |  | **Year 1** |
| **Fall Semester** |  | **Spring Semester** |
| **Course No.** | **Course Name** | **Hrs** | **Gen Ed** |  | **Course No.** | **Course Name** | **Hrs** | **Gen Ed** |
| ENG 1013 | English Composition | 3 | 3 |  | ENG 1013 | English Composition II | 3 | 3 |
| See Selection | Math 1023 or Math 1043 | 3 | 3 |  | See Selection | Social Science course | 3 | 3 |
| UC 1013 | UC Making Connections | 3 | 3 |  | COMS 1203 | Oral Communication | 3 | 3 |
| See Selection | HIST 2763, HIST 2773 or POSC 2103 | 3 | 3 |  | See Selection | Humanities course | 3 | 3 |
| BIOL 1003 | Biological Sciences | 3 | 3 |  | See Selection | Fine Arts Course | 3 | 3 |
| BIOL 1001 | Biology lab | 1 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total Hours** |  | 16 |  | **Total Hours** |  | 15 |
| **Year 2** |  | **Year 2** |
| **Fall Semester** |  | **Spring Semester** |
| **Course No.** | **Course Name** | **Hrs** | **Gen Ed** |  | **Course No.** | **Course Name** | **Hrs** | **Gen Ed** |
| See Selection | Social Science course | 3 | 3 |  | See Advisor | Lower Lever Thematic Course | 3 |  |
| PHSC 1203 | Physical Science  | 3 | 3 |  | See Advisor | Lower Lever Thematic Course | 3 |  |
| PHSC 1201 | Physical Science Lab | 1 | 1 |  | See Advisor | Lower Lever Thematic Course | 3 |  |
| IDS 2013 | Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies | 3 |  |  | IDS 3023 | Advanced Service Learning | 3 |  |
| IDS 2023 | Introduction to Service Learning | 3 |  |  | Elective | Elective | 3 |  |
| Elective | Elective | 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total Hours** |  | 16 |  | **Total Hours** |  | 15 |
| **Year 3** |  | **Year 3** |
| **Fall Semester** |  | **Spring Semester** |
| **Course No.** | **Course Name** | **Hrs** | **Gen Ed** |  | **Course No.** | **Course Name** | **Hrs** | **Gen Ed** |
| See Advisor | Upper Lever Thematic Course | 3 |  |  | See Advisor | Upper Lever Thematic Course | 3 |  |
| See Advisor | Upper Lever Thematic Course | 3 |  |  | See Advisor | Upper Lever Thematic Course | 3 |  |
| See Advisor | Upper Lever Thematic Course | 3 |  |  | See Advisor | Upper Lever Thematic Course | 3 |  |
| **See Advisor** | **Experiential Learning Elective** | **3** |  |  | Elective | Elective | 3 |  |
| Elective | Elective | 3 |  |  | IDS 3013 | Critical Thinking in the Profession | 3 |  |
| **Total Hours** |  | 15 |  | **Total Hours** |  | 15 |  |
| **Year 4** |  | **Year 4** |
| **Fall Semester** |  | **Spring Semester** |
| **Course No.** | **Course Name** | **Hrs** | **Gen Ed** |  | **Course No.** | **Course Name** | **Hrs** | **Gen Ed** |
| See Advisor | Upper Lever Thematic Course | 3 |  |  | See Advisor | Upper Lever Thematic Course | 3 |  |
| See Advisor | Upper Lever Thematic Course | 3 |  |  | See Advisor | Upper Lever Thematic Course | 3 |  |
| See Advisor | Upper Lever Thematic Course | 3 |  |  | See Advisor | Upper Lever Thematic Course | 3 |  |
| IDS 4023 | Leadership in the Profession | 3 | 3 |  | Elective | Elective | 1 |  |
| **See Advisor** | **Experiential Learning Elective** | **3** |  |  | IDS 4013 | Seminar in Professional Development | 3 |  |
| **Total Hours** |  | 15 |  | **Total Hours** |  | 13 |
| **Total Jr/Sr Hours 45 Total Degree Hours 120** |

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| **Graduation Requirements: Must have a minimum 2.75 GPA. Must have earned a C or better in each thematic and core courses. Must also meet all university general requirements for Baccalaureate degrees.**  |