Interdisciplinary Programs

Interdisciplinary Programs Offered
Major in interdisciplinary studies in three departments with the B.A. degree in liberal arts and sciences.
Major in urban studies with the B.A. degree in liberal arts and sciences.
Minor in African studies.
Minor in energy studies.
Minor in interdisciplinary studies, honors.
Certificate in environmental studies.
Minor in interdisciplinary programs.
Minor in environment and society.
Minor in environmental studies.
Minor in energy studies.
Minor in biological sciences.
Minor in African studies.
Minor in energy studies.
Minor in biological sciences.
Minor in urban studies.
Minor in interdisciplinary programs.
Minor in urban studies.
Minor in interdisciplinary programs.

For information on additional interdisciplinary programs, refer to this section of the catalog under the headings of Arabic, Asian Studies, Child and Family Development, Comparative International Studies, Comparative Literature, Environmental Sciences, European Studies, Gerontology, Humanities, International Business, International Security and Conflict Resolution, Jewish Studies, Latin American Studies, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies, Liberal Studies, Social Science, and Sustainability.

Interdisciplinary Studies in Three Departments

In the Division of Undergraduate Studies
Office: Administration 103
Telephone: 619-594-0597
FAX: 619-594-3808

Advising

Preliminary approval of the major must be secured from the interdisciplinary studies in three departments adviser in the Division of Undergraduate Studies PRIOR TO COMPLETION OF 90 SEMESTER UNITS. Acceptance into the program requires approval from each of three departmental advisers. Information regarding participating departments and procedures for application is available in the Division of Undergraduate Studies.

Impacted Program

The interdisciplinary studies in three departments major is an impacted program. To be admitted to the interdisciplinary studies in three departments major, students must meet the following criteria:

a. Complete preparation for the major;

b. Complete a minimum of 60 transferable semester units;

c. Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0.

To complete the major, students must fulfill the degree requirements for the major described in the catalog in effect at the time they are accepted into the premajor at SDSU (assuming continuous enrollment).

The Major

Interdisciplinary Studies in Three Departments is a student-designed major incorporating three different disciplines into a unified theme. The application process includes submission of an essay justifying a cohesive and rational master plan and the selection of upper and lower division coursework from three participating departments. Visit http://dus.sdsu.edu/interdisciplinary_studies/ for additional information.

Interdisciplinary Studies in Three Departments
With the B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences
(Major Code: 49993) (SIMS Code: 880204)

All candidates for a degree in liberal arts and sciences must complete the graduation requirements listed in the section of this catalog on "Graduation Requirements."

The student master plan must be approved (AD-103) before this major may be declared.

A minor is not required with this major.

Preparation for the Major

A minimum of two courses (normally defined as six semester units) in each of the three departments selected in the major must be completed in the lower division as foundation for upper division courses. In departments where lower division offerings are insufficient to meet this requirement, the total minimum upper division requirement may be extended.

For students electing biology as one of the three departments for the Interdisciplinary Studies in Three Departments, the minimum requirement for the lower division preparation for the major is Biology 204, 204L, and either Biology 100 or 203 and 203L (7-8 units). The minimum requirement for the upper division major is an organismal course as described for the biology major, either both Biology 352 and 354 or both Chemistry 365 and Biology 366L, and a 500-level biology course (minimum 10 units). Other biology courses numbered 350 and above may be included as electives.

For students electing French as one of their departments, all lower division preparation for the major or equivalent competency must be completed in addition to French 301, 305A or 305B, and 421 or 422. Students electing Italian must fulfill lower division competency requirements, Italian 301, and two other upper division Italian courses.

Language Requirement. Competency (successfully completing the third college semester or fifth college quarter) is required in one foreign language to fulfill the graduation requirement. Refer to section of catalog on "Graduation Requirements."

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement. Passing the Writing Placement Assessment with a score of 10 or completing one of the approved upper division writing courses (W) with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See "Graduation Requirements" section for a complete listing of requirements.

Major. A minimum of 36 upper division units selected from three departments: (a) with no fewer than nine units from each of the three departments; and (b) with no fewer than six units from each of the three departments completed at San Diego State University; and (c) with minimum overall and San Diego State University grade point averages of 2.0 in each of the three departments.

Urban Studies

In the College of Arts and Letters
Office: Department of Geography, Geography Annex 123
Telephone: 619-594-5437

Faculty

Urban studies is administered by the Urban Studies Committee. The program draws upon courses offered by faculty in the Departments of Anthropology, Chicana and Chicano Studies, Economics, Geography, Latin American Studies, Political Science, Public Affairs, and Sociology.

Co-Chairs: Bosco (Geography) and Marcelli, P. (Geography)
Undergraduate Advisers: Bosco (Geography), Curtis (Public Affairs), Marcelli, P. (Geography)
Committee: Adams (Political Science), Bosco (Geography), Griswold del Castillo (Chicana and Chicano Studies), Marcelli, E. (Sociology), Marcelli, P. (Geography), Pérez (Anthropology), Putitanum (Economics)
Advising

All urban studies majors must meet at least once each semester with the urban studies undergraduate adviser for advice on meeting general program requirements.

Impacted Program

The urban studies major is an impacted program. To be admitted to the urban studies major, students must meet the following criteria:

a. Complete preparation for the major;

b. Complete a minimum of 60 transferable semester units;

c. Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0.

To complete the major, students must fulfill the degree requirements for the major described in the catalog in effect at the time they are accepted into the premajor at SDSU (assuming continuous enrollment).

The Major

The major in urban studies is designed to prepare students for career opportunities in the urban milieu by providing an interdisciplinary major focused on the urban community, its environment and problems. The major combines the study of broad issues and theoretical concerns with specialized training in urban analytical research methodologies.

Major Academic Plans (MAPs)

Visit http://www.sdsu.edu/mymap for the recommended courses needed to fulfill your major requirements. The MAPs Web site was created to help students navigate the course requirements for their majors and to identify which General Education course will also fulfill a major preparation course requirement.

Urban Studies Major

With the B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences
(Major Code: 22141) (SIMS Code: 117010)

All candidates for a degree in liberal arts and sciences must complete the graduation requirements in the section of this catalog on “Graduation Requirements.” Students are cautioned that several of the required and elective courses have prerequisites. A minor is not required with this major.

Preparation for the Major, Anthropology 102 or Public Administration 200; Economics 101 or 102; Geography 102; Political Science 101 or 102; Sociology 101; and Economics 201 or Political Science 201 or Sociology 201 or Statistics 250. (18 units)

Language Requirement. Competency (successfully completing the third college semester or fifth college quarter) is required in one foreign language to fulfill the graduation requirement. Refer to the section of this catalog on “Graduation Requirements.”

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement. Passing the Writing Placement Assessment with a score of 10 or completing one of the approved upper division writing courses (W) with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See “Graduation Requirements” section for a complete listing of requirements.

Major. A minimum of 33 upper division units to include nine units from each of the following groups: (a) Urban Theory: Chicana and Chicano Studies 355 [or Latin American Studies 355]; Economics 458; Geography 354; Political Science 422; Public Administration 320; and (b) Urban Methods: Economics 301, Geography 380, 381, 385, 484, 584, 586, 589, Political Science 515, Public Administration 420, Sociology 406, 407, 408, and 15 units in an area of specialization:


Urban Planning, Design, and Management (SIMS Code: 117012). Geography 354 (if not taken as a requirement), 575, Public Administration 310, 320 (if not taken as a requirement), 350, 460, 485, 512, 520, 525.

Urban Political Economy and Public Policy (SIMS Code: 117013). Chicana and Chicano Studies 301, 306, 355 (if not taken as a requirement), Economics 401, 458 (if not taken as a requirement), 489, 565, Geography 353, 354 (if not taken as a requirement), 558, Latin American Studies 430 [or Political Science 430], Political Science 335, 422 (if not taken as a requirement).


Interdisciplinary Minors

African Studies Minor
(Minor Code: 22149) (SIMS Code: 110101)

Dr. Charles P. Toombs, Department of Africana Studies, is adviser for this minor.

The minor in African Studies consists of a minimum of 15 upper division units selected from Africana Studies 465 [or French 465], 470, 472; Humanities 460; Political Science 364; Religious Studies 328.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major in Africana studies, humanities, political science, or religious studies, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

Energy Studies Minor
(Minor Code: 19021) (SIMS Code: 777116)

Dr. Alan R. Sweedler, Department of Physics, is adviser for this minor.

The interdisciplinary minor in energy studies consists of a minimum of 15 units, at least 12 units of which must be upper division, to include Economics 452*, Environmental Science 301, Mechanical Engineering 352*, and six units selected from Art 247 or 347, Economics 453, Electrical Engineering 380*, 480*, Mechanical Engineering 552*, 556*, Geography 370*, Political Science 334, or three units of 499 with the approval of the adviser.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

Courses in the major department or required for the major may not be used to satisfy requirements for the minor.

*Additional prerequisites required.

Environment and Society Minor*
(Minor Code: 22039) (SIMS Code: 112301)

Dr. Trent W. Biggs (Department of Geography) and Dr. Matthew T. Lauer (Department of Anthropology), are the advisers for this minor.

The minor in environment and society consists of 15 units to include three units from Environmental Science 100, Geography 101, 370, Biology 315; three units from Anthropology 353, History 441, Philosophy 332, Political Science 334; and nine units selected from American Indian Studies 420, Anthropology 353, Asian Studies 320, Biology 324, 327, Economics 452, 453, 454, 458; Environmental Engineering 320; Geography 354, 409, 426, 573, Geological Sciences 303, 305, History 584, International Security and Conflict Resolution 310, Latin American Studies 540, Natural Science 315, Oceanography 320, Philosophy 332, Political Science 334, 564, Public Health 302, Recreation and Tourism Management 395, 485, Religious Studies 376, Sociology 350, Women’s Studies 540, 580, 582.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

*Additional prerequisites may be required for courses in the minor.
Honors Minor in Interdisciplinary Studies  
(Minor Code: 49993) (SIMS Code: 888001)  
Dr. Stacey L. Sinclair, University Honors Program in the Division of Undergraduate Studies, is adviser for this minor.

The Honors Minor in Interdisciplinary Studies consists of 19 units of honors program interdisciplinary seminars and honors program general education courses, to include seven lower division and 12 upper division units. A maximum of nine units of honors program general education courses may be used to satisfy requirements for the minor. Students are required to complete an honors thesis, creative project, or portfolio during their senior year. Students must be admitted to the University Honors Program at the time they declare the minor. Students not enrolled in the University Honors Program may take courses in the minor if they have consent of the instructor and approval from the honors program director.

**Preparation for the Honors Minor (7 units).** Honors Program 100, 275, and three units selected from Honors Program 275 or honors sections of general education courses (English 220; Humanities 140; Philosophy 101, 102; Religious Studies 101, 103; Sociology 101, 102).

**Upper Division for the Honors Minor (12 units).** Honors Program 413, 490B or 490C; and six units selected from honors program seminars or honors sections of general education courses (an additional three units of Honors Program 413, 450, 490A; Anthropology 402; Chemistry 300; Counseling and School Psychology 420; General Studies 410, 450; Humanities 370; International Security and Conflict Resolution 310; Linguistics 350; Philosophy 329, 340; Psychology 340; Religious Studies 353, 363, 376; Sociology 320, 352).

Courses in the major department or required for the major may not be used to satisfy requirements for the minor. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

**Study Abroad Requirement.** All Honors Minor in Interdisciplinary Studies students are required to complete a credit-bearing study abroad experience. To meet this requirement, minors must complete one of the following:

1. An SDSU Study Abroad Program;
2. An SDSU Exchange Program;
3. An SDSU Study Travel Program;
4. A CSU Study Abroad Program;
5. General Studies 450;
6. Honors Program 450.

Environmental Studies Certificate  
(Certificate Code: 90042) (SIMS Code: 112999)

The Environmental Studies Certificate is designed for students already holding a bachelor’s degree (in any field) who desire to increase their understanding of the theoretical and applied approaches to environmental problems and issues. This is not a certificate program in the hard sciences, but rather is intended to provide diverse ways for students to develop knowledge of the causes and consequences of the human impact on the environment and the impact on humans of philosophical, political, economic, spatial, and natural science perspectives. This professional development program offers a multi-disciplinary approach to environmental studies for natural resource managers, teachers, community activists, and others who are concerned about the interaction of people and the environment.

Students must complete the required units with a 2.5 grade point average. A bachelor’s degree from a university is also required.

The certificate requires 15 units to include nine units selected from Economics 453, Geography 370, 573, International Security and Conflict Resolution 300, Oceanography 320, Political Science 334; and six units selected from Biology 315, 324, 327, Economics 452, 454, 489, Geography 409, 570, 572, 574, Geological Sciences 301, 303, History 441, International Security and Conflict Resolution 301, Philosophy 332, Public Health 304, Recreation and Tourism Management 487. Core courses can be counted in only one category; 500-numbered courses may have substantial prerequisites, but may be counted later for graduate credit toward an M.A. degree.

Students interested in the Environmental Studies Certificate will normally enroll in courses through Open University. Prior to enrollment, contact Dr. John R. Weeks, Department of Geography or Dr. Donna L. Ross, School of Teacher Education, to develop an approved program of coursework.