

continue to show promise of success in and fitness for the profession, as determined by the graduate program faculty, will be permitted to continue in a graduate program.

Effective with the fall 2007 semester, students who are placed on AAP for any two semesters will be disqualified from the university.

Doctoral students should consult the appropriate program for the program policy on academic disqualification.

Graduate Interdisciplinary Studies

Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies (M.A.)

Master of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies (M.S.)

The interdisciplinary studies program for the Master of Arts (M.A.) or Master of Science (M.S.) is available to qualified graduate students when there is a need for advanced study in subject matter that is interdisciplinary and that is not available through existing graduate programs. In such instances, proposals for an interdisciplinary program that may combine cohesive, interrelated coursework from two or more departments (at least two of which offer graduate courses [200-level]), must be submitted for approval. Proposals that could be accommodated by an existing graduate degree or option at California State University, Fresno, as in the use of elective courses, are not approved.

The M.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies differs from the M.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies by requiring breadth of technical knowledge and attainment of specific professional competencies in scientific research methodologies and data-driven analysis. For detailed policy, requirements, and application, see the Division website at www.fresnostate.edu/academics/gradstudies.

Admission Eligibility

Those seeking admission to the M.A. or M.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies must adhere to university graduate admissions requirements, including submission of applications, official transcripts, and appropriate standardized test scores (e.g., GRE, TOEFL). Applicants must have a 3.0 GPA on previous graduate work and related prerequisites. Standards for admission to classified graduate standing as specified in this catalog for at least one of the principal departments must be met. All appropriate course prerequisites on the approved program must be completed. If eligible, students will be conditionally classified for admission until their proposed program of study is approved. Interdisciplinary Studies program applicants are initially advised in the Division of Research and Graduate Studies. Applicants will not be considered for admission until they have consulted with the Division advisor.

General Degree Requirements

A minimum of 30 units is required. At least 70 percent (21 units) of the program must consist of graduate coursework (200-level courses). The proposed program must reflect the requirements of scholarly creativity and research appropriate to the graduate level and must exhibit overall coherence in a particular, recognized field of study. An acceptable thesis (2-6 units) that demonstrates interdisciplinary research is required. A creative project may be selected as an alternative to the thesis for appropriate M.A. programs. The faculty advisory committee may require an oral defense or presentation of the thesis/project, or a written final examination.

Although interdisciplinary studies provide an opportunity for exceptional students to engage in a program outside the framework of existing majors, all academic standards and graduation requirements must be met.

Procedures

Prior to or during the first term of study, students should seek the support of a preliminary faculty advisory committee to gain counsel and advice in forming an interdisciplinary graduate program. After consultation with the advisory committee, students should complete the Proposal for Pursuing Interdisciplinary Studies Master's Degree Programs application, which includes a plan of study.

After approval by the sponsoring faculty and department, the application and supporting documents are formally presented to the graduate dean. The application will then be forwarded to the University Graduate Committee for final approval. A formal application and plan of study must be filed with the Division of Research and Graduate Studies no later than mid-term of the first semester after admission to the program. A maximum of 10 units may be applied toward the graduate degree prior to official university approval of the plan of study, at which time the student becomes classified. Students who do not meet the deadline for submission of the proposed program of study clearly stated in the conditions of admission may be subject to academic disqualification from the program. Detailed instructions for proposing an interdisciplinary degree may be found on the Division website at www.fresnostate.edu/academics/gradstudies/forms.