



Interdisciplinary University Studies Degree

University Senate
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Interdisciplinary University Studies

- Proposed new Bachelor of Science Degree at Auburn University coordinated through the Office of Undergraduate Studies
- Combines features from similar programs at Mississippi State University, Texas A&M University and the University of Maryland
- This is not a “120-hour anything goes” degree. Students combine fields of study from two or three different colleges or schools.



Justification

- Flexible degree that allows students to combine the study of several academic disciplines to create a single major resulting in a practical and employable degree
- Focus on career development
- Suitable for students with career ideas that do not fit a particular major, or for students who develop different career interests mid-way through their academic careers



Eligibility

- Students with a 2.0 or higher GPA or those with a 2.2 the previous semester
- Minimum of 30 to maximum of 90 earned semester hours completed
- Completion of the introductory course with a grade of C or higher as the entry gate to the major



Overview

- 36 semester hours in 2 (18/18) or 3 (12/12/12) different schools or colleges
- Two IDSC courses, introductory and capstone
- 8-9 hours of supporting work: oral communication, computer competence, written communication
- Follows rules on requirements of upper level courses for major; cannot be all “intro” courses



Approvals

- Student will have a faculty mentor to approve entire degree plan
- Student will need approval of faculty advisors in each of the concentration fields
- Student will need final approval from the Office of Undergraduate Studies



Oversight

- Faculty Oversight Committee composed of one member from each School and College that could have concentrations in such a degree
- Will serve as contact point for faculty advisors, mentors
- Will review progress reports from students
- Will prepare a report each semester for the University Curriculum Committee



Introductory Course

- Major project is the development of a well-justified degree plan
- Co-taught by faculty member and career advisor
- Course will help students identify concentration areas
- Need minimum grade of C to declare major



Student Numbers?

- Goal of 15-30 graduates per year for next 5 years
- Entry limited by number of seats in Introductory Course
- Envision offering two sections per year to start, 25 students each



Timeline

- Approved by the University Curriculum Committee on October 2, 2008
- Still needs approval from Board of Trustees and ACHE
- Hope to launch in Fall of 2009



QUESTION?

