

Bachelor of Science Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies - Professional Writing Major

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Virginia Tucker Steffen, Program Coordinator and Advisor

The professional writing program produces graduates capable of moving into professional and technical writing fields. Students in the program complete a core of courses in technical writing as well as in business, communication, and human resources. The program is ideal for returning students already working who are interested in expanding their management skills and/or increasing their eligibility for promotion.

Topics courses, such as ENGL 395/ENGL 495, COMM 395/COMM 396, etc., must be approved by the student's advisor to ensure that the topic is appropriate for the major. No more than two classes, or six credits, may be counted for both the major and a minor.

Course requirements are as follows.

Lower-Division General Education and Major Requirements

Written Communication *	6
Oral Communication	3
Mathematics	3
Language and Culture **	0-6
Information Literacy and Research	3
Human Creativity	3
Interpreting the Past	3
Literature	3
Philosophy and Ethics ***	0-3
The Nature of Science	8
Impact of Technology ****	
Human Behavior	3
Total Hours	35-44

* Grade of C or better required in both courses and in ENGL 110C before declaring major.

** See Requirements for Undergraduate Degrees section of this catalog for requirement.

*** Can be met by PHIL 303E

**** Met by ENGL 307T.

Interdisciplinary Studies Core Courses required of all students (required grade of C or better in IDS 300W and C- or better in the remaining courses)

ENGL/IDS 307T	Digital Writing (meets impact of technology requirement)	3
IDS 300W	Interdisciplinary Theory and Concepts	3
IDS 493	IDS Electronic Portfolio Project	3
Total Hours		9

Professional Writing Core Courses required of all students (required grade of C- or better)

ENGL 325	Introduction to Rhetorical Studies	3
ENGL 327W	Advanced Composition	3
ENGL 334W	Technical Writing	3
Total Hours		9

Organizational Foundations (required grade of C- or better; meets upper-division general education)

Select three from the following: 9

COMM 305	Professional Communication
COMM 351	Interpersonal Communication in Organizations
COMM 355	Organizational Communication
COMM 400W	Intercultural Communication
CS 300T	Computers in Society
MGMT 325	Contemporary Organizations and Management
MGMT 330	Organizational Behavior
MGMT 340	Human Resources Management
MKTG 311	Marketing Principles and Problems
MKTG 402	Consumer Behavior
MKTG 411	Multi-National Marketing
PHIL 303E	Business Ethics
PSYC 303	Industrial/Organizational Psychology
PSYC 343	Personnel Psychology
PSYC 344	Human Factors
PSYC 345	Organizational Psychology
Total Hours	9

Additional Hours in Professional Writing (required grade of C- or better)

Select three from the following: 9

ENGL 335	Editing and Document Design
ENGL 350	Aspects of the English Language
ENGL 368	Writing Internship
ENGL 370	English Linguistics
ENGL 380	Reporting and News Writing I
ENGL 381	Public Relations
ENGL 395/396	Topics in English
ENGL 427W	Writing in the Disciplines
ENGL 435W	Management Writing
ENGL 468	Advanced Writing Internship
ENGL 477	Language, Gender and Power
ENGL 481	Advanced Public Relations
ENGL 484	Feature Story Writing
ENGL 485W	Editorial and Persuasive Writing
ENGL 486	Media Law and Ethics
ENGL 495/496	Topics in English
Total Hours	9

Electives

Elective courses may be taken for the remainder of the minimum 120 credits required for the degree.

Upper-Division General Education

Met in the major.

Requirements for Graduation

Requirements for graduation include a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00 overall and in the major with no grade less than C- in major courses, 120 credit hours, which must include both a minimum of 30 credit hours overall and 12 credit hours of upper-level courses in the major program from Old Dominion University, completion of ENGL 110C, ENGL 211C or ENGL 221C or ENGL 231C, and the writing intensive (W) course in the major with a grade of C or better, and completion of Senior Assessment.

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES Courses

IDS 300W. Interdisciplinary Theory and Concepts. 3 Credits.

An examination of the history, concepts and application of interdisciplinary study. This course includes an analysis of similarities and differences in academic disciplines and the application of interdisciplinary approaches to a specific topic of study. This is a writing intensive course. Prerequisites: a grade of C or better in ENGL 211C, ENGL 221C or ENGL 231C.

IDS 307T. Digital Writing. 3 Credits.

This course introduces students to issues of writing in various digital environments like web pages, email, blogs, wikis, and discussion boards. It also introduces fundamentals of hypertext authoring, digital and visual rhetoric, and image manipulation. Prerequisites: ENGL 110C and ENGL 211C or ENGL 221C or ENGL 231C.

IDS 368. Internship in Interdisciplinary Studies. 1-6 Credits.

An opportunity to integrate service and applied learning experience with interdisciplinary perspectives. Prerequisite: junior standing and permission of individualized interdisciplinary studies program coordinator.

IDS 369. Internship in Conservation Leadership. 3-6 Credits.

As part of the Conservation Leadership minor, this graded internship will provide an opportunity to integrate service and applied learning experience with interdisciplinary perspectives. 200 hours are required for the 3-credit option, and 400 hours are required for the 6-credit option. Prerequisites: BIOL/OEAS/IDS 466W and BIOL/OEAS/IDS 467.

IDS 397. Independent Study. 1-6 Credits.

IDS 398. Independent Study. 1-6 Credits.

IDS 400/500. Study Abroad. 0 Credits.

IDS 466W. Introduction to Mitigation and Adaptation Studies. 3 Credits.

Students will be introduced to the science underpinning mitigation of human-induced changes in the Earth system, including but not limited to climate change and sea level rise, and adaptation to the impacts of these changes. The course will cover the environmental hazards and the opportunities and limitations for conservation, mitigation and adaptation. This is a writing intensive course. Cross listed with BIOL 466W and OEAS 466W. Prerequisites: BIOL 291 or permission of instructor.

IDS 467. Sustainability Leadership. 3 Credits.

In this class, students will discover what makes a leader for sustainability. They will consider a range of global and local crises from a leadership point of view in the context of sustainability science, which addresses the development of communities in a rapidly changing social, economic, and environmental system-of-systems environment. The course will be based on taking a problem-motivated and solution-focused approach to the challenges considered. The course includes a service learning project focusing on a leadership experience in solving a real-world environmental problem. Prerequisite: BIOL 466W or OEAS 466W or IDS 466W.

IDS 493. IDS Electronic Portfolio Project. 3 Credits.

The preparation of an electronic portfolio integrating the student's academic study, work experiences, skill identification and work products. Alternative formats are used for varying uses of the portfolio. Prerequisites: IDS 300W and senior standing.

IDS 494. Entrepreneurship in Interdisciplinary Studies. 3 Credits.

This course is designed to help students enhance their personal and professional development through innovation guided by faculty members and professionals. It offers students an opportunity to integrate disciplinary theory and knowledge through developing a nonprofit program, product, business, or other initiative. The real-world experiences that entrepreneurs provide will help students understand how academic knowledge leads to transformations, innovations, and solutions to different types of problems. Prerequisite: IDS 300W and approval of the program coordinator.

IDS 495. Topics in Integrative Studies. 3 Credits.

Focused study of selected topics linking perspectives, research and applications from a variety of disciplines. Emphasis is on disciplinary synthesis. Prerequisite: IDS 300W.

IDS 497. IDS Individualized Senior Project. 3 Credits.

This course is a vehicle for the execution of the senior project requirement of the Interdisciplinary Studies Program. The project will be negotiated between the student, faculty sponsors, and the program. Open only to individualized integrative studies majors. Prerequisites: IDS 300W, permission of the instructor and an approved individualized integrative studies curriculum plan.