

# Interdisciplinary Studies

For information on the Interdisciplinary Studies Program, please contact the Program Director at [id@stu.ca](mailto:id@stu.ca)

## Interdisciplinary Major

An Interdisciplinary Major is a course of study which consists of 36 credit hours of course work beyond the 1000 level cutting across disciplinary lines but related by a clear theme or unifying principle.

Students who plan to graduate with an interdisciplinary Major degree must meet with the Coordinator of Interdisciplinary Majors and Honours to identify learning goals and then compose a preliminary course of study with which to approach a potential Program Director. With their Program Directors, students will refine their course of study – their program – in a written proposal. The proposal must indicate:

1. the professor who has agreed to serve as Program Director,
2. two additional professors who have agreed to serve with the Program Director on an advisory committee, and
3. the proposed program, identified by course numbers and titles.

Final approval of each proposed program will rest with the Interdisciplinary Studies Committee. Normally, approval of the program will be sought by the end of the student's second year. Exceptionally, proposals may be entertained as late as the end of the third year. The Coordinator with the Program Director will monitor the student's interdisciplinary course of study at regular intervals during the third and fourth years. Accordingly, the Coordinator will present a written report on the student's progress to the Dean of Faculty and the Registrar at the end of the student's third year and at the end of the first and second semesters of the last year.

The decision to award an Interdisciplinary Major degree will be made by recommendation of the student's advisory committee.

## Interdisciplinary Honours

Interdisciplinary Honours is a program consisting of a 57 credit hour course of study, as follows:

1. 48 credit hours of course work beyond the 1000 level cutting across disciplinary lines but related by a clear theme or unifying principle, and of which 6 credit hours must be in theory or methods;
2. completion of a 3 credit hour Honours thesis seminar or workshop; and
3. successful completion of a 6 credit hour interdisciplinary Honours thesis.

Students who plan to graduate with an Interdisciplinary Honours degree must meet with the Coordinator of Interdisciplinary Majors and Honours to identify learning goals and then compose a preliminary course of study with which to approach a potential Program Director. With their Program Directors, students will refine their course of study – their program – in a written proposal.

The proposal must indicate:

1. the professor who has agreed to serve as Program Director,
2. two additional professors who have agreed to serve with the Program Director on an advisory and thesis evaluation committee, and
3. the proposed program identified by course numbers and titles.

Final approval of each proposed program will rest with the Interdisciplinary Studies Committee. Normally, approval of the program will be sought by the end of the student's second year. Exceptionally, proposals may be entertained as late as the beginning of the Spring Registration prior to the beginning of the student's final year of study.

Applications will not be considered after the beginning of the student's final year of study. The thesis will be consistent with the approved aims of the student's program, and it will be supervised by the Program Director. The thesis will require the approval of the student's thesis evaluation committee made up of the Program Director and at least two additional professors chosen by the student and the Program Director. A minimum grade of B must be attained for the thesis to count as an Honours credit.

The Coordinator with the Program Director and the student's advisory and thesis evaluation committee will monitor a student's interdisciplinary Honours course of study at regular intervals during the third and fourth years. Accordingly, the Coordinator will report in writing present a written report on the student's progress to the Interdisciplinary Studies Committee at the end of the student's third year and at the end of the first and second semesters of the last year.

The decision to award an Interdisciplinary Honours degree will be made by recommendation of the student's advisory and thesis evaluation committee.

## Interdisciplinary Minor

An interdisciplinary Minor is a pre-approved course of study which consists of 18 credit hours of course work beyond the 1000 level cutting across disciplinary lines but related by a clear theme or unifying principle. Approved combinations of courses follow:

### Business Studies

A minor in Business Studies consists of 18 credit hours in Business courses including:

- Introduction to Business (BUSI 2013) 3 ch
- Introduction to Economics (ECON 1013 and 1023) 6 ch in total (3ch per course)
- 9 ch chosen from:
  - BUSI 2023 Introduction to Financial Accounting
  - BUSI 3013 Personal Financial Planning
  - BUSI 3023 Nonprofit Management
  - BUSI 3033 Labour Relations and Collective Bargaining (cross-listed as ECON 3033)
  - BUSI 3513 Introduction to Industrial and Organization Psychology (cross-listed as PSYC 3533)

Or from any of the UNB courses listed under "Major in Economics with a Business Option" in the Department of Economics section of the Calendar.

## Cultural Studies

The study of culture is something that takes place in every discipline in the liberal arts, and the minor in Cultural Studies is the perfect complement to your disciplinary studies. What distinguishes Cultural Studies from the disciplines out of which it arises is its attempt to thematize, in a certain way, all of those experiences, impetuses, beliefs, and identities that shape who we are and how we think. Using theoretical and critical techniques that are decidedly cross-disciplinary, Cultural Studies offers insight into a world populated with everything from high literature to tourism, video games to auteur cinema, fashion magazines to ultimate fighting.

In Cultural Studies, you will be confronted with the world as they know it, only to discover that it is not as familiar as they believe. But it will also historicize your encounter with the world, helping to address questions that routinely arise before us. Have you ever wondered how shopping replaced going for a walk as a means of relaxation? How might advertising shape our ability to make day-to-day decisions about how we choose to live? Are the things we believe in natural, or are our beliefs shaped for us by others? Students can expect to encounter competing answers to these questions from a variety of disciplinary perspectives, from professors across the campus.

### Structure

The Interdisciplinary Minor in Cultural Studies requires students to take a relatively broad distribution of 18ch in courses beyond the first year level. The first year course, CUST 1006. Introduction to Popular Culture, is required, and it is recommended, though not necessary, that this be the first course you take for the CS Minor. CUST 2213. Cultural Theory, is also required to satisfy requirements for the Minor. Course descriptions for these two courses, and for CUST 2113. The Sound and Technology of Culture, follow the course listings below.

This leaves 15ch in electives available to you to satisfy the CS Minor requirements. Students must take a minimum of 3ch, and a maximum of 6ch, from each of at least three of the following course categories below. Course descriptions can be found by searching the calendar under the relevant department.

While CUST 1006 will be taught on a yearly basis, students should be advised that not every course will be taught every year. However, they will be taught on a regular basis.

If you have questions about Cultural Studies courses, or the Interdisciplinary Minor in Cultural Studies in general, you can direct them to Dr. Dennis Desroches ([desroches@stu.ca](mailto:desroches@stu.ca)) or Dr. Dawn Morgan ([dmorgan@stu.ca](mailto:dmorgan@stu.ca)).

### Course Categories

#### 1. Visual Cultures

ENGL2723 Fiction, Drama, and Film 1

ENGL2733 Fiction, Drama, and Film 2

ENGL3213 Art Cinema

ENGL3483 Irish Film

FNAR2613 Music in TV and Film

HIST3783 Film and History

HIST3953 Portrayals of Jihad and Crusade. History, Memory, Film

## 2. *Technocultures*

- CUST2113 The Sound and Technology of Culture
- STS1003 Science, Technology, and Society I
- STS2903 The Politics of Science
- STS3203 Science, Technology, and Nature
- STS2503 The History of Disease

## 3. *Leisure Industries*

- ANTH3673 World Music
- ANTH3683 The Anthropology of Sport
- HIST3763 Modern Sport in World History
- HIST3863 Modern Tourism in World History
- HIST3963 Modernity and the Rise of Consumerism in Canada

## 4. *Genders and Sexualities*

- ANTH2533 Anthropology of Gender
- ENGL3813 Theories of Gender and Sexuality
- STS3503 Feminist Critiques of Science

## 5. *Texts and Worlds*

- HIST2103 Material World. History Through Things
- ENGL3623 Literature of Politics
- ENGL2513 Science Fiction 1
- ENGL2563 Science Fiction 2
- ENGL3643 Fantasy
- FREN3603 Civilisation francophone. Europe française
- FREN3613 Civilisation francophone. Amérique française
- FREN 3623 Civilisation francophone 3. Maghreb
- FREN3633 Civilisation francophone. Afrique subsaharienne et Caraïbes
- SPAN4043 20th Century Spanish Culture and Texts
- SPAN4843 20th Century Spanish American Culture and Texts
- SPAN4123 Introduction to U.S. Latino Literature and Culture

## **CUST 1006. Introduction to Popular Culture**

This course aims to provide to students the critical and conceptual tools to begin to question culture, to look upon the world and to make sense of its enormous power to shape how we think, and who we are. We will, then, conceive of the world's "texts" in the broadest sense possible, compelling us to direct our critical attentions to everything from video games and fashion magazines, to popular film, advertising, television, and the internet. And along the way, we will encounter thinkers whose work has been vital in helping us to understand how culture works, with a special focus as the course unfolds on the thought of the Frankfurt and Birmingham schools. By approaching culture both practically (i.e., through an analysis of everyday material culture, from coffee to cars) and theoretically (i.e., through the encounter with important thinkers who have shaped and defined how it is we understand the social, economic, and political realities of culture itself), this course will give students an experience of their cultural milieu that trips up everyday understandings of what we believe culture to be, and will challenge them to see a very different

everyday world.

### **CUST 2213. Cultural Theory**

This course introduces students to a number of the key theoretical texts that have shaped the emergence of Cultural Theory. Cultural Theory focuses on questions concerned to interrogate what culture means, how culture works, and how culture changes as malleable relations of power organize, and reorganize, themselves. It asks students to step back and think critically about the lessons learned, the gains made, and indeed, the losses accrued, when the frameworks we create for understanding the world reify as organizing principles, beliefs, behaviours, and identities.

### **CUST 2113. The Sound and Technology of Culture**

A study of the uses and development of sound technologies, from the phonograph, invented in 1877, to early twentieth-century radio and sound-on-film, magnetic audio tape and surveillance, synthesizers, cell phones, and online audio communications of today. Artists and writers were among the first to work out the implications of the technological isolation of sound and to explore sound as a material for new forms of composition. The course traces the development of sound works chronologically through the twentieth-century as mutually-shaping of users and conductors of technology and culture.

## **Environmental Studies**

*18 credit hours, drawing on at least two different disciplines, from the following list:*

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| ECON 3323 | Environmental Economics                                   |
| ENGL 2773 | The Journalism of John McPhee - Reporting the Environment |
| RELG 3523 | Environmental Ethics                                      |
| STS 2103  | Science, Technology, and the Society II                   |
| STS 2803  | Controversies in the Earth and Environmental Sciences     |

## **Ethics**

*18 credit hours including courses from at least two disciplines, drawn from the following list:*

|           |                                  |
|-----------|----------------------------------|
| HMRT 3033 | Philosophy of Human Rights       |
| PHIL 2213 | Introduction to Moral Philosophy |
| PHIL 2233 | Contemporary Moral Philosophy    |
| PHIL 2243 | Current Issue in Ethics          |
| RELG 2513 | Foundation of Christian Ethics   |
| RELG 3573 | Religion and Social Ethics       |
| RELG 3593 | Moral Development                |
| RELG 3513 | Bioethics                        |
| RELG 3583 | Media Ethics                     |

## **Film Studies**

*18 credit hours, drawing on at least two different disciplines, from the following list:*

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| ENGL 2723 | Fiction, Drama, and Film: A Study of Narrative I  |
| ENGL 2733 | Fiction, Drama, and Film: A Study of Narrative II |
| ENGL 3213 | Art Cinema  |
| ENGL 3223 | Auteur Cinema                                     |

|            |                         |
|------------|-------------------------|
| ENGL 3483  | Irish Film I            |
| IRSH 3693/ |                         |
| ENGL 3473  | Irish Film II           |
| GERO 3093  | Images of Aging in Film |
| HIST 3783  | Film and History        |

## Irish Studies

*18 credit hours including courses from at least two disciplines, drawn from the following list:*

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| ENGL 2463 | Irish Literature                         |
| ENGL 3426 | Modern Irish Literature                  |
| ENGL 3583 | Irish Film                               |
| HIST 2153 | Early Irish History                      |
| HIST 2163 | Modern Irish History                     |
| IRSH 2003 | Art of the Golden Age: the Book of Kells |
| IRSH 2006 | Introduction to Irish Studies            |
| IRSH 2123 | Introduction to the Irish Language       |

## Latin American Studies

*18 credit hours, drawing on at least two different disciplines, from the following list:*

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| ECON 3333 | Perspectives on Underdevelopment                  |
| HIST 2613 | Latin America: Colonial Period                    |
| HIST 2623 | Latin America: Modern Period                      |
| HIST 3613 | Gender and Power in Latin American History        |
| HIST 4606 | 20th Century Latin America                        |
| SPAN 4213 | Mexico Online! I                                  |
| SPAN 4223 | Mexico Online! II                                 |
| SPAN 4813 | Spanish-American Literature: Colonial to Modern   |
| SPAN 4823 | Spanish-American Literature: Modernism to Present |

## Media Studies

Please see page 238.

## Medieval Studies

*18 credit hours, drawing on at least two different disciplines from the following list:*

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| ENGL 2643 | Medieval Drama                                      |
| ENGL 3306 | Middle English Literature                           |
| ENGL 3396 | Introduction to Anglo-Saxon Language and Literature |
| HIST 3213 | The Early Church                                    |
| HIST 3223 | The Medieval Church                                 |
| HIST 3543 | Religion and the Church in Early Russia             |
| HIST 4206 | Medieval Institutions                               |
| PHIL 2133 | Medieval Christian Philosophy I                     |
| PHIL 2143 | Medieval Christian Philosophy II                    |
| PHIL 3523 | St. Thomas: Knowledge, Being and Human Being        |
| PHIL 3533 | St. Thomas: Law, Morality and Society               |

## Peace Studies

Minor in Peace Studies: PEAC 2006 and 12 credit-hours electives, including at least 6 credits from Social Science electives and 3 from Humanities electives. For Major or Honours in Peace Studies, see general rules for Interdisciplinary Studies.

### **PEAC-2006. Introduction to Peace Studies (Required Course)**

This core course examines leading theorists on peace, drawing from humanities and social science disciplines. It explores conditions needed for peace to occur and be sustained, and strategies for building peace movements and nonviolent social change in global and local contexts. It examines multiple experiences of conflict and systemic oppression, and efforts to change these realities, including issues of environmental degradation, poverty, family violence, the sex trades, sweatshops, and militarism.

### **PEAC-2136. Introduction to African History (HIST)**

This course introduces students to the dynamics of African history and cultures, while challenging pervasive stereotypes and misperceptions about Africa. The class is designed to appeal to history and non-history Majors alike.

### **PEAC-2443. Race and Ethnic Relations (SOCI)**

This course examines theories and descriptions of race and ethnic relations, focussing on the general concepts of the role of race and ethnicity in social organization and stratification. Concrete situations in contemporary social systems will be discussed.

### **PEAC-2453. History of the United Nations (HIST)**

The United Nations represents the first serious effort toward an international government. History of the United Nations examines the evolution of this unique international body from its creation in 1945 to the present. It seeks to understand how the United Nations has shaped world history, what its low and high points have been, and what its challenges and potential are in the twenty-first century.

### **PEAC-3006. Justice and Peace: An Economics Perspective (ECON)**

The course will explore the contribution that heterodox economic analysis, including political economy, ecological economics, the moral economy framework and feminist economics, can make to the study of issues of justice and peace.

### **PEAC-3013. Peace Activism: Theory and Practice**

This course is designed to help students better understand the relationships between theories and concepts of peace building and practical involvement with community outreach, social service agencies and non-profit organizations working towards alternatives to violence and reconciliation, local and global. Students will study an organization of their choice that is involved with peace activism. They will work collaboratively with local activists to design and host an outreach peace-activist project for the STU Peace Program. Prerequisite PEAC-2006 or permission of instructor.

### **PEAC-3163. Gandhi, India and the World, c. 1850 to Present (HIST)**

Mohandas K. "Mahatma" Gandhi (1869-1948) is a towering figure in the history of India, but he is curiously global too. He lived on three continents, his ideas and practices combined influences and experiences that he gathered from different parts of the world via global networks, and his impact has long extended beyond the subcontinent's borders. Studying Gandhi's life and legend will allow the class to investigate themes relating to nationalism,

colonialism, pacifism, non-violence, ‘alternative modernity’ and other topics or issues. The course will also explore Gandhi’s fascinating legacy in postcolonial India and around the globe. It is recommended that students have at least 6 credit hours of history courses before taking this course.

### **PEAC-4013. Senior Seminar in Peace Studies**

This senior seminar is a capstone course for both the minor and the Interdisciplinary major in Peace Studies. This class draws together theory and practice. It explores such topics as the historical development of selected peace activist organizations, organizational discourses and strategies used to promote social change, and the political, economic, and structural barriers to greater effectiveness in promotion of policies and activism towards a peace culture.

#### *Social Science Electives*

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| PEAC 2013/POLS 2303 | Comparative Politics of the Developing World      |
| PEAC 2023/NATI 2603 | Roles of Native Women                             |
| PEAC 3033/NATI 3603 | Native People and the Colonial Experience         |
| PEAC 3023/ENVS 3023 | Environmental Praxis                              |
| PEAC 3033/SOCI 3513 | Sociology of Education                            |
| PEAC 3043/SOCI 3153 | Sociology of War                                  |
| PEAC 3053/HMRT 3063 | Humanitarian Law and Human Rights                 |
| PEAC 3063/HMRT 3123 | International Human Rights                        |
| PEAC 3073/POLS 3323 | Political Leadership: Local, National, and Global |
| PEAC 4043/CRIM 4123 | Peacemaking Criminology and Restorative Justice   |

#### *Humanities Electives*

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| PEAC 2033/RELG 2173      | Religion, Conflict and Peacebuilding                |
| PEAC 3103/RELG3643       | Christianity and Contemporary Society               |
| PEAC 2043/ENGL 2583      | Women Writers I                                     |
| PEAC 2053/ENGL 2593      | Women Writers II                                    |
| PEAC 3073/ ENGL 3623     | The Literature of Politics                          |
| PEAC 3083/ENGL 3433      | World Literature in English: West Indies and Africa |
| PEAC 3093/ENGL 3443      | World Literature in English: India                  |
| PEAC 3113/IRSH/ENGL 3483 | Irish Film I  |
| PEAC 3123/IRSH/ENGL 3473 | Irish Film II                                       |
| PEAC 3133/IRSH/ENGL 3426 | Modern Irish Literature                             |

## **US Studies**

*18 credit hours, drawing on at least two different disciplines, from the following list:*

|           |                              |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| ENGL 3416 | American Literature          |
| HIST 3743 | The United States Since 1945 |
| POLS 3303 | US Government and Politics   |
| POLS 3313 | US Foreign Policy            |

## **Interdisciplinary Studies Committee Membership**

The Interdisciplinary Studies Committee will be made up of four members of the University

community:

- the Coordinator of Interdisciplinary Studies
- two faculty members named by the Nominating Committee
- a member named by the Registrar

### **INTR-2003. Preparing for International Living and Work Experience**

This course is intended to provide academic preparation for students who will be participating in an international work/study program during the coming summer. To ready themselves for living and working in another country, students will read and respond to academic texts about their destination countries and discuss issues of cultural difference. Winter semester.

### **INTR-2016. Reflecting on International Living and Work Experience**

This course is intended to provide the opportunity for students to reflect critically on their recent living and work experiences abroad as participant in international programs. Besides reading and responding to academic texts, participants will be expected to respond to journal excerpts and photographs created by individuals during their time in another country. Fall semester.

### **INTR-4003. Interdisciplinary Honours Workshop**

This course provides both interdisciplinary and discipline-based Honours students with the opportunity to share thesis chapter drafts in a research writing workshop context. Participants will reflect on questions, themes and issues arising during the process of researching and writing the thesis.

### **INTR-4016. Interdisciplinary Honours Thesis**

The student, in consultation with her or his Advisory Committee, will submit a thesis proposal to the Interdisciplinary Studies Committee by the end of the third year of studies. The honours thesis is written in the fourth year of studies with guidance from the student's Program Director.