



Interdisciplinary Studies Bachelor's Degree Goals Option- Approval Form

Summary of the Major

The interdisciplinary studies major allows students flexibility to create a major, when their educational goals do not fit into one of the established majors offered by UAF. This approval form is reviewed and approved by a faculty committee, who are selected by the student and provide expert advice related to the student's academic goals. In this form you will develop your:

- Major's title
- Major's course list
- Narrative description of your major by responding to short essay questions
- Capstone description
- Communication outcomes description
- Student checklist to verify your understanding of expectations
- Faculty committee list on the signature page

Please, refer to the [Guidelines on page 8](#) of this document for rules to help you build your customized major.

The [Deadline to submit this form](#) is the last day of final exams, the semester PRIOR to students' last semester.

Student's Degree Information

Student Name _____ UA ID# _____

Email _____ Phone _____

UAF GPA (2.0 min) _____ Total Major Credits _____ Resident Major Credits _____

Major Title _____

Minor(s)/AAS/Second Major _____

Degree Type _____ Catalog Year _____

Expected Year of Graduation ☐ Fall _____ ☐ Spring _____ ☐ Summer _____





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Major Proposal Narrative

Student Name: _____ UA ID#: _____

Proposed Major Title: _____

Please answer the following prompts as completely as possible with short essays. If you find that you need more space, feel free to attach a separate/additional document to this form.

Define your major's title.

Define learning objectives of your interdisciplinary studies by describing the knowledge and skills you expect to acquire with your courses and other learning experiences.



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Major Proposal Narrative

Student Name: _____ UA ID#: _____

Proposed Major Title: _____

Explain how your course list relates to the title and learning objectives of your major.

Provide a brief description of how this major is relevant to you and your educational goals.



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Capstone Description and Communication Outcomes

Student Name: _____ UA ID#: _____

Proposed Major Title: _____

Describe your capstone. A capstone should help synthesize the ideas within your major.

List courses and/or other learning activities related to your major that build upon and apply the skills of the GER communication courses. Please describe how you build upon both oral and written communication skills with your interdisciplinary degree plan.



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Capstone Description and Checklist

Student Name: _____ UA ID#: _____

Proposed Major Title: _____

Student Checklist

YES

NO

- | | | |
|-------|-------|--|
| _____ | _____ | Do you still have AT LEAST one more semester to complete before graduation? |
| _____ | _____ | Is the title and theme of your major unique? (Not available at UAF with another major)? |
| _____ | _____ | Does your class list include classes from at least TWO different disciplines AND demonstrate a cohesive body of knowledge/skills? |
| _____ | _____ | Does your faculty committee meet the requirements outlined on page 8? Committees that don't meet these requirements can be approved by the Undergraduate Interdisciplinary Studies Director initialing here _____. |
| _____ | _____ | Did you meet with your Faculty Committee to discuss all aspects of your Interdisciplinary major? Date of meeting _____ |
| _____ | _____ | Did you answer all of the writing prompts pages 3,4 and 5? |
| _____ | _____ | Did an Interdisciplinary Studies advisor review this form? |

**** All NO's need to be approved by Undergraduate Interdisciplinary Studies Director and signed off here**

_____	_____	_____
Name (printed)	Signature	Date

**** UNDERGRADUATE INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES DIRECTOR**

_____	_____	_____
Name (printed)	Signature	Date

STUDENT

DocuSign Routing Instructions

Office of UIS will route final copies of this form for approval.

- Student Email
- uaf-interdisciplinary@alaska.edu
- uaf-graduation@alaska.edu



Interdisciplinary Studies Bachelor's Degree Goals Option- Approval Form

Signature Page

Student Name: _____ UA ID#: _____

Proposed Major Title: _____

Name (printed)	Signature	Date
UNDERGRADUATE INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES ADVISOR		

Name (printed)	Department	Signature	Date
FACULTY MEMBER (CHAIR OF COMMITTEE)			

Name (printed)	Department	Signature	Date
FACULTY MEMBER			

Name (printed)	Department	Signature	Date
FACULTY MEMBER			

Name (printed)	Department	Signature	Date
ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBER (OPTIONAL)			

Name (printed)	Signature	Date
UNDERGRADUATE INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES DIRECTOR		

Name (printed)	College/School	Signature	Date
FACULTY CHAIR DEAN			

Name (printed)	Signature	Date
VICE PROVOST		

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Guidelines

Title

- An Interdisciplinary Studies Major title cannot be redundant with or too similar to an existing UAF major.
- The title must be an accurate representation of courses, capstone and the major's theme.
- A title can't look like something it is not, and it can't sound like a degree that has specialized accreditation (e.g. nursing).

Course List

- Individual courses must have a grade of CR, P, T, or C- or better.
- Examples of how to enter courses are provided in the top two boxes on page two. *ABUS F101= how you enter a UAF course or transfer course that transfers as an equivalent to a UAF course. ** JUST F2= how you enter a transfer course that transfers as a departmental elective (include the original title).
- Courses must be from at least two different academic departments.
- Collectively, the major's courses must demonstrate a cohesive body of knowledge and skills.
- Majors must have a minimum of 30 total credits and a minimum of 12 UAF resident credits.
- Major courses can't share with GER requirements.
- Anything above 30 credits can be shared with the BA, BS, or BAAS degree requirements.
- Major courses can share with ANT, minor, and double major, or dual degrees without restriction.
- 39 upper division credits are needed to earn a UAF bachelor's degree, but there is no specific requirement for upper division credits in a major. However, all established UAF bachelor's majors include some upper division credits. Therefore, interdisciplinary majors are highly encouraged to include upper division credits.

Capstone

- The capstone can be, but is not limited to, an internship, research project, specific college-level course, portfolio or other collection of work. It should be measurable.
- The capstone is approved by the student's interdisciplinary faculty committee.
- The intent of the capstone is to give INDS students an opportunity to utilize all of their skills/knowledge gained from their major. It should also serve to help tie the major together and prepare a student for the post-graduation application of their degree.

Faculty Committee

- Faculty committees must include a minimum of three members including the committee chair.
- The committee members must represent at least two different academic departments and should be selected based on their knowledge of the student's interdisciplinary interests.
- The faculty committee members should be full-time UAF teaching or research faculty.
- The committee chair should be a full time teaching faculty member from a college or school that offers the same degree level as the interdisciplinary degree. The committee chair will serve as the student's faculty advisor once their interdisciplinary studies major has been approved.
- An additional (forth) committee member is allowed, but is optional. The fourth committee member should be affiliated with the University of Alaska, but the other committee guidelines don't apply. This can be a mentor or advisor that has helped the student develop their interdisciplinary plan or who offers specialized expertise related to the student's interdisciplinary studies major.