

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) Individually Structured Major (ISMA) provides students with the opportunity to construct an individualized Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) program that meets their unique interests and needs. Integrated Studies (ING) is one of two options within the ISMA and is a flexible program that allows students to create a major by combining coursework from two clusters. Students will learn about the functions of academic disciplines, what kinds of questions require thinking beyond a single discipline, how interdisciplinary scholars combine a variety of fields, and how to approach the challenges of interdisciplinary writing and research. The Integrated Studies option prepares and challenges students to examine complex questions or issues from multiple and intersecting perspectives.

## ACADEMIC ADVISING

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) supports students to graduation using a shared advising system. CLAS students have two academic advisors with whom they should meet regularly to discuss academic and degree progress: a CLAS Academic Advisor and a major/faculty advisor.

For questions related to CU Denver Core Curriculum, CLAS, general graduation requirements, university/college academic policies, or campus resources contact:

### CLAS Academic Advising

[clas\\_advising@ucdenver.edu](mailto:clas_advising@ucdenver.edu)

Find your CLAS Advisor [here](#)

North Classroom (NC) Building 1030

303-315-7100

For questions related to major requirements, major course prerequisites, or evaluation of transfer coursework in your major contact:

### Brandon Mills

[brandon.s.mills@ucdenver.edu](mailto:brandon.s.mills@ucdenver.edu)

Student Commons Building (SCB) 3115

303-315-0451

## GENERAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

All CU Denver CLAS students are required to complete the following minimum general graduation requirements to be eligible to apply for graduation:

1. Complete a minimum of 120 semester hours
2. Achieve a minimum 2.0 CU cumulative grade point average (GPA)
3. Complete a minimum of 45 upper-division (3000- to 4000-level) semester hours
4. Complete all CU Denver Core, CLAS, and major requirements
5. Complete a minimum of 30 CLAS hours at CU Denver

The following are **maximum** semester hours that can apply toward the minimum 120 hours required for graduation:

- 56 semester hours in major department/prefix courses
- 16 semester hours Pass/Fail
- 12 semester hours of Independent Study/Directed Research
- 12 semester hours of internship credit
- 8 semester hours of physical education credit

## PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

**Students are responsible for meeting with the major/faculty advisor in the department to confirm major requirements.** In addition to completing all CU Denver Core and CLAS requirements, students completing the Individually Structured Major – Integrated Studies B.A. Degree are required to complete the following minimum program requirements:

1. Students must complete a minimum of 36 credits from approved coursework.
2. Students must complete a minimum of 18 upper division (3000 level and above) credit hours with a minimum of 9 upper division level credit hours in each cluster.
3. Students must earn a minimum grade of C-(1.7) in all major courses taken at CU Denver and must achieve a minimum cumulative major GPA of 2.0. All graded attempts in required and elective courses are calculated in major GPA. Students cannot complete major or ancillary course requirements as pass/fail.
4. A minimum of 24 credit hours must be completed with CU Denver faculty (at least 9 credits in each course cluster in addition to ISMA 3100 and ISMA 4900).
5. A student must have already completed at least 60 credit hours to declare the Integrated Studies option. Once the ISMA course contract is filed, changes to coursework must be resubmitted and approved by the student's faculty, major, and CLAS Advisors.
6. At least half of all credits in the Integrated Studies option must be from CLAS departments.
7. Each course cluster in the major option must consist of at least 15 credit hours and one cluster must be based on a CLAS minor in the CU Denver catalog.
8. Students can apply credits they earned before declaring the Integrated Studies option to the major.
9. Students will not receive minors in any of the cluster areas used toward the Individually Structured Major Integrated Studies option, even if the requirements for the minor are met.
10. Students may petition the Associate Dean for Diversity, Outreach and Initiatives to fulfill their introduction and capstone outside of ISMA 3100 and ISMA 4900.

## LYNX CONNECT RESOURCES

Are you interested in learning about internship, study abroad, career, and research opportunities for this major? Visit the CU Denver Lynx Connect, located in Tivoli Student Union (TV) Suite 339, and browse the Lynx Connect [website](#) for more information.

Degree Requirements	Credits	Notes
<b>* Course prerequisites change regularly. Students are responsible for consulting advisors and the class schedule in the student portal for prerequisite information. *</b>		
CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements	34 - 40	<a href="#">CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements</a>
CLAS Graduation Requirements	15 - 29	<a href="#">CLAS Graduation Requirements</a>
ISMA Major Requirements	36	18 semester hours must be upper-division
<b>ISMA Required Courses</b>		
ISMA 3100 Learning Across Disciplines	3	
ISMA 4900 Interdisciplinary Studies Capstone	3	
<b>Cluster I</b>		Must be based on a CLAS minor in the CU Denver Catalog. If the CLAS minor exceeds 21 hours, please consult the ISMA advisor.
Complete a minimum of 15 hours (max of 21 hours); at least 9 hours must be upper-division	15	
<b>Cluster II</b>		
Complete a minimum of 15 hours (max of 21 hours); at least 9 hours must be upper-division	15	May be based on a minor (CLAS or non-CLAS) in the catalog or can be constructed by the student from a group of courses from a variety of disciplines that form a coherent body of knowledge.
<b>Estimated General Electives</b>	<b>15 - 35</b>	General Elective credits will vary based on Core & CLAS Requirements. Consult with CLAS Advisor.
<b>Total Minimum Program Hours:</b>	<b>120</b>	45 semester hours must be upper-division

### SAMPLE ACADEMIC PLAN OF STUDY

The following academic plan is a *sample* pathway to completing degree requirements for this major. Students should tailor this plan based on previously completed college coursework (e.g., AP, IB, CLEP, dual/concurrent enrollment, and transfer credit), course availability, and individual preferences related to course load, schedules, or add-on programs such as minors or double-majors.

Year One	Fall	CRS
	ENGL 1020 – Core Composition I	3
	CU Denver Core Mathematics	3
	CU Denver Core Arts / First-Year Seminar	3
	CU Denver Core Social Science	3
	General Elective	3
	<b>Total Credit Hours</b>	<b>15</b>

Spring	CRS	
	ENGL 2030 – Core Composition II	3
	CU Denver Core Humanities	3
	CU Denver Core Behavioral Science	3
	CU Denver Core Nat/Phys Science with lab	4
	General Elective	3
	<b>Total Credit Hours</b>	<b>16</b>

Year Two	Fall	CRS
	CLAS Communicative Skills	3
	CU Denver Core Nat/Phys Science without lab	3
	CLAS Humanities	3
	CU Denver Core International Perspectives	3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>	<b>15</b>	

Spring	CRS	
	CU Denver Core Cultural Diversity	3
	ISMA 3100	3
	Cluster I Course	3
	Cluster II Course	3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>	<b>15</b>	

Year Three	Fall	CRS
	Cluster I Course	3
	Cluster II Course	3
	CLAS Foreign Language Semester I	5
	CLAS Social Science	3
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>	<b>14</b>	

Spring	CRS	
	Cluster I Upper-Division Course	3
	Cluster II Upper-Division Course	3
	CLAS Foreign Language Semester II	5
	CLAS Behavioral Science	3
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>	<b>14</b>	

Year Four	Fall	CRS
	Cluster I Upper-Division Course	3
	Cluster II Upper-Division Course	3
	CLAS Biol/Phys Science with lab	4
	Upper-Division General Elective	3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>	<b>16</b>	

Spring	CRS	
	ISMA 4900	3
	Cluster I Upper-Division Course	3
	Cluster II Upper-Division Course	3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>	<b>15</b>	