

FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Individually Designed Major (IDMA) with an Interdisciplinary Studies option provides students with the opportunity to construct an individualized major that meets their unique needs and interests. This flexible program allows students to follow academic pursuits that transcend traditional department or college boundaries, combining coursework from two, three, or even more academic disciplines to explore a particular theme. The IDMA tends to be more focused than traditional majors and should not be considered a default major for students uncertain about their course of study.

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 advisor.

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

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

For questions about admission requirements, transfer policies, applying, and the transfer process contact:

CLAS Academic Advising

clas_advising@ucdenver.edu

Visit the CLAS Advising website [here](#)

North Classroom (NC) 1030

303-315-7100

**Individually Designed Major –
Interdisciplinary Studies Advising**

[CLAS Major Advisor Contact Information](#)

Visit the program website [here](#)

Student Commons Building (SCB) 3115

303-315-0451

Office of Admissions

admissions@ucdenver.edu

Visit the Admissions website [here](#)

Student Commons Building (SCB) 1005

303-315-2601

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 credit 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) credit hours
4. Complete all CU Denver Core, CLAS, and major requirements
5. Complete a minimum of 30 CLAS credit hours with letter grades at CU Denver

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

- 16 credit hours Pass/Fail
- 12 credit hours of Independent Study/Directed Research
- 12 credit hours of internship credit
- 8 credit hours of physical education credit

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

The following program requirements are based on degree requirements for the current Catalog year at CU Denver and are subject to change. Students are responsible for completing degree requirements based on the Catalog year for which they are admitted.

Students are responsible for meeting with the major advisor to confirm major requirements. In addition to completing all CU Denver Core and CLAS requirements, students completing the Individually Designed Major - Interdisciplinary Studies B.A. Degree are required to complete the following minimum program requirements:

1. The Interdisciplinary Studies program plan requires course work over two or three disciplinary or interdisciplinary clusters.
2. Students must complete a minimum of 42 credits from approved coursework.
3. 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 Clusters I and II.
4. Students must earn a minimum grade of C- (1.7) in all courses that apply to the major and must achieve a minimum cumulative major GPA of 2.0. All graded attempts in required and elective courses are calculated in the major GPA. Courses taken using P+/P/F or S/U grading cannot apply to major requirements.
5. A minimum of 9 credits in Clusters I and II, in addition to IDMA 3100 Learning Across Disciplines and IDMA 4900 Interdisciplinary Studies Capstone (24 credit hours) must be completed with CU Denver faculty.
6. Once the Interdisciplinary Studies course contract is filed, any changes to coursework must be approved by the student's Individually Designed Major Faculty Advisor.
7. A minimum of 30 semester hours must be completed in liberal arts and sciences course work.
8. A maximum of one disciplinary cluster may be outside CLAS.
9. One cluster can be based on a pre-formed thematic cluster with an already-approved group of classes provided by the major on the website.
10. A third optional cluster may be a mixture of course work, excluding courses from the first and second clusters.
11. An Interdisciplinary Studies title must be consistent with the academic theme and clusters in the program plan.
12. The Interdisciplinary Studies proposal should be approved before students have taken one-third of the classes listed in their course contracts.
13. Students may petition the IDM Faculty Advisor to fulfill their introduction and capstone outside of IDMA 3100 Learning Across Disciplines and IDMA 4900 Interdisciplinary Studies Capstone.

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COURSEWORK THAT CAN BE COMPLETED AT PREVIOUS INSTITUTION

The following is a “bucket” of requirements students can complete prior to transferring to CU Denver, including equivalent Colorado Community College System (CCCS) courses. To determine the equivalencies of courses to be completed at non-CU Denver institutions, students can visit www.transferology.com. **It is critical students connect with a CU Denver academic advisor to ensure planned courses will transfer *and* apply to CU Denver degree requirements.** All non-CU Denver coursework must be completed with a C- or better to be eligible for transfer.

Students interested in completing an Associate (A.A. or A.S.) Degree or a [Colorado Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreement or Degree with Designation \(DWD\)](#) must work with their community/junior college academic advisor to create an academic plan that accounts for all degree or transfer articulation agreement requirements. Colorado Community College Students may also explore the option to complete [Reverse Transfer](#) at CU Denver.

| CU Denver Requirements | CU Denver Credits | CCCS Equivalent Courses & Notes | CCCS Credits |
|---|-------------------|---|--------------|
| CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements | 34 - 40 | | |
| ENGL 1020 – Core Composition I | 3 | ENG 1021 | |
| ENGL 2030 – Core Composition II | 3 | ENG 1022 | |
| Mathematics | 3 - 4 | GT-MA1 | |
| Arts | 3 | GT-AH | |
| Humanities | 3 | GT-AH or GT-HI | |
| Behavioral Sciences | 3 - 4 | GT-SS | |
| Social Sciences | 3 - 4 | GT-SS or GT-HI* | |
| Natural/Physical Science with lab | 4 - 5 | GT-SC1 | |
| Natural/Physical Science without lab or Math | 3 - 5 | GT-SC2 or GT-MA1 (<i>except the course used for Core Math</i>) or GT-SC1 | |
| International Perspectives | 3 | Additional GT-AH, HI, SS* (<i>see note below</i>) | |
| Cultural Diversity | 3 | <i>To be completed at CU Denver. This requirement must be completed with an upper-division course and CCCS courses will not apply.</i> | --- |
| CLAS Graduation Requirements | 15 - 29 | | |
| CLAS Communicative Skills | 3 | COM 1150 or PHI 1013 | |
| CLAS Second Language | 0 - 10 | e.g., SPA 1012 or ASL 1122 <i>Students have several options to fulfill this requirement. Please consult a CU Denver CLAS Academic Advisor.</i> | |
| CLAS Humanities | 3 | Any transferrable LIT, HIS, HUM, or PHI course | |
| CLAS Behavioral Sciences | 3 - 4 | Any transferrable ANT, COM, or PSY course (<i>except GT-SC courses</i>) | |
| CLAS Social Sciences | 3 - 4 | Any transferrable ECO, ETH, GEO, PSC, or SOC course (<i>except GT-SC courses</i>) | |
| CLAS Natural/Physical Science with lab | 3 - 5 | GT-SC1 <i>If students complete only one science course with a lab for the CU Denver Core Curriculum, this course must have an associated lab.</i> | |
| IDMA Major Courses | 0 | <i>Please consult a CU Denver CLAS Academic Advisor. Due to the individually designed nature of this program, students will choose and complete major courses at CU Denver based on approved disciplinary and interdisciplinary clusters.</i> | |
| Minimum Applicable Transfer Credits Recommended: | 60 | <i>Students completing less than 60 applicable transfer credits will have additional credits to complete at CU Denver. Students needing general elective credits should consult a CU Denver CLAS Academic Advisor.</i> | |

*The applicability of Guaranteed Transfer (GT Pathways) courses to specific CU Denver Core Curriculum requirements requires completion of a block of five courses: two GT-AH courses; one GT-HI course; one GT-SS course; and one additional GT-AH, GT-HI, or GT-SS course.

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SAMPLE PLAN – COURSEWORK TO BE COMPLETED AT CU DENVER

Based on successful completion of 60 applicable transfer credits and the complete “bucket” of requirements outlined above, students would have the following remaining to complete at CU Denver. At CU Denver, students must tailor this plan based on the evaluation of previously completed college coursework (e.g., AP, IB, CLEP, dual/concurrent enrollment, and transfer credit), course availability, individual preferences related to course load, summer term courses, part-time or full-time student status, or add-on programs such as minors or double-majors.

Note: this plan assumes students have completed the CLAS Second Language proficiency requirement. Students must demonstrate second language proficiency through a 2nd semester college-level course equivalent (e.g., SPA 1012 or ASL 1122) with a C- or higher, satisfactory proficiency testing (CU Denver Department of Modern Languages Placement Testing, BYU FLATS, CLEP), or submitting their high school transcript demonstrating completion of a 2nd year (Level II) high school course with a minimum grade of “C-” (1.7) in the 2nd semester of the 2nd year or later. Students may have additional options to fulfill this requirement and should consult a CU Denver CLAS Academic Advisor. **Students who have not fulfilled this requirement must work with a CU Denver CLAS Academic Advisor to modify this plan.**

| | | |
|------------|--|-----------|
| Year Three | Fall | CRS |
| | IDMA 3100 | 3 |
| | Cluster I Course | 3 |
| | Cluster II Course | 3 |
| | CU Denver Core Cultural Diversity ^M | 3 |
| | General Upper-Division Elective | 3 |
| | Total Credit Hours | 15 |

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Spring | CRS |
| Cluster I Course | 3 |
| Cluster I Upper-Division Course | 3 |
| Cluster II Course | 3 |
| General Upper-Division Elective | 3 |
| General Upper-Division Elective | 3 |
| Total Credit Hours | 15 |

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|-----|
| Year Four | Fall | CRS |
| | Cluster I Upper-Division Course | 3 |
| | Cluster II Upper-Division Course | 3 |
| | Cluster II Upper-Division Course | 3 |
| | Additional Cluster Upper-Division Course | 3 |
| | General Elective | 3 |
| Total Credit Hours | 15 | |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Spring | CRS |
| IDMA 4900 ^{PE} | 3 |
| Cluster I Upper-Division Course | 3 |
| Cluster II Upper-Division Course | 3 |
| Additional Cluster Upper-Division Course | 3 |
| General Upper-Division Elective | 3 |
| Total Credit Hours | 15 |

^M Major Course Available ^C CU Denver Core Course ^{PE} Prerequisite Enforced ^{PR} Prerequisite Recommended