Interdisciplinary Programs and Special Major

Programs
- BA in Special Major
- BS in Special Major
- Minor in Leadership Studies
- MA in Interdisciplinary Studies
  - Mathematics Education K–8
  - Science Education
- MS in Interdisciplinary Studies
  - Simulation Science/Computer Simulation

The special major provides students with an opportunity to design unique courses of study leading to the bachelor of arts or bachelor of science degree. When your academic or professional goals are not adequately accommodated by standard University programs, the special major can meet your needs by allowing you to specialize in a field of study which is not offered as a major program by the University.

Bachelor of Arts or Science Programs

Students interested in the special major are encouraged to discuss their plans with the Coordinator of Special Majors and with faculty members in the areas related to their interests. It is expected that for many students such discussions will lead to the identification of standard University programs which will satisfy their academic and professional goals. However, others will find it beneficial to pursue a special major that satisfies their particular needs. The special major is a rigorous interdisciplinary program that is designed to meet individual needs.

Students who wish to pursue a special major should prepare a proposal, in consultation with proposed faculty sponsors, for consideration by a University committee charged with oversight of the special major program. Upon approval of the proposal, the student’s major will become special major. Students who have declared a special major are required to satisfy all requirements for the awarding of the bachelor’s degree, including the General Education requirement.

Master of Arts or Science Programs

A Master of Arts (MA) and a Master of Science (MS) in Interdisciplinary Studies are available through the Graduate School. See the “Graduate Education” section in the University Catalog.

Career Outlook

Since special majors are unique programs structured to suit particular educational needs, the objectives of the specific programs vary considerably. The majority of students who develop a special major have definite occupational goals, while others pursue intellectual interests which have little or no direct application to occupational pursuits. The special major provides students the opportunity to secure knowledge and skills necessary in the performance of specific occupations or academic fields of study in which the University does not have an approved degree program. Through this avenue, students have the opportunity to satisfy their unique occupational and intellectual pursuits, while drawing upon the faculty and other resources of the University.

Undergraduate Special Major Program

Tehama 213
530-898-4473
e-mail: gs@csuchico.edu
http://www.csuchico.edu/catalog/programs/spmj/index.html
Coordinator: Mark Morlock

Graduate Interdisciplinary Studies Program

Modoc 106
530-898-5178
e-mail: gs@csuchico.edu
http://www.csuchico.edu/gisp/gs/grad_programs/index.html
Coordinator: Jane Rysberg

Leadership Studies

Butte Hall 729
530-898-4964
e-mail: sbarrios@csuchico.edu
Coordinator: Sharon Barrios
The Bachelor of Arts in a Special Major

Total Course Requirements for the Bachelor's Degree: 120 units

See “Requirements for the Bachelor's Degree” in the University Catalog for complete details on general degree requirements. A minimum of 40 units, including those required for the major, must be upper division. For all additional requirements, see the Bachelor of Science in a Special Major, below.

The Bachelor of Science in a Special Major

Total Course Requirements for the Bachelor's Degree: 120 units

See “Requirements for the Bachelor's Degree” in the University Catalog for complete details on general degree requirements. A minimum of 40 units, including those required for the major, must be upper division.

Note:
A Special Major in certain professional fields may not be accredited by that professional field. See the appropriate campus advisor for any professional field for information.

General Education Requirements: 48 units
See “General Education Requirements” in the University Catalog and the Class Schedule for the most current information on General Education Requirements and course offerings.

Cultural Diversity Course Requirements: 6 units
See “Cultural Diversity” in the University Catalog. Most courses taken to satisfy these requirements may also apply to General Education.

American Institutions Requirement: 6 units
See the “American Institutions Requirement” under “Bachelor's Degree Requirements.” This requirement is normally fulfilled by completing HIST 130 and POLS 155. Courses used to satisfy this requirement do not apply to General Education.

Literacy Requirement:
See “Mathematics and Writing Requirements” in the University Catalog. Writing proficiency in the major is a graduation requirement and may be demonstrated through satisfactory completion of a course in your major which has been designated as the Writing Proficiency (WP) course for the semester in which you take the course. Students who earn below a C– are required to repeat the course and earn a C– or better to receive WP credit. Specific writing proficiency for this major will be determined by the nature of the Special Major proposal. Students, in consultation with faculty sponsors, will propose a course (that is an approved upper-division writing proficiency course for the semester in which it is taken) to satisfy the literacy requirement. The Special Major committee will review the proposal to ensure that the Literacy Requirement is met. For further information on the Literacy Requirement, consult the Coordinator of the Special Major program.

Criteria for Applying to the Special Major Program
1. A cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher.
2. A minimum of 30 semester units completed prior to application.

Course Requirements for the Major
At least 30 upper-division units are required for the major.

1. Determine the feasibility of pursuing a Special Major by reviewing the requirements and examining available programs and majors to see if your needs could be met through any of these. You must have a 2.5 cumulative GPA in order to apply.
2. Consult with the Coordinator of Special Majors and a faculty member with expertise in your area of interest.
3. If you decide that a Special Major is appropriate, pick up the guidelines and forms from the Coordinator of Special Majors and select at least two faculty to act as the advisors of your Special Major. Your advisors should be from different disciplines within your proposed Special Major. The Coordinator of Special Majors will assist you in the selection of your advisors.
4. In consultation with your faculty advisors, define your proposed Special Major program. Include the following: 1) the title of your proposed major; 2) subject matter; 3) logic and unity of your proposed program; 4) other justifications you feel appropriate; and 5) why standard University programs cannot be used to satisfy your needs.
5. List the courses you wish to include in the Special Major, including a Writing Proficiency course and courses you have already completed. A Special Major must include at least 30 upper-division units. These units will be distributed among at least two disciplines. You must complete 30 units after your program is approved. These units need not be in the major. Units taken the semester the proposal is approved may be counted toward the 30.
6. You may not use courses listed in your Special Major to satisfy General Education requirements.
7. Your Special Major proposal must be accompanied by a signed statement from your advisors. This statement should include a brief evaluation of your proposal.
8. Turn your Special Major proposal and copies of your academic transcripts to the Office of Special Majors for evaluation by a faculty/student Special Major Review Committee. The proposal must be submitted before the deadline in order to be considered in that semester. See “The Academic Calendar” in the University Catalog or the Class Schedule for semester deadlines.
9. The Special Major Review Committee may invite students to discuss their proposal with the Committee.
10. The Coordinator of Special Majors will notify you of the Special Major Review Committee’s approval, disapproval, or conditional approval.
11. Upon approval of your Special Major proposal, you will declare your major to be a Special Major.

Electives Requirement:
To complete the total units required for the bachelor’s degree, select additional elective courses from the total University offerings. You should consult with an advisor regarding the selection of courses which will provide breadth to your University experience and possibly apply to a supportive second major or minor.

Grading Requirement:
All courses taken to fulfill major course requirements must be taken for a letter grade except those courses specified by the department as Credit/No Credit grading only.

Advising Requirement:
Advising is mandatory for all majors in this degree program. Consult your undergraduate advisor for specific information.

Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Programs

Mathematics Education K–8
Science Teaching

Other programs may be individually developed with approval. Refer to the Graduate Education section of the catalog.

Master of Science in Interdisciplinary Programs

Simulation Science/Computer Simulation

Other programs may be individually developed with approval. Refer to the Graduate Education section of the catalog.

NOTE: No applicants will be accepted for the above program because admissions have been suspended indefinitely.

Interdisciplinary Programs

Interdisciplinary programs consists of University programs established on a programmatic basis rather than within a single college or department. This includes the Honors Program, Liberal Studies, Special Majors, General Education, and Freshman General Studies Thematic, in addition to the Minor in Leadership Studies below.
The Minor in Leadership Studies

Course Requirements for the Minor: 21 units

The following courses, or their approved transfer equivalents, are required of all candidates for this minor.

1 course selected from:

- Note: One of the following courses is required and may be used as the prerequisite for CMST 472 and MGMT 447 for students that minor in Leadership Studies only.

CMST 470 Organizational Comm Theories 3.0 FS
Prerequisites: CMST 131, CMST 330, CMST 331, CMST 350, and CMST 370
with a grade of C– or higher for CMST majors or by faculty permission for non-majors.

LDRS 389 Internship in Leadership Studies 1.0–3.0 FS
Prerequisites: LDRS 389 or concurrent enrollment.

HS 475 Organizational Theory 3.0 Inq

6 courses required:

- CMST 472 Org Ldrshp & Decsn Making 3.0 FS WP
Prerequisites: ENGL 130 (or its equivalent) with a grade of C– or higher, CMST 131,
CMST 330, CMST 331, CMST 350, and CMST 370 with a grade of C– or higher;
CMST 132 for CMST majors or by faculty permission for non-majors.

- LDRS 300 Leadership Colloquium 3.0 SP

- LDRS 389 Internship in Leadership Studies 1.0–3.0 FS
Note: LDRS 389 must be taken for 2 units.

- LDRS 397 Best Practices Speaker Series 1.0 FA

- LDRS 400 Capstone Seminar in Leadership 3.0 SP
Prerequisites: CMST 472, UNIV 300, UNIV 389; CMST 470 or HCSV 330
or MGMT 303 or POLS 462.

- Corequisites: MGMT 447.

- MGMT 447 Leadership 3.0 SP
Prerequisites: MGMT 301.

3 units selected from:

In consultation with the Leadership Studies advisor, select one elective course that effectively builds on or complements the courses in the Leadership Studies Minor.

Honors Course Offerings

Please see the section on “Course Description Symbols and Terms” in the University Catalog for an explanation of course description terminology and symbols, the course numbering system, and course credit units. All courses are lecture and discussion and employ letter grading unless otherwise stated. Some prerequisites may be waived with faculty permission. Many syllabi are available on the Chico Web.

HNRS 110H Honors Connections 3.0 Fall
Prerequisites: Acceptance into the Honors Program.
This course focuses on the building of interdisciplinary learning communities, so that each class has the experience of exploring an issue of contemporary concern from a variety of perspectives, working closely with an Honors faculty member. This course may be applied to one of the following General Education (GE) areas: C1, C2, C3, D1, D2, D3, or E.

HNRS 175H Make Believe: Creativity and Interpretation 3.0 Fall
Prerequisites: Acceptance into the Honors Program.
This course invites students to engage in dramatic play; that is, to make up, dramatize, and act out stories. It features readings in several genres, and works through simple-to-complex warm-up exercises for both writers and actors. Students develop narratives and scripts individually and with each other in an active, on-going process. They go to local plays, on and off campus, sharpening their ability to observe and interpret human interactions as well as a variety of texts, and they do research on the creative process. Evaluation is based on the completion of class work, written assignments, and a portfolio. This is an approved General Education course.

HNRS 249 Seminar with an Outstanding Professor 3.0 Spring
Prerequisites: Acceptance into the Honors in General Education Program, faculty permission.
This course, a seminar specifically designed for the honors program by an outstanding professor at the University, will be offered as 2-49A-1 each spring. This is an approved General Education course, but because the content changes yearly, the course will satisfy different GE requirements each time it is offered.

HNRS 389H Internship in Honors 1.0–3.0 Fa/Spr
Prerequisites: Acceptance into the Honors in General Education Program.
This is an internship offered for 1.0–3.0 units. Students must register directly with the Honors Advisor or Honors Director. The internship provides work experience within the Honors Program on special projects. You may take this course more than once for a maximum of 15.0 units. Credit/no credit grading only.

HNRS 398H Honors GE Special Topics 1.0–3.0 Fa/Spr
Prerequisites: Acceptance into the Honors Program, faculty permission.
This course is a special topic offered for 1.0–3.0 units.

HNRS 399H Honors General Education Thesis 3.0 Fa/Spr
Prerequisites: Acceptance into the Honors Program, faculty permission.
Independent study of an interdisciplinary topic that satisfies three units of upper-division GE theme requirements. This capstone course is designed to hone your skills in research and writing by working on a topic that grows out of the material you found most intriguing in your other upper-division theme classes. This is an approved General Education course.

Interdisciplinary Studies Course Offerings

INTD 197 Credit for Prior Experience 1.0–15.0 Fa/Spr
Evaluation of academic learning that took place as a result of, or along with, prior non-classroom experience. Students may receive from 1 to 15 units for this course. You may take this course more than once for a maximum of 30.0 units. Credit/no credit grading only.

INTD 198 Special Topics 1.0–3.0 Fa/Spr
This course is for special topics offered for 1.0–3.0 units. Typically the topic is offered on a one-time-only basis and may vary from term to term and be different for different sections. See the Class Schedule for the specific topic being offered.

INTD 389 Internship 1.0–12.0 Fa/Spr
This course is an internship offered for 1.0–6.0 units. You may take this course more than once for a maximum of 15.0 units. Credit/no credit grading only.

INTD 397 Credit for Prior Experience 1.0–15.0 Fa/Spr
Evaluation of academic learning that took place as a result of, or along with, prior non-classroom experience. Students may receive from 1 to 15 units for this course. You may take this course more than once for a maximum of 30.0 units. Credit/no credit grading only.

INTD 398 Special Topics 1.0–3.0 Fa/Spr
This course is for special topics offered for 1.0–3.0 units. Typically the topic is offered on a one-time-only basis and may vary from term to term and be different for different sections. See the Class Schedule for the specific topic being offered.

INTD 489 Internship 1.0–9.0 Fa/Spr
This course is an internship offered for 1.0 to 5.0 units. You may take this course more than once for a maximum of 15.0 units. Credit/no credit grading only.

INTD 498 Special Topics 1.0–3.0 Fa/Spr
This course is for special topics offered for 1.0–3.0 units. Typically the topic is offered on a one-time-only basis and may vary from term to term and be different for different sections. See the Class Schedule for the specific topic being offered.

Internship and Credit for Prior Experience

Course credit for interdisciplinary internships and prior experience may be arranged through the Office of the Provost (898-6941).

Environmental Literacy Course Offerings

ENVL 105 Environmental Literacy 3.0 Fa/Spr
This course introduces students to the issues and practices of environmental literacy. Environmental literacy is the capacity to perceive and interpret the relative health of environmental systems and to connect the environment to human physical, mental, and social health. Students are encouraged to recognize that their lives depend upon the environment, and that their personal decisions affect the environment. This is an approved General Education course.

Leadership Studies Course Offerings

LDRS 300 Leadership Colloquium 3.0 Spring
This course engages each student in the ongoing discussion and exploration of the requisites for effective leadership. We will do this by exposing the class to theories of leadership, the literature on the practical experiences of leaders and leadership, and consideration of personal attributes for effective leadership. The course is designed to cross numerous disciplinary borders. Formerly UNIV 300.

LDRS 389 Internship in Leadership Studies 1.0–3.0 Fa/Spr
This course is an internship offered for 1.0–3.0 units. You may take this course more than once for a maximum of 15.0 units. Credit/no credit grading only.
**Natural Sciences Course Offerings**

**NSCI 101 Introduction to Earth’s Environment** 3.0 Fa/Spr

This course focuses on the principles and scientific thought processes as they relate to climate change, air and water resources, and ecosystem alteration. The Earth’s physical environment is the primary focus, although a portion of the course covering ecosystems bridges physical and biological interrelatedness of the global environment. Problem solving skills and skills in analyzing environmental issues are emphasized. 2.0 hours discussion, 2.0 hours laboratory. This is an approved General Education course.

**NSCI 101H Introduction to Earth’s Environment—Honors 3.0 Fall**

Prerequisites: Acceptance into the Honors Program.

This is a special section of NSCI 101 for students in the Honors in General Education Program. The course focuses on the principles and scientific thought processes as they relate to climate change, air and water resources, and ecosystem alteration. The Earth’s physical environment is the primary focus, although a portion of the course covering ecosystems bridges physical and biological interrelatedness of the global environment. Problem solving skills and skills in analyzing environmental issues are emphasized. 2.0 hours discussion, 2.0 hours laboratory. This is an approved General Education course.

**Note:** The following is different from what appears in the printed catalog. The below information is current and correct.

**NSCI 102 Introduction to Living Systems** 3.0 Fa/Spr

An integrated study of the nature and interactions of living things and their environments. This course is an introduction to the processes of evaluation and speculation, ecology and ecosystem processes, cellular biology and organismal physiology. The course is primarily for students without a strong background in high school biology or chemistry. The course consists of 1.0 hours online content delivery, 1.0 hours discussion section, and a 2.0 hour hands-on activity session.

**NSCI 489A Internship in Science Teaching** 1.0 Fa/Spr

Prerequisites: BIOL 101, GEOS 141, or faculty permission.

Students have the opportunity to work with elementary and middle school students in a science teaching/learning environment in the hands-on Science Education Laboratory facility on campus. The hands-on lessons provide early teaching experiences in science for undergraduates exploring teaching as a career. All lessons are based on the California content standards in science. Students cover instructional strategies as well as content as part of the one-hour teaching and two-hour follow-up laboratory experience. 3.0 hours laboratory. ABC/no credit grading only.

**University Academics Course Offerings**

**UNIV 101 Introduction to University Life** 3.0 Fall

A comprehensive introduction to university life. This course is designed to help students expand their knowledge of the life skills needed to be successful in college and after graduation. Topics include transition to academic and campus life, introduction to campus resources, academic expectations and developing skills to meet them, introduction to information literacy including library and computer resources, evaluating information, and applying it. The course may also include a service component. This is an approved General Education course.

**UNIV 102 Freshman Orientation Class** 2.0 Fall

Prerequisites: EOP eligibility.

A comprehensive introduction to university life designed to help first-year EOP students develop the life skills they will need to be successful in college and after graduation. Topics include transition to academic and campus life, introduction to campus resources, academic expectations and developing skills to meet them. This is a one-time-only basis and will vary from term to term and be different for different sections. See the Class Schedule for the specific topic being offered.

**UNIV 389 Internship** 1.0–3.0 Fa/Spr

This course is an internship offered for 1.0–3.0 units. You may take this course more than once for a maximum of 15.0 units. Credit/no credit grading only.

**UNIV 398 Special Topics** 1.0–3.0 Fa/Spr

This course is offered for 1.0–3.0 units. Typically the topic is offered on a one-time-only basis and will vary from term to term and be different for different sections. See the Class Schedule for the specific topic being offered.

**UNIV 399 Special Topics** 1.0–3.0 Fa/Spr

This course is offered for 1.0–3.0 units. Typically the topic is offered on a one-time-only basis and will vary from term to term and be different for different sections. See the Class Schedule for the specific topic being offered.

**UNIV 400 Capstone Seminar in Leadership** 3.0 Spring

Prerequisites: CMST 472, UNIV 300, UNIV 389, CMST 470 or HCSV 330 or MGMT 303 or POLS 462.

This capstone experience is designed to bring together the various elements of the minor in leadership studies. It is also structured to introduce the student of leadership to emerging areas which impact significantly the study of leadership. These topics include ethics and integrity, the transpersonal dimension, creativity and innovation, team building, and the impact and use of technology. The course also requires the student to solve leadership-related problems individually and as a member of a team. Formerly UNIV 400.

**LDRS 397 Best Practices Speaker Series/Symposium** 1.0 Fall

Different presenters who hold leadership positions on campus, in the community, or in the region will share their leadership experiences with students in the course to provide models of successful leadership. Formerly UNIV 397.

**LDRS 400 Capstone Seminar in Leadership** 3.0 Spring

Prerequisites: CMST 472, UNIV 300, UNIV 389, CMST 470 or HCSV 330 or MGMT 303 or POLS 462.

This capstone experience is designed to bring together the various elements of the minor in leadership studies. It is also structured to introduce the student of leadership to emerging areas which impact significantly the study of leadership. These topics include ethics and integrity, the transpersonal dimension, creativity and innovation, team building, and the impact and use of technology. The course also requires the student to solve leadership-related problems individually and as a member of a team. Formerly UNIV 400.