Interdisciplinary Studies, BS

The Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies is a dynamic program designed to provide students with a unique and customized educational experience. Combining a broad range of disciplines, this program allows students to tailor their academic journey to suit their interests and career goals.

The interdisciplinary nature of the program encourages students to think critically, solve complex problems, and approach issues from multiple perspectives. With the flexibility to choose courses from various disciplines, students can align their education to explore interdisciplinary connections and pursue their passions.

Through a combination of rigorous coursework, experiential learning, and personalized academic planning, students in the interdisciplinary studies program at Northeastern University are prepared to succeed in a variety of careers and make meaningful contributions to their communities and the world.

Students will be required to declare an area of focus by the end of their third term enrolled in the program.

The BS in Interdisciplinary Studies degree is awarded by the college associated with the student's chosen focus area:

- Biology—College of Science
- Business Administration—D'Amore-McKim School of Business
- Computer Science—Khoury College of Computer Sciences
- Health Science—Bouvé College of Health Sciences
- Psychology—College of Science
- Public Health—Bouvé College of Health Sciences

Program Requirements

- Concentrations and course offerings may vary by campus and/or by program modality. Please consult with your advisor or admissions coach for the course availability each term at your campus or within your program modality.
- Certain options within the program may be *required* at certain campuses or for certain program modalities. Please consult with your advisor or admissions coach for requirements at your campus or for your program modality.

Focus Area

Code	Title	Hours
Complete all courses in one of the following focus areas:		32–56
Biology (p. 2)		
Business Administration (p. 2)		
Computer Science (p. 3)		
Health Science (p. 3)		
Psychology (p. 4)		
Public Health (p. 4)		

Restricted Electives

Code	Title	Hours
Complete 12 semester hours of coursework from one or more subject codes in the focus area chosen above.		12
Complete 12 semester hours of coursework from subject codes outside of the subject codes of courses in the focus area chosen above.		12

Minor Requirement

Code	Title	Hours
Complete one of the following minors outside of the chosen focus area above. Other minors not listed here may be selected upon approval by the program advisor.		16–30

Behavioral Neuroscience (https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/science/interdisciplinary/behavioral-neuroscience-minor/)

Biology (https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/science/biology/biology-minor/)

Business Administration (https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/business/interdisciplinary-minors/business-administration-minor/)

Communication Studies (https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/arts-media-design/communication-studies/communication-studies-minor/)

Computer Science (https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/computer-information-science/computer-science/minor/)

Corporate Innovation (https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/business/interdisciplinary-minors/corporate-innovation-minor/)

Design (https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/arts-media-design/art-design/design-minor/)

Digital Communication (https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/arts-media-design/communication-studies/digital-communications-minor/)

Economics (https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/economics/economics-minor/)

Entrepreneurial Startups (https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/business/interdisciplinary-minors/entrepreneurial-startups-minor/)

Ethics (https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/philosophy-religion/ethics-minor/)

Philosophy (https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/philosophy-religion/philosophy-minor/)

Political Science (https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/political-science/political-science-minor/)

Public Health (https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/health-sciences/community-health-behavioral-sciences/public-health-minor/)

Psychology (https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/science/psychology/psychology-minor/)

Supporting Courses

Some of the following requirements may be fulfilled by courses in the focus area chosen above.

Code	Title	Hours
Complete a course that fulfills the NUpath First-Year Writing requirement. (https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/nupath/writing-intensive/)		4
Complete two courses that fulfill the NUpath Writing-Intensive requirement. (https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/nupath/writing-intensive/)		8
Complete the Nupath Advanced Writing in the Disciplines requirement. (https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/nupath/writing-intensive/)		4

General Electives

Code	Title	Hours
Complete any courses in the 1000–5999 range, in any subject code, to fulfill total required program hours and fulfill NUpath requirements not met through focus area courses, the restricted electives, the minor, or the supporting courses.		

Major GPA/Grade Requirement

Minimum 2.000 GPA required

Program Requirements

128 total semester hours required

BIOLOGY FOCUS AREA

Code	Title	Hours
Complete 32 semester hours of coursework preapproved by the program advisor.		32

(Return to focus area list.)

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION FOCUS AREA

Code	Title	Hours
ACCT 1201	Financial Accounting and Reporting	4
ACCT 2301	Profit Analysis for Managers and Advisors	4

FINA 2201	Financial Management	4
INNO 2301	Innovation!	4
INTB 1203	International Business and Global Social Responsibility	4
MGSC 2301	Business Statistics	4
MISM 2301	Introduction to Information Systems and Digital Technologies	4
MKTG 2201	Introduction to Marketing	4
ORGB 3201	Organizational Behavior	4
SCHM 2301	Supply Chain and Operations Management	4
STRT 4501	Strategy in Action	4

(Return to focus area list.)

COMPUTER SCIENCE FOCUS AREA

Code	Title	Hours
Computer Science Focus Area Required Courses		
CS 1800	Discrete Structures	4
CS 1802	Seminar for CS 1800	1
CS 2500 and CS 2501	Fundamentals of Computer Science 1 and Lab for CS 2500	5
CS 2510 and CS 2511	Fundamentals of Computer Science 2 and Lab for CS 2510	5
CS 3000	Algorithms and Data	4
CS 3200	Introduction to Databases	4
CS 3500 and CS 3501	Object-Oriented Design and Lab for CS 3500	5
CS 4500 or CS 4530	Software Development Fundamentals of Software Engineering	4
Khoury College Elective		
Complete 8 semester hours of upper-division CS, CY, DS, or IS courses that are not already required above. Choose courses from the following ranges:		8
CS 2502 or higher, except CS 5010		
CY 2000 of higher, except CY 4930		

(Return to focus area list.)

HEALTH SCIENCE FOCUS AREA

Code	Title	Hours
BIOL 1111 and BIOL 1112	General Biology 1 and Lab for BIOL 1111	5
BIOL 1113 and BIOL 1114	General Biology 2 and Lab for BIOL 1113	5
CHEM 1161 and CHEM 1162 and CHEM 1163	General Chemistry for Science Majors and Lab for CHEM 1161 and Recitation for CHEM 1161	5
PHTH 1260	The American Healthcare System	4
PHTH 1261	Comparative Healthcare Systems	4
PHTH 2210	Foundations of Biostatistics	4
PHTH 2300 or PHTH 2301	Communication Skills for the Health Professions Communication Skills for the Health Professions—Global	4
PHTH 2350 or PHTH 2351	Community and Public Health Community and Public Health - Global	4
PHTH 2515	Healthcare Policy and Administration	4
PHTH 4120	Global Perspectives on Discrimination and Health	4
PHTH 4202	Principles of Epidemiology in Medicine and Public Health	4
PHTH 4540	Health Education and Program Planning	4
PSYC 1101	Foundations of Psychology	4

(Return to focus area list.)

PUBLIC HEALTH FOCUS AREA

Code	Title	Hours
Public Health Courses		
PHTH 1260	The American Healthcare System	4
PHTH 1261	Comparative Healthcare Systems	4
PHTH 2210	Foundations of Biostatistics	4
PHTH 2300	Communication Skills for the Health Professions	4
or PHTH 2301	Communication Skills for the Health Professions—Global	
PHTH 2350	Community and Public Health	4
or PHTH 2351	Community and Public Health - Global	
PHTH 2515	Healthcare Policy and Administration	4
PHTH 4120	Global Perspectives on Discrimination and Health	4
PHTH 4202	Principles of Epidemiology in Medicine and Public Health	4
PHTH 4540	Health Education and Program Planning	4
PSYC 1101	Foundations of Psychology	4
Biology Requirement		
Select one of the following options:		8−9
Option 1		
BIOL 1141	Microbes and Society	
or BIOL 1143	Biology and Society	
BIOL 1147	The Human Organism	
Option 2		
BIOL 1111 and BIOL 1112	General Biology 1 and Lab for BIOL 1111	
BIOL 1113 and BIOL 1114	General Biology 2 and Lab for BIOL 1113	
Social Science Selectives		7−8
Complete one introductory course as preapproved by the program advisor.		
Complete one upper-level course as preapproved by the program advisor.		

(Return to focus area list.)

PSYCHOLOGY FOCUS AREA

Code	Title	Hours
Complete 32 semester hours of coursework preapproved by the program advisor.		32

(Return to focus area list.)

Plan of Study

Sample Plan of Study

FOUR YEARS, TWO CO-OPS IN SPRING/SUMMER 1

Year 1

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
ENGW 1111	4	Focus area courses (2)	8	Focus area course	4	Restricted elective	4
Focus area courses (2)	8	Restricted elective	4	Open elective	4	Open elective	4
Restricted elective	4	Open elective	4				
	16		**16**		**8**		**8**

Year 2

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
Focus area course	4	Co-op		Co-op		Open elective	4
Restricted elective	4					Writing-intensive course	4
Minor course	4						
Open elective	4						
	16		**0**		**0**		**8**

Year 3

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
ENGW 3315	4	Co-op		Co-op		Writing-intensive course	4
Focus area course	4					Open elective	4
Restricted elective	4						
Minor course	4						
	16		**0**		**0**		**8**

Year 4

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Focus area courses (2)	8	Capstone	4
Restricted elective	4	Focus area courses (2)	8
Minor course	4	Minor course	4
	16		**16**

Total Hours: 128