

Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies in Government

36-Hour Thesis/Non-thesis Program

The M.A.I.S. degree requires a total of 36 semester hours of graduate credit. An area of concentration must have at least 12 and no more than 18 semester hours in the subject area. At least six hours in the area of concentration must be in upper-level (6000) graduate work. In addition, 18-24 hours must be taken in two or more supporting fields outside the area of concentration. For course descriptions and other information related to graduate studies visit our website at <http://utb.edu/vpaa/graduate>.

Thesis

As part of their graduate program, students may choose the option of writing a thesis, for which they will receive six hours of graduate credit. Those who take this option must select a thesis committee, composed of a committee chairperson and two other members of the graduate faculty, to approve the topic and to assist in the preparation of the thesis. (See thesis-nonthesis option under "Academic Information".) Students must pass an oral defense of the completed thesis. Students selecting this option will register for INDS 7300 and 7301 after they have completed their coursework.

Supporting Fields

Biology, Business Administration*, Communication, Criminal Justice, Education*, Fine Arts, Geography, Interpreting, Psychology and Public Policy & Management *. All areas of concentration may also be support fields for each other.

*No more than 12 semester hours may be taken from the professional schools. Each candidate for the M.A.I.S. degree must pass a comprehensive examination over the area of concentration and supporting fields.

Required Courses: 36 hours

Areas of Concentration:	Credit Hours
English, Government, History, Music, Sociology or Spanish	12-18
Two or more supporting fields	18 -24
Total graduate hours for degree	36

Each student in the M.A.I.S. degree program will be assigned a Faculty Advisor and two additional faculty committee members who teach in Interdisciplinary Studies. Together the student and the committee will choose courses in the concentration area and will select two or more supporting fields. Efforts are made to relate the material studied in

one discipline to that studied in another and to encourage students to select courses in mutually supporting fields. A formal Program of Study as described elsewhere in this catalog will be prepared and submitted for approval.

Comprehensive Written Examination

Each candidate for the non-thesis Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies degree must pass a comprehensive written examination prepared by the graduate faculty and administered by the Office of Graduate Office.

Interdisciplinary Studies in Government

Evidence of academic achievement and potential for advanced study and research is required for graduate admission. Specific criteria for Unconditional Admission for Master's degree seeking students in Interdisciplinary Studies in Government are:

- Undergraduate GPA of 3.0
 - GRE Verbal score of 400
 - GRE Analytical score of 400/4.0
 - A satisfactory personal statement of at least 1,000 words
 - The Government Department additionally requires 6 undergraduate hours in Government at the junior and senior level.
- Submission of official GRE score report is required prior to admission.

Applicants with an undergraduate GPA of at least 2.5 and/or GRE scores lower than those specified are also encouraged to apply.

A complete application packet, including a graduate admission application and all supporting documents required by the department, must be submitted by June 1st - Fall, November 1st - Spring and April 1st - Summer.

Notification of decisions on graduate admission is made by the Office of Graduate Studies based on the admission criteria and recommendation of the academic department. Information related to application procedures and deadlines is available through the Office of Graduate Studies.

"UTB Graduates must be adaptable in today's economy because most people experience career changes or develop a career in unexpected ways. The advantage of a Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies is that it is flexible - both in terms of real education and in terms of a degree. An emphasis in Government is especially useful for teachers, public administrators, law enforcement officers, social workers and others who might find themselves, at some point in their lives, working in several of these fields."

- Andrew Bosworth, Graduate Student

