

INTERCULTURAL STUDIES, MINOR - ICS

Program Description

Today's students will live and work within an increasingly multicultural world. Intercultural Studies offers a challenging program that examines issues that characterize this world including: intercultural contact, systems of power and privilege, and inter-group dynamics. The program is designed to help students understand the shifting boundaries of culture, nation, race, ethnicity, and institutional structures that shape contemporary social life. Because this program encourages analysis and reflection upon the dynamics of intercultural interaction in many contexts, students will find that Intercultural Studies complements work within their major area of study and is relevant to their professional interests.

The goal of the program in Intercultural Studies is to foster an academic community in which challenging and important questions can be addressed. The program allows students to discuss their ideas and concerns with fellow students from different cultural backgrounds and academic disciplines who share an interest in learning about issues of race, cultural difference, and ethnic identity. The minor consists of an interdisciplinary series of courses that challenge a monocultural perspective from a position of privilege.

Minor Requirements (15 Hours)

All ICS courses focus on the interaction and dynamics between individuals and/or societies from different identity groups and require students to examine, reassess, and/or better understand their identity in terms of culture and/or power and privilege. Only two courses in any academic discipline may be taken in each category, with the exception of ICS courses.

Theory of Culture

A student in a Theory of Culture course will acquire tools for understanding the role of culture in human life and seeing the cultural dimensions of her world, and she will learn how to carry out informed comparative analysis. While the concept of culture will be present in all ICS courses, those which can be used to satisfy this requirement will be characterized by a deeper theoretical focus on the process of cultural formation both individually and collectively.

Theory of Power and Privilege

Classes in this category will analyze the roots of particular forms of privilege and subordination, examine how they have evolved and changed over time, investigate how they operate, and give each student an opportunity to locate and examine her own position in systems of power and privilege. While these concepts will be present in most if not all ICS courses, those which can be used to satisfy this requirement will be characterized by a deeper theoretical focus on systems of power and privilege.

Code	Title	Credits
ICS 201	Introduction to Intercultural Studies	3

Theory Courses

Select one course from each of the following categories:	6
Theory of Culture:	

ANTH 253	Survey I: Culture and Language
ANTH 320	Anthropology of Race and Racism
ANTH 346	Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective
ANTH 390	Special Topics (Cultural Anthropology (approved topics))
COMM 350	Intercultural Communication
ENLT 354	Immigrant Women's Writing ¹
ENLT 362	Contemporary Global Literature ¹
POSC 207	Comparative Politics
PSYC 438	Stereotyping and Prejudice ¹
RLST 307	Leviticus and Numbers: Cultural Interpretations
Theory of Power and Privilege:	
ANTH 376	Water, Culture & Sustainability
COMM 210	Mass Media and Society (approved sections)
ENLT 366	Postcolonial Women's Writing ¹
GWS 207	Introduction to Gender and Women's Studies
GWS 333	Transnational Feminisms
POSC 319	The Global Politics of International Development
POSC 360	The Politics of Race
PSYC 438	Stereotyping and Prejudice ¹
SOC 255	Race, Ethnicity, and Identity in the United States
SOC 320	Social Inequalities in Education
SOC 345	Sociology of Poverty ¹
SOC 360	Social Stratification: Class, Gender, Race ¹
Electives	
Select two more Theory courses or two of the following:	6
ANTH 141	People and Nature
ART 242	Art History Survey II
BIO 202	The Global Challenge of Infectious Diseases
BIO 270	Environments of Ecuador
BUAD 329	Gender and Race Issues in Management ¹
BUAD 422	International Management ¹
EDUC 201	Foundations for Teaching in a Multicultural Society
ENLT 290	Topics in Literature (approved topics)
or ENLT 390	Topics in Literature
ENLT 251	African-American Literature
ENLT 253	Native American Literature
ENLT 367	Caribbean Women's Literature
ENWR 222	Tourist or Traveler: Travel Writing in the New Millennium
GWS 275	Global Women's Leadership (summer course)
HIST 324	History of Women in the United States
HIST 341	African-American History
HIST 385	Latin America
HUST 203	Asian Influence on Western Literature
HUST 250	Worlds of Islam
ICS 270	Border Immersion: Building a Culture of Encounter Program
ICS 290	Special Topics
or ICS 390	Special Topics
or ICS 490	Special Topics
ICS 397	Independent Study

or ICS 497	Independent Study
NURS 414	Community Health Nursing ¹
PHIL 245	Philosophy of World Cultures
PHIL 254	Social Justice
POSC 304	Latin American Politics
POSC 329	Middle East Politics
PSYC 237	Cultural Psychology
PSYC 481	Clinical Psychology ¹
RLST 225	Reading the Hebrew Bible in Jewish & Christian Terms
RLST 355	African-American Theologies
RLST 380	Interfaith Studies
RLST 381	Islam: Beliefs, Practices, and Current Events
SW 342	Intercultural Leadership Development
Total Credits	15

¹ Courses may be taken only by students majoring in the discipline or by students who can demonstrate adequate knowledge to the course instructor.

Selected courses taken through study abroad programs may also apply to the minor.