**Interdisciplinary Studies Major, B.A.   
Application Form  
College of Arts and Sciences**

**Application Deadline:** September 9 (fall semester) and February 1 (spring semester).

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| **Personal Information** | | | |
| Name: |  | | |
| PID: |  | Email: |  |
| Phone: |  | GPA**\***: |  |
| Graduation Term/Year: |  | | |
| Current Major(s): |  | | |
| Current Minor(s): |  | | |
| Will you be dropping any of your current majors or minors? If yes, which one(s)? |  | | |
| **Program Information** | | | |
| **Title of Proposed Major:** |  | | |
| **Faculty Sponsor** | | | |
| A faculty advisor helps students develop their coursework and program topic and guides them through their progress in the major. A faculty advisor is also available for support, advice, and guidance, particularly regarding research opportunities, graduate study, and career options. Faculty advisors commit to checking in with their advisees once per semester and to additional meetings as needed to discuss course substitutions, research opportunities, etc. The faculty advisor should have academic expertise related to the advisee’s area of interest and be able to advise the student on how to develop their individual major. Advisors should have faculty appointments in the College of Arts and Sciences, preferably in one of the departments reflected in the core course requirements. Exceptions to this rule may be granted if academically appropriate. | | | |
| Supporting Statement: | In the space below, please indicate your thoughts on the rationale and structure of the proposed major. | | |
| Name: |  | | |
| Home Department: |  | | |
| Signature**\*\***: |  | | |

*\*GPA must be 3.00 or higher to apply to the Interdisciplinary Studies Program*

*\*\*A signed statement from a full-time faculty sponsor must be submitted with the IDST application form.*

**ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:**

**(These answers should demonstrate a well thought out program plan with clear objectives. Take the space that you need to answer each question fully and carefully. The document will expand as needed.**

1. Explain the major you are proposing. What fields of study does it draw on or bring together? What questions or problems does it focus on? What questions or problems does it prepare you to address?
2. Explain how you became engaged in this area and why none of the existing UNC majors are appropriate to your needs.
3. What kinds of knowledge and/or methodological skills are associated with competence in your major? Explain in some detail the eight core courses that make up your major, and how this combination of courses meets these needs. [*Applicants are advised to compose their answer by beginning with the first part of the question and then discussing how each of their eight proposed courses contributes to this so that they add up to a coherent course of study. If there are other universities that offer programs in your proposed major or something similar, you may want to describe their major requirements and compare these to the courses you are proposing.*]

4. Explain what you hope to do with these skills upon graduation.

**MAJOR CORE COURSES**

The IDST major consists of **eight** core courses, which must be chosen from at least three departments, with a maximum of four courses from any one department. The content and learning objectives covered in each course should directly relate to the IDST topic. All eight courses must be appropriate for juniors and seniors majoring in those departments. The courses should form a coherent plan of study consistent with the proposed title. In this course list please indicate if you plan on completing an honors thesis.

For each of the 8 core courses listed below, please provide one to two alternative courses. Having multiple alternative courses will provide greater flexibility and allow for adjustments if core courses are not available. You may propose the same alternate course for more than one requirement; however, you can only use to fulfill one. If you have completed or are currently enrolled in any of the 8 core courses listed, you do not need to provide alternative courses for that requirement.

**Be aware!**

* Students may not include courses numbered over 699 to count towards the major course of study unless they have already completed these courses and/or have written permission to enroll from the instructor.
* Students may include **up to three courses** they have already completed or are currently taking
* Students may not use more than 3 credit hours of independent study courses (typically ending in 93, 94, 95, 96, and senior honors thesis courses numbered 691H – 694H)
* Some professional schools and College departments customarily restrict course enrollment to majors in that department, particularly during the initial registration period. These include BUSI, COMP, NSCI, PUBH and SPHG. *\*\*\**
  + Computer Science courses numbered above COMP 210 are restricted to majors only.
  + Biomedical Engineering courses are restricted to majors only.
  + Psychology and Neuroscience courses are often restricted to majors only

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| Proposed Course for Major | Course # | Title | Credit Hours | \*When was the course last offered? | Does the course have prerequisites or other enrollment restrictions? If yes, indicate how you will satisfy these requirements. | **\*\***Have you completed or are you currently enrolled in the course? If yes, indicate “completed” or “currently enrolled” and the term which you were enrolled. |
| **Course 1** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1Alternate A |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1Alternate B |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Proposed Course for Major | Course # | Title | Credit Hours | \*When was the course last offered? | Does the course have prerequisites or other enrollment restrictions? If yes, indicate how you will satisfy these requirements. | **\*\***Have you completed or are you currently enrolled in the course? If yes, indicate “completed” or “currently enrolled” and the term which you were enrolled. |
| How are these courses appropriate alternates for Course 1? | |  | | | | |
| **Course 2** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2Alternate A |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2Alternate B |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| How are these courses appropriate alternates for Course 2? | |  | | | | |
| **Course 3** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3Alternate A |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3Alternate B |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| How are these courses appropriate alternates for Course 3? | |  | | | | |
| **Course 4** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4Alternate A |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4Alternate B |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Proposed Course for Major | Course # | Title | Credit Hours | \*When was the course last offered? | Does the course have prerequisites or other enrollment restrictions? If yes, indicate how you will satisfy these requirements. | **\*\***Have you completed or are you currently enrolled in the course? If yes, indicate “completed” or “currently enrolled” and the term which you were enrolled. |
| How are these courses appropriate alternates for Course 4? | |  | | | | |
| **Course 5** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5Alternate A |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5Alternate B |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| How are these courses appropriate alternates for Course 5? | |  | | | | |
| **Course 6** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6Alternate A |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6Alternate B |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| How are these courses appropriate alternates for Course 6? | |  | | | | |
| **Course 7** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7Alternate A |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7Alternate B |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Proposed Course for Major | Course # | Title | Credit Hours | \*When was the course last offered? | Does the course have prerequisites or other enrollment restrictions? If yes, indicate how you will satisfy these requirements. | **\*\***Have you completed or are you currently enrolled in the course? If yes, indicate “completed” or “currently enrolled” and the term which you were enrolled. |
| How are these courses appropriate alternates for Course 7? | |  | | | | |
| **Course 8** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8Alternate A |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8Alternate B |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| How are these courses appropriate alternates for Course 8? | |  | | | | |

***\*****Use the Historical Course Record report to check when the course was last offered:* [*https://reports.unc.edu/historical\_course\_record/*](https://reports.unc.edu/historical_course_record/)*. If the course has not been offered in the last four semesters, you are recommended to contact the Director of Undergraduate Studies of that department and ask if there are plans to offer this course within the next two years and, if so, when.*

***\*\*****If you have completed or are currently enrolled in the course, you do not need to provide alternative courses.*

\*\*\***IDST Majors are not guaranteed seats in courses offered by schools or departments that restrict enrollment**. Applications should show alternative options for achieving the goals of the major in case you are unable to enroll in your preferred class in a program that controls enrollment.

**STUDENT SIGNATURE**

I understand and have read the policies outlined on the Interdisciplinary Studies website regarding the IDST major.

Student Signature Date

**Please save this document using the following file name: LAST NAME\_First Name--IDST Application (Example: LEVE Lauren--IDST Application)**. Submit it to the following email [IDST-Director@unc.edu](mailto:IDST-Director@unc.edu) by September 9 for the fall semester and February 1 for the spring semester. **Students will be notified of a final decision within 4 weeks after the application deadline.**

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| **Office Use Only** | |
| Date Reviewed: | Decision: |