

Interdisciplinary Studies

Wabash offers a number of interdisciplinary majors and minors whose requirements come from multiple departments and divisions.

Major in Financial Economics

Description

The Financial Economics major guides students interested in a career in finance to the most useful courses in the two departments currently teaching financial topics, and makes it easier for students who have strong financial economics interests to obtain a minor or area of concentration outside mathematics or economics. Students wishing to major in Financial Economics are required to take the core economics theory courses in macroeconomics and microeconomics to provide a strong theoretical foundation. Beyond those courses, the student specializes in finance. The two departments' offerings in Mathematics and Economics complement each other well. Economics courses reinforce the concepts of optimization and comparative statics and give students command of computational tools that are ubiquitous in the world of finance. The mathematics courses examine mathematical models and lines of reasoning used in finance.

Requirements for the Major

Students are required to take the following 9 course credits:

ECO 101 Principles of Economics
ECO 251 (1/2 cr.) The Economic Approach with Excel
ECO 253 Econometrics
ECO 291 Intermediate Microeconomics
ECO 292 Intermediate Macroeconomics
ECO 361 Corporate Finance
ECO 362 Money and Banking
MAT 251 (1/2 cr.) Mathematical Finance
MAT 252 (1/2 cr.) Mathematical Interest Theory
MAT 253 (1/2 cr.) Probability Models
MAT 254 (1/2 cr.) Statistical Models
MAT 353 (1/2 cr.) Probability Models II

Co-requisites (2 course credits):

MAT 111 Calculus I
MAT 112 Calculus II

Students taking a Financial Economics major may have a minor or second major in Mathematics, but may not count MAT 251, 252, 253, 254, or 353 toward that major or minor. Students taking a Financial Economics major may NOT have a major or minor in Economics.

The written and oral comprehensive exams, designed jointly and specifically targeted to the financial economics student, serve as a capstone as well as an assessment experience.

Suggested Route through the Financial Economics Major

Year	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Freshman	MAT 111*	MAT 112* ECO 101**
Sophomore	ECO 291 ECO 251 (1/2) MAT 253 (1/2) MAT 353 (1/2)	MAT 254 (1/2) ECO 253
Junior	MAT 251 (1/2), MAT 252 (1/2) ECO 361***	ECO 292
Senior	ECO 362	

*Co-curricular requirement for the major

**May be taken in the fall of the freshman year

***May be taken in the fall of the senior year

Several of the MAT courses can be delayed one year. Thus students beginning with MAT 10 could follow this path:

Year	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Freshman	MAT 010*	ECO 101** MAT 110*
Sophomore	MAT 112* ECO 251 (1/2) ECO 291	MAT 254 (1/2) ECO 253
Junior	ECO 361*** MAT 253 (1/2) MAT 353 (1/2)	ECO 292
Senior	MAT 251 (1/2), MAT 252 (1/2) ECO 362	

Oversight

Senior comprehensive examinations for the Financial Economics major will be jointly written and administered by the Economics and Mathematics departments and overseen by the two department chairs.

Major in Hispanic Studies

Description of the Major

A major in Hispanic Studies at Wabash College provides students an interdisciplinary and integrative approach to the study of the Iberian Peninsula (Spain and Portugal), Latin America, and the Philippines. The major recognizes that the complexity and diversity of Latin America and the Iberian Peninsula do not fall under the purview of any one academic department. This makes Hispanic Studies an interdisciplinary, liberal arts area of study.

Requirements for the Major

The Major in Hispanic Studies consists of 9 courses distributed as described below. Note: students may not double count courses toward a Hispanic Studies major and

- a Spanish major
- a Spanish minor
- an MAS minor

From Spanish: 4 course credits

- SPA 201, Intermediate Spanish 1 (offered every semester)
- SPA 202, Intermediate Spanish 2 (offered every semester)
- SPA 301, Advanced Composition (offered every semester)
- SPA 312, Seminar in Hispanic Culture (offered every year)

From Other Departments: 4 course credits with an HSP designation

Four courses with substantial focus on Hispanic societies or culture drawn from the course list below.

Capstone: 1 course

An Hispanic Studies major's senior seminar can be listed as either HIS 498 or SPA 401 or another course approved by the Oversight Committee, and will involve a substantial research project based in primary sources.

Comprehensive Exams

Written comps created and administered by qualified members of the Spanish and History Departments, or other appropriate departments. Orals will include a major examiner drawn from the same pool, perhaps chosen to follow the student's choice of HIS 498, SPA 401 or another course as a capstone.

Oversight Committee

The Oversight Committee for the Major in Hispanic Studies consists of the chairs of Modern Languages, History, and a faculty member who teaches Latin American or Iberian content in another department appointed by the Dean of the College. The Committee will track students in the major, add and subtract courses from the list delineated below, and coordinate with faculty in all interested disciplines.

Course Descriptions

HSP 210 Special Topics in Art History

The objective of this class is to develop the student's understanding of art history. Through the analysis of a particular theme or topic, students will gain a greater understanding of visual communication and its history. Since the content of this course varies from year to year, it may be repeated for credit upon the instructor's approval. Examples of course topics that receive the HSP designation include: The Art of the Ancient Americas; and Latin American Art.

Credits: 1

HSP 240 Art of the Ancient Americas

Since the content of this course varies from semester to semester, it may be repeated for credit upon the instructor's approval.

Credits: 1 or 1/2

HSP 277 Economics of Latin America

The course provides opportunities for specialized, innovative material to be made available for students at the introductory level. Since the content of this course varies from semester to semester, it may be repeated for credit upon the instructor's approval.

Credits: 1

HSP 300 Advanced Topics, World and Comparative History

This course provides opportunities for small group and independent work in intensive study of selected topics in world and comparative history. Since the content of this course varies from semester to semester, it may be repeated for credit upon the instructor's approval.

Credits: 1 or 1/2

HSP 320 Advanced Topics, Medieval and Early Modern Europe

This course provides opportunities for small group and independent work in intensive study of selected topics in medieval and early modern European history. Since the content of this course varies from semester to semester, it may be repeated for credit upon the instructor's approval.

Credits: 1 or 1/2

HSP 330 Advanced Topics, Modern Europe

This course provides opportunities for small group and independent work in intensive study of selected topics in modern European history. Since the content of this course varies from semester to semester, it may be repeated for credit upon the instructor's approval.

Credits: 1 or 1/2

HSP 340 Advanced Topics, American History

This course provides opportunities for small group and independent work in intensive study of selected topics in American history. Since the content of this course varies from semester to semester, it may be repeated for credit upon the instructor's approval.

Credits: 1 or 1/2

HSP 372 Topics in Comparative Politics

These courses focus at an advance level on a particular issue, concept, problem or question in comparative politics.

Advanced level.

Credits: 1 or 1/2

HSP 374 Topics in International Relations

These courses will focus on a particular issue, concept, problem, or question in international relations. Advanced level.

Credits: 1 or 1/2

Minor in Asian Studies

Description

The great civilizations of Asia have produced achievements in human thought and creativity that are the equal of any produced elsewhere. Further, contemporary Asian countries such as China, Japan, Taiwan, and Vietnam are among the most important dynamic forces in world politics, the arts, and the global economy. As part of its mission to graduate students prepared for leadership and service in a global society increasingly influenced by Asia, Wabash College offers an interdisciplinary minor in Asian Studies. This minor is available to students in any major. The goal of the Asian Studies minor is to provide students with a solid understanding of critical issues in Asia vis-à-vis the rest of the world and an appreciation of the diversity of Asian cultures and languages. The program is currently administered by the Asian Studies Committee, currently chaired by Professor Richard Warner.

Requirements for the Minor

The Minor in Asian Studies consists of at least five courses distributed across at least two departments. Two semesters of Chinese or other Asian language (or proficiency in an Asian language) are required. Regularly offered Wabash courses that are eligible include:

- ASI 101, 102 (Elementary Chinese sequence)
- ASI 201, 202 (Intermediate Chinese sequence)
- ASI 376, MLL 387 (Special Topics and Independent Study in Chinese)
- ASI 177/HIS 260 (Visual China: Modern Chinese Culture and History through Film)
- MUS/ASI 204 (Special Topics: Music in East Asian Cultures)
- HIS 260, 262, 360, 387 (Chinese history sequence)
- ASI 372: Asian Security Politics
- REL 104, 230, 330 (Asian Religions)
- ASI 400 (Senior Capstone Project, non-credit bearing)

Students should contact the Asian Studies Committee if they have questions about the appropriateness of an irregular offering. Note that additional courses may become available in the future and will be added to the list by approval of the Asian Studies Committee. Students declaring an Asian Studies minor are strongly encouraged to apply for a semester of off-campus study in an Asian country. The application process to study off-campus can be found at www.wabash.edu/international/ocs.

Application and Capstone

It is recommended that the student declare the minor at the end of his sophomore year by submitting a plan of courses to the Chair of the Asian Studies Committee. In addition, the student must submit to the Chair of the Asian Studies Committee a reflective essay or portfolio of work in Asian Studies in order to complete the requirements for ASI 400, a non-credit independent study course to be taken during the fall semester of the senior year on a credit/no credit basis. The student's submission will constitute the basis of the Asian Studies portion of the oral examination.

Committee

Members of the Asian Studies Committee include: Dr. David Blix (Religion), Dr. Michael Burch (Political Science), Dr. Gilberto Gomez (Chair, Modern Languages and Literatures), Dr. Richard Warner (Chair, History), Dr. Qian Pullen (Modern Languages and Literatures and History), and Dr. Kealoha Widdows (Economics - on leave 2014-15).

Minor in Business

Description

The Business minor is founded on the premise that a liberal arts education is an effective foundation for a career in business. The courses in the minor are packaged, in most cases, with a co-curricular experience to help our students prepare for careers in all aspects of business, including non-profit management, arts administration, as well as more standard private sector careers in finance and management.

The minor consists of courses which emphasize skills in oral and written communication and quantitative analysis, courses in financial markets and accounting, a co-curricular practicum or case study, and a reflective paper that ties the practical experience to the academic work of the minor and forms the basis of the minor portion of oral comprehensive exams.

Requirements for the Minor

Students are required to take the following 7.5 courses:

- ECO 101
- RHE 101
- ENG 411 or ENG 410
- ACC 201
- ACC 202 or ACC 301
- ECO 251 (1/2)
- ECO 262 or ECO 361 or ECO 362
- An additional course, drawn from the following list: ACC 202, ACC 301, PHI 219 (when that course covers business ethics), and SPA 312.
- BUS 400 (Capstone Paper, uncredited course – see below)

Additional courses may be added to the list of available courses with the approval of the Business Minor Committee. It should be noted that ECO 262 does not count toward the Economics major.

Capstone Paper

Upon declaring the minor at the end of their sophomore year, students will submit a plan of courses and co-curricular experiences along with a one-page rationale, which must be approved by the Business Minor Committee. In the fall of their senior year, students will submit a reflective essay which ties together their co-curricular and vocational experiences with their academic work. In the unlikely event that the Business minor has had no relevant co-curricular or vocational experiences, the Business Minor Committee will assign to the student an appropriate case study upon which to base his essay. This essay will be read by two members of the Business Minor Committee. The course plan and the reflective essay will form the basis for the oral comprehensive exam.

Suggested Co-curricular experience

Students will be strongly encouraged to participate in one or more of these significant co-curricular experiences: LABB (Liberal Arts Bridge to Business), the Marketing, Finance, and Health Care Immersion programs, or at least one 8-week internship, or a comparable experiential learning activity. Students also will be strongly encouraged to participate in other co-curricular experiences, such as the New York Fall Break and the San Francisco Comps Week trips, and to attend talks given by alumni.

Business Minor Committee

The committee will be a faculty committee, appointed by the Dean of the College. The committee will consist of two members of the Economics Department and one faculty member from outside the Economics Department. At the end of each year the committee will review all declared minors' progress.

Minor in Gender Studies

Description

Wabash College is committed to preparing its students for leadership and service in a diverse and changing society. As part of that commitment, the Minor in Gender Studies affords students the opportunity to gain a firm grounding in an interdisciplinary field that investigates the social, cultural, and biological factors that constitute femininity, masculinity, and sexual identity. Gender Studies explores the similarities and differences between the experiences, perspectives, and voices of women and men by analyzing variations in gender roles that occur across cultures and over time, examining relationships between biological differences and social power, and investigating the complex interaction of gender with race, class, and culture. Gender Studies also involves a critical investigation of strategies that aim to transform unjust or coercive social systems based on gender. Through coursework and an independent senior project, students undertake a systematic and critical analysis of gender issues across academic disciplines. The program is administered by the Gender Issues Committee.

Wabash College students who participate in the Minor in Gender Studies will enhance their preparation for careers in a wide variety of areas. These include, but are not limited to, human services, law, government, teaching, the arts, clinical work, social work, public relations, advertising, and journalism. Some graduates with expertise in Gender Studies may also pursue further study of gender as graduate students in a wide range of academic fields.

Requirements for the Minor

The requirements of the program include the following:

- Four courses designated as Gender Studies courses from at least two different departments. At least two of these courses must have Gender Studies as their major focus, while the other two courses must contain substantial relevant content. The Gender Issues Committee will approve this set of courses as part of the application process.
- A full-credit capstone course in fall or spring of the senior year. This may be either an independent study project that explores the student's chosen focus in greater depth or, if enough students are completing concentrations, a seminar class in which students will explore their topics comparatively. These will be assigned as GEN 487 Independent Study courses, and they have to be approved by the Committee Chair.
- Each student's program will be approved and supervised by the Gender Issues Committee, and a member of this committee, or other faculty with relevant expertise, may serve as secondary field examiner on the senior oral examination.

Application

Students are encouraged to declare the Minor in Gender Studies by the end of their sophomore year (although they are free to declare any time before fall semester of their senior year). To declare, the student should submit a written proposal to the Gender Issues Committee, presenting a rationale for the courses selected for the Minor. The forms are available in the Registrar's Office.

Courses

The following regularly offered courses focus primarily on gender and may be included in the Minor in Gender Studies, so long as they do not conflict with the student's major:

The courses appropriate for satisfying this requirement are cross-listed with GEN in the current course catalogue. They may include such courses as the following:

- ENG 360 Studies in Multicultural/National Literature: Toni Morrison the African American Novel
- ENG 497 Seminar in English Literature: Sexualities, Textualities, and Queer Theory
- ENG 497: Gender Criticism
- HIS 300 Advanced Topics: World and Comparative History: Prostitution in Modern World History
- PHI 219 Ethics & Social Philosophy
- PSY 110 Fatherhood
- REL 273 Topics in Theology: Religion and Masculinity
- RHE 360 Gender and Communication
- THE 103 Seminars in Theater (Frequent Topics with Primary Focus on Gender)

Regularly offered courses with substantial relevant content include, but are not limited to the following:

- CLA 101 Classical Mythology
- ENG 214 British and Irish Lit. after 1900
- ENG 219 Introduction to American Literature before 1900
- ENG 220 Introduction to American Literature after 1900
- ENG 297 Introduction to the Study of Literature
- ENG 397 Critical Reading
- HIS 271 African History to 1885
- HIS 272 African History from 1885
- HIS 497 Philosophy and Craft of History
- PHI 109 Perspectives on Philosophy: Friendship
- REL 270 Theological Ethics
- REL 370 Contemporary Theology
- RHE 240 Communication Theory
- THE 213 The American Stage
- THE 214 The Modern Stage

Occasional courses (Special Topics or other courses of particular relevance to Gender Studies) may also count toward this requirement with the approval of the Gender Issues Committee. Interested students should consult with a member of the Gender Issues Committee for advice regarding relevant courses and the frequency of offerings. Students should also consult the Academic Bulletin and semester-by-semester information from the Registrar's office regarding when courses are offered.

Minor in Multicultural American Studies

Multicultural American Studies focuses on the plural, multi-group character of the composition of the United States, a nation formed by diverse ethnic, racial, and religious groups from all over the world. Increasingly we recognize that communities—from localities to entire nation-states—are not socially homogenous and uniform, but are composed of a variety of groups. In the United States, such groups as Hispanics, African Americans, Asian Americans, Native Americans, and White ethnics like the Irish, Italians, and Jews have made unique contributions to a country that has historically defined itself as White, Protestant, and English. The multicultural perspective analyzes how the United States, like other nations, is shaped by the interaction of groups with each other and with prevailing definitions of the nation's character and culture. It explores, across disciplines, the ways various groups represent themselves and are represented by others and themes such as cultural encounters and blending (syncretism), identity (how a group represents itself and is seen by others), family, the arts, rituals and other manifestations of cultural and community life. Through course work and possibly a related off-campus study experience, students who complete the Multicultural American Studies minor may gain an increased understanding of this perspective.

Requirements

The requirements of the minor include the following:

- Four courses, from at least two different departments with a MAS designation. (A list of suggested courses is given below and is updated yearly.) This plan of study is constructed under the direction of a faculty committee arranged by the student.
- A full-credit capstone course taken during the senior year. This may either be an independent study project under the direction of one of the faculty committee members or, if enough students are completing areas of concentration in a given year, an arranged class in which students will explore their minor topics comparatively as well as in greater depth. (These will be assigned as Divisional Independent Study courses under the direction of the Committee Chair.)
- Students who choose to complete the minor in Multicultural American Studies may wish to consider off-campus study programs such as the Philadelphia Urban Semester, the New York Arts Program, the Newberry Library Program in Chicago, and the Borders Program in El Paso. Students may wish to include relevant coursework during off campus study.
- A member of the minor committee arranged by the student may serve as secondary field examiner on the senior oral committee.
- Students will usually declare the minor by the end of their sophomore year. At that time the student will organize a faculty committee, work out a rationale and plan of study with that committee, and submit the proper form obtained from the Registrar's Office. Each minor will carry a descriptive title on the form, such as "Multicultural Studies," "Latino Studies," or "Africana Studies."
- Minors will be forwarded to the Registrar's Office by the faculty committee constructed by the student. They will be supervised by the Multicultural Concerns Committee and all applications for these minors will be forwarded by the Registrar's Office to that committee.

Courses

Courses appropriate for a minor in Multicultural American Studies include the following:

- ART 105 Ritual Objects and Native American Culture
- ART 210 Special Topics in Art History: African American Art
- ENG 160 Multicultural Literature
- ENG 221 Studies in Language: American Dialects
- MAS 260 Multicultural Literature: Intro. to Black Studies
- ENG 360 African American Literature
- HIS 244 African American History
- HIS 250 Topics in Latin American History
- HIS 252 Peoples and Nations of Latin America
- HIS 340 Advanced Topics, American History
- HIS 350 Advanced Topics Latin America

- MUS 102 World Music
- MUS 202 Instruments and Culture
- PSC 278 Special Topics
- PSC 325 Latin American Politics
- PSY 211 Culture and Psychology
- REL 181 Religion in America
- REL 280 Topics in American Religion: African American Religion
- REL 297 Anthropology of Religion
- SPA 303 Spanish American Literature
- RHE 370 Special Topics (e.g. African American Rhetoric)
- THE 103 Seminars in Theater: Multicultural Theater in America

The Department of Modern Languages and Literature offers a variety of courses that could be used for the Multicultural American Studies minor. Please contact the Department Chair for additional information.

Committee

The program is administered by the Multicultural Concerns Committee of the Wabash Faculty.