
USF Sarasota-Manatee - Substantive Undergraduate Course Proposal Form

1. College/School Contact Information

<u>Tracking Number</u> 39	<u>Date & Time Submitted</u> 2015-05-26 10:51:50.0	
<u>Discipline</u> Interdisciplinary Social Sciences	<u>College/School</u>	<u>Budget Account Number</u> 120700004
<u>Contact Person</u> Sarah Fayard	<u>Phone</u> 941-359-46	<u>Email</u> sarahfayard@sar.usf.edu

2. Course Information

<u>Prefix</u> ISS	<u>Number</u> 3937	<u>Full Title</u> Interdisciplinary Inquiry	
Is the course title variable?		N	
Is a permit required for registration?		N	
Are the credit hours variable?		N	
<u>Credit Hours</u> 3	<u>Section Type</u> Discussion (Primarily)		<u>Grading Option</u> Regular

Abbreviated Title (30 characters maximum)
Interdisciplinary Inquiry

5. Prerequisites

ISS 3300

6. Corequisites

7. Co-Prerequisites

8. Course Description

An in-depth interdisciplinary analysis guided through the use of a focal topic. Students will identify different disciplinary insights and propose integrated perspectives on the topic.

9. New Course Information

<u>New Prefix</u> N/A	<u>New Number</u> N/A	<u>New Full Title</u> N/A
Is the course title variable?		N
Is a permit required for registration?		N
Are the credit hours variable?		N
<u>New Credit Hours</u>	<u>New Section Type</u>	<u>New Grading Option</u>

N/A

Discussion (Primarily)

Regular

New Abbreviated Title (30 characters maximum)

N/A

12. New Prerequisites

N/A

13. New Corequisites

N/A

14. New Co-Prerequisites

N/A

15. New Course Description

An in-depth interdisciplinary analysis of students ISS concentration areas combined with a 100 hour internship experience. Students will integrate social scientific research and insights in the completion of an internship project.

16. **Justification**

A. Nature of change(s)

The existing course requires students to build on their knowledge gained in the ISS curriculum prerequisites (interdisciplinary research, statistics, research methods) to formulate interdisciplinary insights on a focal topic. Through the addition of an internship component, the proposed changes to this course will take this process outside of the classroom and provide students with the opportunity to utilize their interdisciplinary training to engage in real-world problem solving. This change is necessary to give students experience in applying their academic knowledge in a meaningful way that will also provide hands-on work experience relevant to their areas of study. This will not affect accreditation. This supports the ISS majors. This course is a core program requirement. It is the fourth course in the five course ISS core sequence.

B. Indicate how this course will strengthen the Undergraduate Program.

The course will strengthen the program by providing students with the opportunity to utilize knowledge of social theories, statistics, and research methods and engage in the interdisciplinary integration of insights (course prerequisites through the sequenced ISS core) to solve real-world problems relevant to their concentration areas. The course will also give ISS students work experience relevant to their concentration areas and will guide students through the completion of a project that will make a substantial contribution to a local organization. Finally, the course will enable students to showcase the skills gained through the ISS curriculum and their value to local organizations.

C. What specific area of knowledge is covered by this change that is not covered by courses currently listed.

Internship work experience. Application of academic knowledge in a real-world setting to benefit a local organization.

D. What is the need or demand for this course? {Here you must indicate if this course is part of a required sequence in the major} What other programs would this course?

Interdisciplinary Inquiry is a required course in the ISS core curriculum that will be taken by all ISS majors. The course will also meet the demands of potential employers--A 2010 AAC&U study found that 79% of employers want colleges to place a greater emphasis on internships and the application of academic knowledge in real-world contexts (Raising the Bar: Employers Views On College Learning in the Wake of the Economic Downturn, AAC&U/ Hart Research Associates, 2010).

E. What qualifications for training and/or experience are necessary to teach this course?

A master's degree with 18 graduate credit hours in a social science discipline and interdisciplinary education, research, or work experience. Experience with internship supervision and community engagement.

F. What will be the effect of this change on the program and on the students? Do you plan to drop a course if this change is made? (If dropping/deleting a course please complete the nonsubstantive course change form.)

no course will be dropped.

17. Other Course Information

A. Objectives

1. Provide students with work experience relevant to their ISS concentration focus
2. Introduce major themes in the social scientific study of ISS concentration areas
3. Utilize knowledge of social theories, statistics, and research methods in an examination of an issue relevant to student concentration areas and internship partners
4. Gain experience with interdisciplinary integration of insights on a social scientific issue
5. Develop skills for social scientific writing and the electronic presentation of ideas

B. Learning Outcomes

1. Make connections between ISS coursework and learning experiences outside of the classroom
2. Integrate research ideas from different social science disciplines to present an interdisciplinary understanding their topics as they relate to real-world experiences
3. Conduct a project that will make a substantial contribution to a local organization
4. Prepare an electronic portfolio and an interdisciplinary report in APA style

C. Major Topics

1. Interpretation and analysis of social scientific research in ISS concentration areas
2. Interdisciplinary research process
3. Integration of research ideas from multiple social science disciplines
4. The application of academic knowledge to real world experiences
5. The use of e-portfolios to document learning and reflect on learning and achievements
6. Social scientific writing

D. Textbooks

Example Required Text: Loeb, P. (2010). *The Soul of the Citizen: Living with Conviction in Challenging Times*. St. Martins Press.
Recommended Text: Repko, A. F., Szostak, R. and Buchberger, M. P. (2014). *Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies*. Sage.

18. Syllabus

Please submit an electronic copy of your syllabus to Rhonda Moraca, moraca@sar.usf.edu.
