

# Department of Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Degree Programs



The Social Science Interdisciplinary Degree Program (IDP) offers majors based on topics of contemporary public interest. The curricula in these majors cross traditional departmental boundaries and include courses from the academic departments at UB as well as specialized courses taught by community professionals.

## Why Study in IDP?

Many students in IDP use internship opportunities in order to enhance their awareness of real-world connections to their academic studies. IDP majors provide excellent preparation for careers in a variety of fields in business, government, and social services. IDP majors offer special opportunities for advanced professional degrees: the BA/MSW joint degree with UB's School of Social Work and UB's Teacher Education Institute (TEI) Masters level certification program for Early Childhood/Childhood teachers (Birth – Grade 6).

## Distinctive Features

**Variety-** With six majors from which to choose, the Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Degree Programs offer students a variety of opportunities for focusing their study on important topics.

**Internship-** We support a variety of internship opportunities for our majors.

**Career Preparation-** Students in the majors go on to a wide variety of graduate and professional training programs as well as diverse employment opportunities.

## Faculty

In addition to courses taught by the faculty in academic departments across CAS, IDP brings professionals from health and social services, law, and environmental fields to UB to teach courses in the IDP majors. Our intent is to combine expertise in the subject area with informed knowledge of contemporary social and public policy implications.

## The Majors

**Health and Human Services** (Social Gerontology, Community Mental Health, and Early Childhood Studies) examines the systems delivering human services to individuals and communities in need, social problems, and the professions and professionals providing services.

**Legal Studies** examines law, legal processes, legal institutions, and the role of law in society.

**Environmental Studies** BA or BS studies environmental issues from natural science, social science and applied perspectives.

**International Studies** integrates the study of foreign language with courses on international topics and a regional focus correlated with the language chosen. Study abroad strongly encouraged.

**Urban and Public Policy** examines urban issues such as planning, transportation, housing, land use, urban redevelopment, etc. from several disciplinary bases.

**Cognitive Science** studies how the mind works by examining thought and consciousness, the senses and emotions, the structure of language, cultural patterns, neural organization, and computational analogs of mental processes.

## Contact

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[http://www.cas.buffalo.edu/  
programs/idp/ugrad/index.html](http://www.cas.buffalo.edu/programs/idp/ugrad/index.html)