

## What is interdisciplinary learning?

Interdisciplinary courses involve two or more academic disciplines or fields of study and focus on questions, problems, and topics too complex or too broad for a single discipline or field to encompass adequately. Theme-based interdisciplinary courses intentionally address issues that require meaningful engagement of multiple academic disciplines.

That means making relevant connections between what you learned in one or more previous courses and what you are learning now. In other words, you are synthesizing old and new knowledge and, the more you learn to do this, the easier it is to grow intellectually and professionally.

## What are some of the benefits of taking an interdisciplinary course?

Taking interdisciplinary courses means that you will be engaging exciting, big ideas in novel ways. You will learn how different disciplines look at a specific issue or problem and you will gain knowledge and expertise in more than one field of study. For example, with Weird Science, a course about interpreting and redefining humanity, it is necessary to combine perspectives from several different disciplines, including computer science, the natural, and the social sciences in order to explore what it means to be human. Interdisciplinary learning reflects

how things get done in the real world. In the workplace, you will encounter colleagues with different perspectives and training, and, accordingly, you and your colleagues may often “speak different languages.” Interdisciplinary courses model teamwork—you will learn from not only your chief instructor in one area of study or discipline but from other instructors in other disciplines. In the process, you will learn that not all knowledge building is neat and easy and tensions arise when different perspectives come together and often the best result is an outcome that involves learning from multiple perspectives.

## How do interdisciplinary courses fulfill the General Education requirement?

All baccalaureate students are required to complete one interdisciplinary liberal arts and sciences course.

Many of the new interdisciplinary courses that faculty are creating meet this requirement. Students in AA and AS programs also need to take six courses in the Flexible Common Core and many interdisciplinary courses satisfy the Flexible Common Core requirements.

**College Option interdisciplinary courses have a designation of “Interdisciplinary” in CUNYFirst.**

Please ensure that the section you register for is listed as “ID.” All interdisciplinary courses are noted here:  
<http://www.citytech.cuny.edu/pathways/interdisciplinary.aspx>

## CURRENT INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSES\*

### AFR 3000

Black New York

### ARTH 2101

Healing the Body: The Visual Culture of Medicine

### CST 1102

Programming Narratives: Computer Animated Storytelling

### ECON 2820

Behavioral Economics

### ENG 1773

Weird Science: Interpreting and Redefining Humanity

### ESCI 2000

Energy Resources

### HEA 2112

The Evolving Face of Race, Class, and Gender Identity

### LIB 2205/ARCH 2205

Learning Places: Understanding the City

### PHYS 1010

Science in the Kitchen

### ECON 2505

Environmental Economics

### ENG 1161

Language and Thinking

### ENG 2420

Science Fiction

### PHIL 2203

Health Care Ethics

### PHYS 1002

Introduction to the Physics of Natural

### PSY 2404

Personnel and Organizational Psychology

### PSY 3405

Health Psychology

### SBS 2000

Research Methods for the Behavioral and Social Sciences

### THE 2280

History of Theatre: Technology and Stages

IDC 2/2016

Submit completed applications to:

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For designated sections visit:  
[www.citytech.cuny.edu/pathways/interdisciplinary.aspx](http://www.citytech.cuny.edu/pathways/interdisciplinary.aspx)



## INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSES

*Create new knowledge networks with  
Interdisciplinary courses.*

