

INTEGRATIVE STUDIES

<http://ncc.gmu.edu>

Name and Description of the Field

New Century College's Integrative Studies degree program (B.A. or B.S) allows students to transcend disciplinary boundaries and combine their passions into a single degree. Students choose an interdisciplinary concentration or create an individualized concentration that draws from courses around the University in order to build on their unique academic interests and career goals. NCC's motto is "Connecting the Classroom to the World" and experiential learning is one way that connection occurs. These outside-the-classroom learning experiences allow students to see their classroom learning in action in the form of internships, study abroad, interactive courses, leadership activities, and service learning. NCC offers a small college atmosphere while drawing from the extensive resources of a large research university, emphasizing the following:

- Small classes where faculty and students share knowledge and explore ideas
- Connections between classroom activities and real-world applications
- Active learning, collaborative work, and self-reflective practice
- Concrete experience that becomes the basis for 'learning by doing'
- Critical thinking, written & oral communication, and information technology

What special skills or abilities are needed to succeed in this major?

The Integrative Studies program is open to all Mason students; there are no additional admission requirements. Successful Integrative Studies students:

- Are motivated and want to play an active role in their educations
- Understand the importance of working with others and seek the skills to do this effectively
- Want to be part of a community of learners where they interact closely with faculty and peers
- Wish to integrate various disciplines and experiences in their learning
- Desire to be engaged in local, national, and world events through their educational endeavors

What kinds of programs are available?

Students choose a concentration, which is composed of NCC Learning Communities, experiential learning, and traditional Mason coursework. Students may work with an advisor to individualize their concentration to better reflect their personal goals and interests. Our current concentrations are:

- Advertising
- Arts & Culture
- Child & Family Studies
- Conservation Studies
- Education
- International Studies
- Information & Society
- Leadership Studies
- Legal Studies
- Life Sciences (premedical, & other health professions)
- Organizational Administration
- Public & Community Engagement

Whom should I contact for further information?

Go to ncc.gmu.edu for specific concentration and degree requirements, course descriptions, sample syllabi, and a list of faculty. Interested students should schedule an advising appointment by calling 703-993-1436. General questions can also be posed via AOL IM to NCCAdvising1 and NCCAdvising2.