

Bachelor of Art in Interdisciplinary Studies

Howard University

College of Arts & Sciences

Catalog: Fall 2023 – Present

Quick Summary - What You Need to Graduate

Total Credits	Minimum GPA	IDSD Credits	Last 30 Credits
120	2.0	39	At Howard

- Your Degree Breakdown:**
- Major Requirements: 39 Interdisciplinary Studies credits (13 courses)
- General Education: 48 credits (approximately 18 courses)
- Math Requirements: Math 005 or higher 3-4 credits (1 course)
- Free Electives: Remaining credits to reach 120 (varies by track)
- Complete all 7 ELOs (can overlap with courses)
- COAS Experiential (1 course) & COAS Innovative Learning (1 course)
- Undergraduate Comprehensive Exam

Important: Double-Dipping Made Simple!

One course can fulfill BOTH a General Education requirement AND an Essential Learning Outcome (ELO) at the same time. You don't need separate courses for each! This helps you graduate efficiently without taking extra classes.

Major credits **cannot** be double dipped with minor credits. Minors require **15–18 credits that are not applied to their major requirements**. Minor coursework must remain distinct and separate from major coursework.

University-Wide Requirements

- Minimum GPA:** 2.0 for all undergraduate coursework
- Residency:** Complete last 30 credits at Howard University
- Exit Requirement:** Undergraduate Comprehensive Exam
- Total Credits:** 120 credits required

General Education Requirements (48 Credits / ~18 Courses)

Essential Learning Outcomes (ELOs)

Students must complete courses covering all seven outcome areas. Remember, these can overlap with other requirements!

- ELO 1:** U.S. and Global African Diasporic Developments
- ELO 2:** Human Cultures and Creative Expression
- ELO 3:** The Physical and Natural World
- ELO 4:** Intellectual and Practical Skills
- ELO 5:** Social Responsibility and Political Institutions
- ELO 6:** Leadership and Applied Learning
- ELO 7:** Comprehensive Wellness Practices

Note: ELO courses are tagged in Bison Hub under the course description

Freshman Experience (1 Credit / 1 Course)

- **FRSM 001** - Freshman Seminar (1 credit)

Core Writing & Communication (12 Credits / 4 Courses)

- ENGW 101, 102, or 104** - First-Year English Writing I (3 credits)
- ENGW 103,105 / IDSD 130** - First-Year English Writing II (3 credits)
- Third Writing Course** - Upper-level writing (3 credits)
- COMM 101**- Principles of Speech (3 credits)

Mathematics (3-4 Credits / 1 Course)

- **MATH 005 or higher** - College Algebra I or higher (3-4 credits)

Health & Wellness (2 Credits/ 2 Course)

- **HHPL** - Any Two 1 Credit Course (2 credits)

Cultural and Global Awareness (12 Credits / 4 Courses)

- **African American Cluster Course** - (3 credits)
- **Foreign Language** - 3 courses (9 credits total, same language)
 - 1 course can be substituted for intercultural knowledge course

Humanities, Social Science & Philosophy (12 Credits / 4 courses)

- **One Humanities Courses** - (3 credits)
- **Two Social Science Courses** (6 credits)
- **Philosophy Elective** (3 credits)

Natural Sciences (6-10 Credits / 2 Courses)

- **Two Natural Science Courses** (6-10 credits)

General Electives

- **4 courses in different general education disciplines** (12 credits)

COAS Special Requirements

Experiential Learning (1 course required)

Examples of COAS Experiential Learning Course but are not limited to:

- Internship
- Any 890 course
- Study abroad

Innovative Learning Requirement (1 course required)

- Complete at least one course marked as 'innovative'

Note: COAS Special Requirements courses are tagged in Bison Hub under the course description

Quantitative Reasoning Requirement (1 course required)

- ☐ Complete at least one course marked as 'quantitative reasoning'

Note: COAS Special Requirements courses are tagged in Bison Hub under the course description

Free Electives

- Credits needed to reach 120 credits

Humanities: Ancient & Modern Requirements (30 Credits / 10 Courses)

Core Required Courses (39 Credits / 13 Courses)

- ☐ **CLAS 050** – IH: Ancient Egypt & Near East (3 credits)
- ☐ **CLAS 051** – IH: Ancient Greece & Rome (3 credits)
- ☐ **Ancient Language:** Choose 1: Hieroglyphs, Greek, Latin, Coptic, Hebrew (9 credits); counts for your COAS foreign language requirement
- ☐ **Three courses** in **one** of the three tracks – 1 ancient, 2 modern (9 credits)
 - Literature & Orality
 - Ideas & Beliefs
 - Art, Archaeology, & Language
- ☐ **Three Electives** (9 credits)
- ☐ **Capstone Project** – (6 credits)

*most IH courses are both ancient and modern

Sample Degree Progress Checklist

Always consult with your academic advisor for personalized guidance

First Year: Fall Semester (14-15 Credits / 6 Courses)

- FRSM 001 - Freshman Seminar (1 credit)
- ENGW 101/102/104 - First Year Writing I (3 credits)
- CLAS 050 IH: Ancient Egypt & Near East (3 credits)
- Ancient Foreign Language I (3 credits)
- MATH 005 or higher (3-4 credits)
- HHPL Course (1 credit)

First Year: Spring Semester (16 Credits / 6 Courses)

- ENGW 103/105; IDSD 130 - First Year Writing II (3 credits)
- African American Cluster Course (3 credits)
- CLAS 051 IH: Ancient Greece & Rome (3 credits)
- Ancient Foreign Language II (3 credits)
- COMM 101 – Principles of Speech (3 credits)
- HHPL Course (1 credit)

Second Year: Fall Semester (15 Credits / 5 Courses)

- IH Major Track Course* (3 credits)
- IH Major Elective (3 credits)
- Natural Science (3 credits)
- PHIL Elective (3 credits)
- Ancient Foreign Language III (3 credits)

Second Year: Spring Semester (15 Credits / 5 Courses)

- IH Major Track Course* (3 credits)
- IH Major Elective (3 credits)
- Ancient Foreign Language IV (3 credits)
- Quantitative Reasoning (3 credits) (3 credits)
- Natural Science Course - (3 credits)

Third Year: Fall Semester (15 Credits / 5 Courses)

- IH Major Track Course *(3 credits)
- IH Major Elective (3 credits)
- IH 3rd Writing Course (3 credits)
- General Elective: AFRO or Art History (3 credits)
- Social Science Course (3 credits)

Third Year: Spring Semester (15 / 5 Courses Credits)

- General Elective: CLAS or ENGL (3 credits)
- General Elective: PHIL or WLC (3 credits)
- Humanities Elective (3 credits)
- Experiential Learning - (if not completed) (3 credits)
- Social Science Course (3 credits)

Fourth Year: Fall Semester (12+ Credits / 4+ Courses)

- Senior Capstone (3 credits)
- Innovative Learning Course (if not completed) (3 credits)
- General Elective (3 credits)
- General Elective (3 credits)
- General Elective (3 credits)

Fourth Year: Spring Semester (12+ Credits / 4+ Courses)

- Senior Capstone (3 credits)
- Free Elective (credits needed to reach 120)
- Free Elective (credits needed to reach 120)
- Free Elective (credits needed to reach 120)
- Complete Undergraduate Comprehensive Exam
- Apply for graduation

Key Requirements

- **Minimum Major GPA:** 2.0
- **Credits in Community Development:** 39 minimum
- **Foreign Language:** 9 credits in the same language required
- **Mathematics:** 3-4 credits of MATH 005 or higher
- **Residency:** Last 30 credits at Howard University
- **General Education:** Must span at least 4 different disciplines

Important Notes

- **Foreign Language:** All 9 credits must be in the same language.
- **Minimum Minor GPA:** 2.0 if declared (15 credits minimum)
- **Graduate Preparation:** Consider research opportunities and advanced coursework.
- Consult with your academic advisor each semester for course planning.

Resources

- **Academic Advisor:** Contact Office of Undergraduate Studies for assignment
- **Department Office:** Interdisciplinary Department, College of Arts & Sciences
- **Experiential Learning:** Connect with the Career Center and department for internship opportunities
- **Graduate School Advising:** Meet with faculty advisors if considering graduate programs

Howard University - College of Arts & Sciences

Interdisciplinary Department | Catalog: Fall 2023 - Present

Always consult with your academic advisor for personalized guidance