Cognitive Science

Office of Interdisciplinary Degree Programs

College of Arts and Sciences
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Overview

Cognitive Science is one of six concentration areas in the Social Sciences Interdisciplinary major. It is designed for students interested in using an interdisciplinary approach to study the cognitive aspects of such fields as philosophy, artificial intelligence, cognitive psychology, and computational linguistics. It is the study of how the mind works. It investigates thought and consciousness, the senses and emotions, the structure of language, cultural patterns, neural organization, and the computational analogs of mental processes. It examines how these areas interact, how they develop in the growing human, and how they appear in other animals. For more information please see the Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Degree Programs.

About our Degrees

Acceptance Criteria

Minimum GPA of 2.0 overall.
Minimum grade of B- in PSY 342.

Acceptance Information

Deadlines: Rolling
Number of accepted majors (2010-2011): 6
Total number of majors currently enrolled: 7

Degree Requirements

Please see Degrees and Policies.

About our Courses

Each of the interdisciplinary degree programs offers a curriculum that allows students to combine coursework from three or more departments in the College of Arts and Sciences. There are also options to incorporate courses from other areas of the university, allowing students to obtain a broad range of skills and education.

The typical class size for:

Freshman/introductory courses is: 40-100
Sophomore/intermediate courses is: 30-150
Upper level/advanced courses is: 10-45

In the IDP, what do teaching assistants (TAs) do?

Many courses in the social sciences interdisciplinary program's curricula originate in other departments, where teaching assistants may be assigned instructional or grading duties.

Suggested Introductory Courses

- CSE 113 - CSE 114 Introduction to Computer Science I - II
- LIN 207 Language, Society and the Individual
- PHI 108 Knowledge and Reality
- PSY 101 Introductory Psychology

Cognitive Science

- PSY 207 Psychological Statistics

For course descriptions, please see the Undergraduate Catalog.

About our Faculty

Thirty-six faculty members in cognitive science represent eleven academic departments within the College of Arts and Sciences as well as departments from other areas of the university, such as industrial engineering and computer science and engineering.

Extracurricular Activities

See the UB Student Association.

Practical Experience and Special Academic Opportunities

The Interdisciplinary Degree Programs' concentrations offer an opportunity to focus studies on a particular topic whose breadth and diversity overlap several departments in the College of Arts and Sciences.

In the Cognitive Science concentration, students have the option of completing a senior thesis. During the course of one semester in the senior year, the student works in collaboration with a cognitive science faculty member to perform research on an original topic and produce a written report.

Degrees Offered

Undergraduate: BA in Social Sciences Interdisciplinary
Concentration: Cognitive Science

See Social Sciences Interdisciplinary for degree requirements

Links to Further Information About this Program

- Undergraduate Catalog
- Undergraduate Admissions
- Graduate Admissions
- Office of Interdisciplinary Degree Programs
- College of Arts and Sciences