Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program

at

Washington State University

2022-2023

Faculty/Student HANDBOOK

Revised April 2022

For information on the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program
At Washington State University, contact:

The Graduate School
French Administration Building 324
Washington State University
Pullman, WA 99164-1030
509/335-6424

Visit the homepage of the Graduate School at Washington State University at:
http://gradschool.wsu.edu

Letter from the Chair

Thank you for your interest in the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program offered at Washington State University. This handbook is intended to provide a preliminary understanding of the program, as well as to offer specific guidance for faculty working on interdisciplinary committees and students progressing through the program.

The Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program is individually designed to meet the professional interests and research endeavors of each student. Although the program maintains a high degree of flexibility, it is a rigorous program and requires the involvement of the Graduate School as well as multiple disciplines and many degree-granting units on campus. I am pleased to introduce this program to you, a program that has a high degree of support both from our outstanding graduates, as well as current students, faculty and administration at WSU.

If you would like to pursue your involvement with this graduate program further, we would like to talk with you about the program in general and your specific interest(s) in this doctoral degree. Thus, I encourage you to call and make an appointment with our program coordinator at your earliest convenience.

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Dean, Graduate School
Chair, Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program

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Additional Resources

Additional information regarding graduate study at Washington State University can be found in the following publications:

Application for Graduate Admission

This is a requirement of the program. Applying online is simple to do. Go to http://gradschool.wsu.edu/ click APPLY, and begin. The application requires three letters of recommendation and the ability to upload transcripts in addition to the IIDP requirements listed for admission.

Graduate School Policies and Procedures

This is an essential reference for every graduate student. It includes critical deadlines and requirements for achieving a doctorate at WSU as well as resources for Good Practices in Graduate Education and Grievance Procedures. https://gradschool.wsu.edu/policies-procedures/

Deadlines and Forms

The Graduate School provides documentation of deadlines and forms used to navigate your degree. https://gradschool.wsu.edu/facultystaff-resources/18-2/

Graduate Catalog

The Graduate Catalog is a manual published regularly representing requirements and academic offerings, referencing tuition and residency requirements as well as information for the various degree programs at WSU. Find the most recent version at: https://gradschool.wsu.edu/graduate-school-catalog-2/

Graduate Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Bill of Rights

Recently updated, this resource for graduate students at WSU provides procedures for channeling concerns and expectations in making satisfactory progress towards degree.
https://gradschool.wsu.edu/policies-procedures/
https://gpsa.wsu.edu/resources/student-bill-of-rights/

Living in Pullman

Life at WSU https://wsu.edu/life/overview/
Visiting WSU (Making travel plans) https://wsu.edu/life/visit/
City of Pullman: https://www.pullman-wa.gov/
City of Moscow: https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/
Transportation: https://wsu.edu/life/transportation/
Parking and Transportation Services: http://transportation.wsu.edu/
Purchase a WSU Parking Pass: https://parking.wsu.edu/
Housing: https://wsu.edu/life/housing/

WSU Police Dept. and Campus Safety Services: https://safetyplan.wsu.edu/

Child Care Resource and Referral: http://www.wsu.edu/CCRR/ and https://childrenscenter.wsu.edu/

Orientation:

To help you get off to a great start in your graduate career, we have assembled an online orientation program, delivered via the WSU learning management system known as Canvas.

The orientation is organized into five modules. It is important that you work through the first four modules before arriving in Pullman; you can work through the fifth module during the week before classes start. This orientation material will remain available to you for your first semester at WSU, so you can refer back to it as needed. Topics include an introduction to life as a WSU Cougar, tips for new graduate students, health insurance and services, details of assistantships and associated tuition waivers, and fun things to do on the WSU campuses.

Access the course will be provided soon. The course home page provides instructions on how to navigate Canvas. If this course does not answer your questions, please provide feedback through the review questions at the end of each module, and certainly feel free to contact the Graduate School for assistance at gradschool@wsu.edu, or call 509-335-6424.

CHECKLIST and TIMELINE

1. **Application for Admission for Fall Semester (typically no Spring admission)**
   Applications should be submitted by March 1 for priority consideration. However, applications received after this date will be reviewed up until July 1 for admission in August. Applications will not be reviewed until they are complete.
   - Online College Net application and supporting materials.
   - Three letters of recommendation as required in the online application process.
   - Transcripts showing 3.5 GPA in all graduate coursework and 3.0 GPA in all undergraduate coursework.
   -
   - A description of the proposed research topic/area that must include the following: (no more than 3 pages)
     - Identification of the research topic;
     - A detailed explanation of why the research topic cannot be pursued in a single academic discipline at WSU;
     - Identification of three distinct academic disciplines from different degree-granting units that are essential to support the proposed research; two of these disciplines must offer doctoral degrees in their own programs;
       1. _____
       2. _____
       3. _____
     - A proposed program of study listing course work from each discipline
   - Commitment from five faculty members representing each of the three distinct disciplines (academic degree-granting units) to serve on student's doctoral committee. All committee members must have doctoral degrees. Two faculty members must be from one of the three disciplines, and three of the faculty (including the committee chair) must be permanent tenure/tenure-track faculty members at WSU. The fourth committee member must be approved as WSU graduate faculty in their degree-granting unit, but doesn't need to be tenure/tenure-track.
     1. _____
     2. _____
     3. _____
     4. _____
     5. _____
   - Emails from the five faculty members should be sent directly to the IIDP Coordinator indicating their commitment to serve on student's IIDP doctoral committee. In the email, the faculty should include a brief statement of how his/her expertise will contribute to the interdisciplinary nature of the student's proposed research.
   - A summary statement (2 to 3 pages) by the student identifying the five faculty members, their disciplines, and how their research expertise will contribute to the student's IIDP research and program of study.

2. **INTERDIS 591 "Interdisciplinarity" (enroll in 2nd semester)**
3. **Qualifying Examination (third semester, excluding summer)**
    - Maintain a 3.30 GPA in all WSU graduate coursework
    - Enroll in INTERDIS 598
    - Complete the formal program proposal as outlined in the course syllabus
    - Reviewed and approved by doctoral committee, department chairs, and IIDP Graduate Committee

4. **Program of Study Submitted to the graduate School (by October of second year)**
    - Must include INTERDIS 591 and 598
    - Minimum of 34 core graded credits, with 3 to 4 courses in each of the three disciplines; up to 17 of the 34 credit hours may be graded graduate transfer credits. Up to 9 credit hours can be graded credit at the 300- or 400-level.
    - Minimum of 20 research credits (INTERDIS 800)
      The remaining credits may be in graded courses, S/F courses, or research credits (INTERDIS 800)

5. **Research Proposal submitted to the Committee and IIDP Program Coordinator (after completion of all course work on the Program of Study)**

6. **Schedule of Preliminary Examination Submitted to the Graduate School**
    - Written component of the exam to the committee at least ten days before date for the oral defense
    - Oral defense—scheduling form signed and submitted to Graduate School ten working days before the date of the defense

7. **Application for Degree (beginning of semester in which one intends to graduate)**

8. **Schedule of Final Examination/Defense of Dissertation Submitted to Graduate School**
    - Final Examination scheduling form signed and submitted to the Graduate School ten working days before the date of the defense

9. **Submission of Dissertation to ProQuest and a digital copy submitted to IIDP Program Coordinator**

Introduction

This handbook is designed for students working toward a Doctor of Philosophy in the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program and for faculty interested in working with students in the program. A current copy of the *Graduate Student Policies and Procedures* at WSU and the *Graduate Catalog* should be obtained from the Graduate School's website (www.gradschool.wsu.edu) to complement the information in this handbook.

The Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program at Washington State University is designed for qualified graduate students who wish to develop and achieve an individually tailored doctoral degree. The IIDP is not an alternative for students who cannot gain admission to other Ph.D. programs nor is it a mechanism for departments which do not offer Ph.D. degrees offer discipline-centric Ph.D. training. Because of the nature of the program, there are a number of unique admission and programmatic procedures and requirements outlined in this handbook.

Since 1983, over sixty Individual Interdisciplinary doctorates have been earned at WSU. Graduates of the program now work as university and college faculty as well as a variety of careers in the government and private sectors. The IIDP degree offers a unique opportunity for students seeking a breadth of knowledge not available within one particular discipline. The program offers select, highly motivated, independent students the opportunity to pursue the integration of disciplinary expertise at a doctoral level.

Each student works with a major advisor (Chair) and at least four additional members of the WSU faculty from at least three academic disciplines. This committee oversees the development of the individual doctoral research project and works closely with the student to ensure a high quality doctoral education. The individual doctoral program will meet the following criteria: it will be of doctoral significance, no single recognized graduate degree-granting unit will be able to meet the student's research and scholarly needs, and the resources to complete the proposed program will be available at WSU.

Program Mission:

The mission of the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program is to seek highly independent, academically successful, and innovative thinkers who are able to succeed in integrating the knowledge and the processes of three or more disciplines in their research.

Program Structure

The current program chair of the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program is the Dean of the WSU Graduate School.

The program coordinator is also housed in the Graduate School. The program coordinator meets with all prospective students and consults with committees as appropriate throughout the doctoral process. An academic coordinator assists the program coordinator with the day-to-day management of the program and with the advising of the IIDP applicants and students.

The Admissions Committee, which reviews all IIDP applications, is comprised of the Dean and the Associate and Assistant Deans of the Graduate School. Additional faculty from the applicants' disciplines may be invited to review applications and make admission recommendations.

The IIDP Graduate Committee is a small committee of WSU faculty selected from the IIDP students' disciplines who serve as reviewers to evaluate the IIDP qualifying examinations. This committee provides a consistent programmatic understanding of the rigor of interdisciplinary study expected of IIDP students.

The faculty of the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program includes any faculty on IIDP student advisory committees and other faculty that have indicated an interest in participating in the program.

The student body of the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Committee is made up of those students who have been admitted into the Interdisciplinary Program. Once admitted, the student's home department is the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program, their department chair is the Dean of the Graduate School, and their official graduate status is "Individual Interdisciplinary."

Program Goals

1. To assist qualified students in designing and achieving the framework for a unique, individualized doctoral degree program, tailored to their interests in successfully integrating the knowledge and processes of three disciplines in their research and careers.

2. To prepare students to be effective researchers, engaging teachers, and innovative thinkers, under the mentorship of leading teachers and researchers in various fields, for productive careers that will produce interdisciplinary scholarship contributing to a positive and global outcome.

3. To maintain and enhance the visibility and importance of interdisciplinary studies at WSU.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. To assist qualified students in designing and achieving the framework for a unique, individualized doctoral degree program, tailored to their interests in successfully integrating the knowledge and processes of three disciplines in their research and careers, the program aims to provide a variety of experiences that help students to:
    a. Develop knowledge and understanding of appropriate concepts, methods, and materials in three disciplines which appropriately constitute the framework of their studies
    b. Attain fundamental experience to apply knowledge in three unique disciplines while providing opportunities for creative and integrative thinking
    c. Prepare and present research in peer reviewed journals and conference papers at professional meetings on the local, regional, and national levels
    d. Participate in professional organizations, by becoming members and attending meetings

2. To prepare students to be effective researchers, engaging teachers, and innovative thinkers, under the mentorship of leading teachers and researchers in various fields, for productive careers that will produce interdisciplinary scholarship contributing to a positive and more global outcome, the program aims to provide a variety of experiences that help students to:
    a. Attain fundamental mentorship from committee members from all three disciplines in support of the interdisciplinary research through integrative thinking
    b. Become independent researchers in an interdisciplinary area of study by developing substantial expertise in that area which will allow them to make an original contribution to it
    c. Develop a research question with an understanding of previous and current research and be able to demonstrate that knowledge capably
    d. Apply sound research methods and tools to the research question and describe the methods effectively
    e. Analyze and interpret research data that makes clear sense of the data

Program Outcomes

To continue to maintain and enhance the visibility and importance of interdisciplinary studies, whether through existing interdisciplinary degrees or through the individual, independent program of IIDP, the program aims to:

a. Attract and retain high-quality students and innovative thinkers
b. Provide effective advising and mentoring that encourages students to matriculate in a timely manner
c. Place graduates in position of academics and industry
d. Continue to maintain communication with disciplinary programs and faculty regarding the importance of attracting nationally recognized faculty, providing innovative advanced courses, and supporting independent, interdisciplinary studies for consistent interaction with IIDP students and their research

Inquiries

Contact the academic coordinator or program coordinator in the Graduate School to explore the possibilities of the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program at:

The Graduate School
French Administration Building 324
Washington State University
Pullman, WA 99164-1030
509/335-6424

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

A student with a master's degree from an accredited institution (including WSU) may apply for admission to the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program. Students with a bachelor's degree and extensive research experience may be considered as exceptions to the requirement for a master's degree, on a case-by-case basis. Such exceptions will generally require the recommendation and sponsorship of a WSU graduate faculty member.

Non-WSU students should understand that it will be quite difficult to form a committee by phone or email. Since completed committee formation is an admission requirement, the student should plan to video-conference with faculty or visit to WSU prior to admission. In all cases, contact with the faculty members who might serve as committee chair and members is essential for successful application and admission to the IIDP.

Admission to the IIDP is highly selective because WSU is committed to its established disciplinary Ph.D. programs. Consideration for admission includes the entire application packet and how successful the applicant will be in an interdisciplinary environment. IIDP students must be highly motivated and possess an exceptional ability to conduct interdisciplinary research. While many research topics involve research in two or more disciplines, some topics cannot be researched in any one discipline and thus require an interdisciplinary approach. Similarly, the student is accepted into IIDP only if the research topic/proposal cannot be completed within an existing Ph.D. granting unit at WSU. This idea provides the foundation for the program and acceptance by the Admissions Committee. Should an accepted student decide to change the interdisciplinary focus of his or her program, the student may be required to reapply to the program. Therefore, prospective students **must** take significant time and effort to identify the areas in which they would like to work **prior to** initiating a formal application to the program.

An applicant may be considered for admission after meeting the following conditions:

1. Applicant must discuss his/her research interests with the IIDP program coordinator either in person or via telephone or email.
2. Applicant must complete the application process as currently specified by the Graduate School, found online at gradschool.wsu.edu. The application process has specific requirements that must be met.
3. Applicant must have been granted both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from an accredited university. The student must demonstrate exceptional academic achievement and must have a minimum of 3.5 GPA in the master's work and a minimum of 3.0 in the bachelor's work. In exceptional cases, equivalent academic achievement or work experience, judged by the Dean of the Graduate School, may be substituted for the master's degree.
4. Applicants should provide evidence in their application that they are capable of independent research (i.e., discuss thesis research, have recommenders address their research skills, discuss any research experiences in their statement of purpose, etc.).

The applicant must provide all of the following application materials to the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program in the Graduate School by the appropriate deadline:

a) Online CollegeNet application form and related application materials.
b) Three letters of recommendation addressing the applicant's scholarship and indicating the ability to perform independent Ph.D. level academic and research work.
c) Transcripts showing a 3.5 GPA in all graduate coursework and 3.0 GPA in all undergraduate coursework. (WSU students do not need to have their WSU transcripts sent). Because of the rigors of the program, a graduate GPA of 3.5 is expected to demonstrate the probability of success at the Ph.D. level.
d)
e) A description of the proposed research topic/area that must include the following: (no more than 3 pages)
    - Identification of the research topic, and evidence of ability to conduct independent research;
    - A detailed explanation of why the research topic cannot be researched in an existing Ph.D.-granting unit at WSU;
    - Identification of three distinct academic disciplines that will be required to support the proposed research: two of which must offer doctoral degrees in their own programs;
    - A proposed program of study.
f) Commitment from five faculty members representing each of the three distinct disciplines (academic degree-granting units) to serve on the student's doctoral committee. All of the faculty members must have doctoral degrees, and at least three of the committee members (including the committee chair) must be permanent tenure/tenure-track faculty members at WSU. The fourth committee member must be approved graduate faculty in their degree-granting unit, but does not need to be tenure/tenure-track. Emails from the five faculty members should be sent directly to the IIDP program coordinator indicating their commitment to serve on the student's IIDP doctoral committee.
g) A summary statement (two to three pages) by the student identifying the five faculty members, their disciplines, and their contributions towards the IIDP research and program of study. The summary statement should clearly discuss the faculty interests and how their disciplinary expertise will support the interdisciplinary approach that is best pursued through the IIDP. It is critical to demonstrate that the selected faculty have the expertise in the research area that is planned, and how those faculty will support the student in his/her efforts. Given the interdisciplinary nature of the degree, the topic and faculty interests must involve at least three different disciplines.

Qualifying Examination

Continuation in the program is contingent upon the student successfully completing a qualifying examination in the form of a formal proposal during the third semester (including summer) following admission into the program. The formal proposal will be developed and submitted in

INTERDIS 598, a required one-credit course. The proposal must contain signatures by the student's doctoral committee members and their three academic department chairs indicating the proposal is acceptable. The proposal is then reviewed by the IIDP Graduate Committee. Successful completion of the qualifying examination for the IIDP must occur at least two semesters before the semester in which the preliminary examination is taken.

Successful completion of the qualifying examination process requires the following minimum requirements:

1. The student must enroll in INTERDIS 598 and complete a formal program proposal for evaluation by the IIDP Graduate Committee.
2. The student must have obtained at least a 3.0 GPA in all WSU graduate coursework since admission into the IIDP.
3. The proposal must be accepted by the IIDP Graduate Committee; decisions are usually made by the end of the third semester (including summer). If the proposal is not acceptable, the student will be provided written feedback and receive an "I" grade for the INTERDIS 598. The student will have until July 31 to revise and resubmit the proposal. If the proposal is not accepted after the second submission, the student will receive an F grade for INTERDIS 598 and be recommended for disenrollment from the IIDP before the start of the fall academic semester.

Funding

The IIDP has no resources of assistantships or scholarships to support students working on their IIDP coursework or dissertations. Students must find their own support either through personal funds or through departments in the university. Prospective students should consult the Graduate School website for links to potential funding opportunities at WSU. Students are encouraged to work with their committee chair and apply for extramural funding where appropriate.

THE DOCTORAL COMMITTEE

The student's doctoral committee is an advisory committee composed of a minimum of five faculty members, and is created for the purpose of helping the student with his/her formal proposal and guiding the student throughout the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program. Once the student's proposal is approved, the student must submit a formal program of study, which the doctoral committee members sign. The doctoral committee is retained throughout the remaining steps in completion the doctoral degree.

Composition of the Doctoral Committee

Requirements for the composition of the doctoral committee include the following:

1. Five Ph.D. faculty members. Four of the committee members must by graduate faculty at WSU, with at least three members being WSU tenure/tenure-track faculty. Non-WSU faculty may be approved as a fifth committee member, if considered an expert in the research topic, as documented by a memo from the chair of the student's committee, with a supporting CV.

2. The committee chair must be a tenure/tenure-track WSU faculty, and should have previous experience on doctoral committees.
3. Three of the five faculty members must be from Ph.D. degree-granting units.
4. At least two of the five members must be from the same department, preferably the chair and one committee member.
5. Faculty must be from at least three separate academic degree-granting departments or programs.
6. At least two of the three academic disciplines must be Ph.D.-granting units.

Responsibility of the Committee Chair

The chair is the student's primary mentor throughout the graduate process. Because the student is not housed in a particular department but belongs to the broad conglomeration of the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program, regular contact with the chair is essential. The chair's responsibilities include:

1. An understanding of the interdisciplinary process, especially the purpose of the program proposal.
2. Advising and assisting in the development of the student's program proposal, including editing, if appropriate, and eliciting input from committee members.
3. Assisting with paperwork completion; knowing deadline dates.
4. "Mentoring" student by holding regular meetings with the student.
5. Resolving difficulties, working with IIDP program coordinator as appropriate.
6. Suggesting courses, faculty, and resources.
7. Conducting annual reviews of progress with the graduate student.
8. Assisting student in scheduling preliminary and final exams, and with securing rooms and appropriate proctoring for written and oral exams in the chairperson's home department.
9. Gathering committee members to develop written preliminary examinations for the individual student.
10. Contacting committee members following written exams for feedback; giving student approval to schedule the oral preliminary examination.
11. Overseeing research and writing as appropriate.
12. Chairing committee meetings.
13. Directing the student to resources that may assist the student in his/her studies and research.

Responsibility of the Doctoral Committee

As a whole, the function of the doctoral committee is to ensure the student has a well-rounded graduate program. Initially, the committee assists the student while he or she is preparing a program proposal for the IIDP. The next step is to see the student through preliminary examinations and the dissertation and final examination. The committee and the chair are responsible for overseeing the quality of the program, both coursework and research. It is expected that the IID program of study and dissertation must meet or exceed the same quality standards held by departments. The only difference between this program and a departmental program is the interdisciplinary nature of the question asked.

The committee's responsibilities and roles include:

1. Attending a minimum of committee meetings with the following agendas: meeting initially with the student and the program coordinator of the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program; approving a program proposal; planning the preliminary examination topics; writing examination questions with committee; conducting an oral preliminary examination; approving a research proposal; and conducting a final doctoral examination.
2. Approving the program proposal (qualifying examination) outlining the student's graduate program. The committee members must be comfortable that the student presents a well-grounded proposal worthy of doctoral study, and is taking sufficient coursework, before approving the program proposal. The committee will want to ensure the student is meeting all requirements for an Individual Interdisciplinary doctoral plan. After the committee's approval, the program proposal will be reviewed by the program coordinator of the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program and recommended for approval by the IIDP Graduate Committee.
3. Suggesting coursework and faculty resources as needed.
4. Approving a structure for written preliminary examinations and writing questions collaboratively as a committee, if appropriate for the exam format.
5. Evaluating written preliminary examination; participating and voting at oral preliminary examination.
6. Approving the research proposal. The research format is the prerogative of the individual doctoral committee.
7. Reading dissertation drafts as appropriate; participating and voting at final oral defense.

Responsibility of the Student

The student must follow all Graduate School Policies and Procedures and abide by the WSU standards of conduct. Each student is responsible for the composition of his or her faculty doctoral committee and the submission of all paperwork required by the Graduate School throughout their studies. When selecting faculty for their doctoral committee the student will want to keep in mind the required composition of the committee and the responsibilities of the committee chair and members. It is important to find faculty who are committed to the interdisciplinary process, who work well together, and who bring disciplinary expertise necessary for an interdisciplinary program.

There are several ways to discover faculty that would serve a particular committee well:

1. Develop a research question that you are seeking to answer through an interdisciplinary approach, and then identify faculty whose research expertise aligns with this question.
2. Obtain suggestions from the program coordinator or program chair of the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program.
3. Make appointments with the chairs of appropriate departments, discuss ideas for the doctoral project, and request names of faculty with suitable expertise.
4. If one faculty person declines to serve on a committee due to other time commitments, ask him or her for suggestions of other potential faculty with relevant expertise.
5. Talk with other graduate students.
6. Examine the WSU website and faculty interest pages

A complete approved doctoral committee is mandatory for the continuation in the IIDP program. If a faculty member leaves the committee, the student must find a replacement committee member and file a change of committee from with the Graduate School by the start of the subsequent semester. If a committee chair must be replaced, the student must discuss the selection of a new chair with the IIDP coordinator. The student must replace the chair as quickly as possible, and no later than the beginning of the subsequent semester. Failure to identify a committee chair in a timely fashion is grounds to be disenrolled from the program.

Should three or more committee members resign from committee, the student and their program will be reviewed by the program coordinator. The coordinator may recommend to the program chair (Dean of the Graduate School) that the student be disenrolled from the IIDP.

All committee members are required to attend preliminary and final oral examinations. If a faculty member is unavailable for an examination, the student may ask another permanent faculty member to act as a substitute. The student must obtain a "Committee Substitution" form from the Graduate School which all committee members (including the substitute) must sign. The absent faculty member must promptly receive and sign the final ballot and/or dissertation signature page following the examination. He or she may be present via telephone, although a substitute faculty member must still be in the room during the oral examination. With Graduate School approval, video-conferencing may also be used for examinations.

THE PROGRAM PROPOSAL

The program proposal is the qualifying examination for the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program. The proposal must be approved by each member of the student's doctoral committee and by the chairs of the departments of each doctoral committee member's academic department. The final proposal will be reviewed by the IIDP program coordinator, who will then submit the proposal to the IIDP Graduate Committee for evaluation regarding continuation in the program.

It is important to remember this is not simply a research proposal. The program proposal is a comprehensive document demonstrating a cohesive interdisciplinary plan of doctoral study. This plan must include an introduction to the proposed areas of study and a coherent rationale for the integration of these areas; resources of faculty, disciplines and coursework available at WSU; plans for preliminary examinations and a *brief* dissertation proposal (*brief* compared to the more extensive proposal associated with a preliminary examination).

After an IIDP program proposal is officially approved, the official Program of Study form (detailing the student's committee composition and the course requirements) must be submitted to the Graduate School. The Program of Study form must be prepared and signed by the student, and then signed by the chair and all members of the doctoral committee and submitted to the Graduate School. On this form, the "department chair" is the Dean of the Graduate School. After submission, any changes in courses or committee composition must be documented on a Program Change form or Committee Change form, respectively, available on the Graduate School website, with the approval of the student's doctoral committee and the IIDP program coordinator, and submission to the Graduate School.

If a student wishes to completely change the focus of his or her program, the student may be required to reapply to the IIDP program. Major committee changes, particularly the chair of the committee, will require review of the student's program by the program coordinator.

Elements Required in the Program Proposal

The program proposal will be a 10- to 20-page document and should include each of the following:

1. Summary:

A summary statement of ~250 words that describes the proposal objective, the need for the disciplines selected and a rationale for an interdisciplinary approach.

2. Introduction:

A brief description of the doctoral project indicating the knowledge areas contributed by each discipline or academic area, with citations of relevant background literature. This is an overview of what will be described in detail in the remainder of the proposal.

3. Interest Areas:

This is the most difficult for scholars used to thinking "disciplinarily," yet the most unique and interesting part of an Interdisciplinary proposal. This section requires identification and description of three areas to be covered throughout the doctoral process. The areas are distinguished from departments or degree-granting units. The latter provide resources, including coursework and faculty expertise for the Interdisciplinary student to learn and master the areas of study. Each area may require courses and expertise from several disciplines; an area may not be synonymous with a single discipline.

For example, if a degree spans the topic: "The History of Individual Rights as They Affect Press and Society in America," the areas might look like this:

-Area 1: "Press and Society"	-Draws from disciplines of Communications and Political Science.
-Area 2: "First Amendment Issues"	-Draws from disciplines of History and Communications
-Area 3: "20th Century Politics"	-Draws from disciplines of Political Science and History

In this example, no one area is equivalent to a particular discipline, such as History or Political Science. Nor will the student be expected to emerge with a doctorate in each of three disciplines. The student will master enough of each particular discipline to be able, at a minimum, to understand the basic foundations -- at the level, for example, of assuming critical engagement with disciplinary scholarship and journals, or having the expertise to teach a course in each discipline -- and to utilize those foundations toward sound interdisciplinary scholarship.

4. Degree-Granting Units:

Identify the three main disciplines (at minimum), and the degree-granting unit in which they reside, that support and provide coursework in the interest areas. In the example above, the appropriate disciplines would be History, Political Science and Communications. The choice of these disciplines should be justified as to why they are significant and essential to the proposed research.

5. Doctoral Committee:
List the names and the departments of the chair and members of the doctoral committee, including a description of the specific contributions of each faculty member.

6. Proposed Coursework:
A list of courses, including prefix, title, number of credits, and semester taken for the entire doctoral program of study. Clearly indicate those courses yet to be taken. The course list should be arranged by interest area (see above). Each area may include courses from multiple disciplines or academic units. It is expected that students will include at least three courses from each of the three degree-granting units identified in section 6. S/F graded classes and required interdisciplinary courses may be listed in a separate category.

7. Justification for Interdisciplinary Approach:
The student must provide an explanation of why the proposed program does not fit or is not available within any one department or existing doctoral program at WSU. The explanation should include why three interest areas are needed to understand the topic, rather than just one interest area. The justification should include adequate description of how each discipline contributes individually to the proposed study as well as the ways the different disciplines interact to help solve the problem being addressed by the study. This is the most important element of the proposal because it demonstrates the student's understanding of an interdisciplinary approach and the ways in which an interdisciplinary approach is necessary for addressing the topic they are studying. Special care should be paid to this section.

8. Proposed Research:
A relatively brief description of the proposed topic of a dissertation as related to the overall doctoral program. A more detailed research proposal will be written during the preliminary examination process. The proposal will ideally represent an overview of the specific research projects that a student will undertake to complete a doctoral quality dissertation during his or her individual interdisciplinary program. This section should address significance of the proposed research and a hypothesis, goal or questions to be addressed, as well as broad outlines of methods to be used and anticipated results, outcomes or "deliverables." This section should be four to five pages; the use of figures and schematics is encouraged.

9. Preliminary Examinations:
The preliminary examination is organized around the topics, theory, and methods of the student's research proposal and contains both written and oral portions. Describe the format anticipated for the preliminary examination, including the expectations or format of the written and oral examinations. The preliminary examination may be divided into separate, comprehensive examinations over each of the interest areas, and cover background information as well as scholarship relevant to the proposed doctoral research. In general, the written and oral parts of the preliminary examination will also include a detailed research proposal, and the format of the proposal is the prerogative of the doctoral

committee. Preliminary examinations must be taken within four years of formal acceptance into the IIDP program.

10. Timeline:
The timeline should include the semester and year the student expects to: 1) complete coursework; 2) take preliminary examinations; 3) conduct and complete research; 4) graduate. The timeline should be realistic and reflect the true length of time the research will take.

11. References
A list of sources referenced in the program proposal.

12. Signed Statement by Committee:
A PDF fill-able form will be provided when the student in enrolled in INTERDIS 598, but the format and content is shown below.

We support that the program of study outlined by **Student's full name** is interdisciplinary in nature and relies on theory and research methods from the fields of:

_____ _____ & _____

Furthermore, the topic of the dissertation cannot be undertaken by any one of the individual disciplines and is enriched by the association of the three.

Chair:

_____	_____	_____
Printed name	Signature	Date

Committee members:

_____	_____	_____
Printed name	Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Printed name	Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Printed name	Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Printed name	Signature	Date

13. Signed Statement by Department Chairs:

After approval has been secured from each doctoral committee member, the student must contact the department chair of each committee member and provide them with a copy of the program proposal. The signature of the department chair is required on the statements below (PDF-fillable form will be provided) to certify that the proposed research cannot be completed solely within that department and that the faculty member(s) from the department are available to serve on this committee.

I support **Committee Member(s) Name(s)** serving on the doctoral committee of **Student's full name** in the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program. This research proposal involves a significant component of **Discipline Area**. However, both research interests and educational program include the study of disciplines that are not available within the scope of this single discipline. For this reason, an interdisciplinary degree program is an appropriate option for this individual.

NAME and TITLE	Signature	Date

The Approval Process

The approval process entails the following steps:

1. Doctoral Committee Approval
2. Department Chair Approval from the participating departments
3. IIDP Program Coordinator Approval
4. IIDP Graduate Committee Approval

An official letter (or email) will be sent to the student acknowledging the committee's decision. If approved, it is the student's responsibility to complete the official Program of Study, with all signatures, and submit this to the Graduate School.

COURSEWORK

Interdisciplinary Courses at WSU

The Graduate School currently offers three interdisciplinary graduate-level courses:

Interdisciplinarity (INTERDIS 591), 1 graded credit: *Required* for IIDP students. This course is designed for students interested in pursuing interdisciplinary research. Students in the class engage in advanced discussion of interdisciplinarity and interdisciplinary scholarship. IIDP students should take this course in their second semester (usually Spring). Prerequisite: graduate status.

Interdisciplinary Seminar (INTERDIS 598), 1 S/F credit: *Required* to complete the Qualifying Examination for IIDP students. This course will prepare students to complete the IIDP qualifying examination requirement. Students receive assistance in the development of a program proposal, which is submitted to the IIDP Graduate Committee for evaluation to continue in the IIDP. Students should take this course in their third semester (including summer) in the program. Prerequisite: INTERDIS 591.

Course Requirements for the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Degree

As a general guideline, an IIDP student will take a minimum of three courses (three credits each) from each of the three departments integral to his or her doctoral program. While the three course minimum is not an absolute rule, it is expected that a student's program will involve significant coursework in the disciplines identified. This coursework should be in addition to readings or independent study courses. Individual Interdisciplinary doctoral students follow the requirements outlined for all doctoral students at WSU. Program and Graduate School requirements include a minimum of 72 semester hours for the Ph.D. at WSU. The student should refer to the *Graduate School Policies and Procedures* for the most current course requirements, as well as a more detailed explanation of required credits for the Ph.D. The minimum number of semester hours required for the Ph.D. may be divided up as follows:

Core Courses for the Ph.D. in IIDP:

- Minimum of 34 semester hours of graded graduate-level courses beyond the bachelor's degree, including:
  - Up to one-half of the 34 credit hours may be graded graduate transfer credits
  - INTERDIS 591 (1 credit course)
  - Up to 9 semester hours of non-graduate graded credit (300- or 400-level)

Research:

- Minimum of 20 semester hours of doctoral research credits (INTERDIS 800)

Additional Studies:

- INTERDIS 598 (1 credit S/F course for Qualifying Examination)
- If a student needs additional credits beyond core course and research credits to make the 72 required semester hours, these may be filled with non-graded graduate credits, such as any S/F 500- and 600-level credit hours.

Following the approval of the program proposal in INTERDIS 598, transfer credits will be officially reviewed for approval by the Graduate School. After the doctoral program of study is approved by the Graduate School, an addendum must be filed with any subsequent changes in coursework, using the appropriate form available from the Graduate School.

THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

The preliminary examination is organized around the topics, theory, and methods of the student's research proposal and contains both written and oral portions, as described below. The earliest a student can take preliminary examinations is in the semester after completion of the qualifying exam in INTERDIS 598, contingent upon having an approved program of study on file and having completed 30 of the 34 graded credits on the program of study. A student must register for a minimum of two credits of INTERDIS 800 credits at the beginning of the semester in which he or she intends to take his or her preliminary examination. In accordance with Graduate School policy, the student must schedule the preliminary examination through the Graduate School at least ten working days before the date of the oral portion of the exam. The scheduled written and oral portions of the preliminary examination must be completed, along with the doctoral committee balloting, within a 30-day period, per Graduate School policy.

The design of the preliminary examination is the prerogative of the doctoral committee, working with the student. This collaborative conversation between the student and committee should be part of the program proposal written as part of INTERDIS 598. It is also the responsibility of the doctoral committee to talk with the student and document the specific format, expectations and time-line for the examination, subject to Graduate School policies. An example of a typical preliminary exam protocol is described below, with a research proposal and/or written exam followed by an oral exam.

The Research Proposal

In preparing for the preliminary examinations, the committee and student will agree upon a research proposal for the dissertation study. This proposal should clearly outline the research question or issues relevant for dissertation study, define how those questions shall be addressed, and place the research within the regional, historical, or theoretical context appropriate for the investigation. The research proposal should clearly explain how the investigation articulates with the three fields of study in the IIPD. **Furthermore, the research proposal should be the document that guides the format and content of the written and oral examinations.**

The student will write a research proposal for the committee. A copy should be sent to the program coordinator of the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program. The research proposal

should comply with a format agreed upon by the student and his or her committee, which will likely follow a format common to the disciplines in which the committee chairperson and/or student are working. If the student's research involves the use of human subjects (through surveys, interviews, etc.) or animal subjects, the student must receive university approval before beginning his or her research, using the forms available from the Office of Research Assurances at WSU.

The Written Examination

After the Research Proposal has been submitted to the student's doctoral committee, the content, format and schedule for the written examination will be determined by the student's doctoral committee. The committee may be guided by an examination format normally utilized in the committee chair's department, introducing alterations in that format as appropriate for the individual student. The student's formal preliminary examination begins the day that the written examination is due to the committee. After the written examination is reviewed, doctoral committee members will provide the committee chair with feedback related to any gaps or weaknesses in the student's answers. The committee chair will provide the student with written feedback at least one week prior to the oral portion of the examination.

The Oral Examination

The oral examination is conducted by the entire doctoral committee. The program coordinator of the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program may also be present. During the oral examination, the student makes a formal presentation of his or her research proposal. In defense of that research proposal, the student may be asked to address specific methods or assumptions of the proposed research, any questions remaining after committee members have read the written examination, and any related to scholarship. At the close of the oral examination, the doctoral committee members will ballot on whether the student has passed or failed the preliminary examination.

Responsibility of the Doctoral Committee

It is an essential responsibility of the doctoral committee to talk with the student and determine the details of the format of the examinations, consistent with Graduate School regulations and the norms of the relevant disciplines contributing to the student's research. If there are revisions/expansions of the exam process described in the INTERDIS 598 proposal, these should be documented and provided to the student well in advance of the initiation of the preliminary exam process.

Because each "interest area" generally covers academic expertise drawn from more than one discipline and/or degree-granting unit, the committee members from various disciplines should collaborate in the writing of examination questions. The preliminary examination should cover all of the student's interest areas of study (see Interest Areas section in **Elements Required in a Program Proposal**, above). For example, the examination could be divided into four sections: the first three sections might include sets of questions covering each of the three interest areas,

with the fourth section consisting of questions requiring a synthesis of the three areas and or questions related directly to the research proposal.

The committee members may choose to write individual questions based upon their specific expertise. The committee may then meet (without the student) to compose and select questions for the examination, ensuring all of the areas for which the student is responsible are covered.

All of the committee members should evaluate the written examination and communicate with the committee chair the results of their evaluation. Every member of the doctoral committee is required to be present at an oral preliminary examination.

Responsibility of the Chair

The chair will call any necessary meetings of the committee (without the student) to draft or review the written portion of the examination**. It is the responsibility of the committee chair to provide written feedback to the student regarding the committee's evaluation of the written examination no later than one week prior to the oral portion of the examination.** In addition, the chair may advise the student in scheduling a room that can be proctored by departmental personnel, if an in-class examination format has been agreed upon. Arrangements to use a computer for written examinations, if desired, should be worked out between the student and chair of the committee.

Responsibility of the Student

A student must register for a minimum of two credits of INTERDIS 800 credits at the beginning of the semester in which he or she intends to take his or her preliminary examination. The student also must schedule the preliminary examination with the Graduate School. When the written examination is designed as an "on-campus" examination, the student should schedule a room, usually in the chair's department. After completing the written examination and gaining the approval of his or her committee chair, the student must obtain a scheduling form from the Graduate School to schedule the oral examination (the student will have previously agreed upon a date and time with his or her doctoral committee members). Signatures are required from each member of the committee, and dates of both the written and oral portions of the examination are to be included. The form must be submitted to the Graduate School *no less than ten working days* before the oral examination. *No more than thirty days* should elapse between the written and the oral examinations, according to Graduate School policy.

In the event of a preliminary examination failure, the student will have one opportunity to retake the entire preliminary examination after a waiting period of at least three months, according the Graduate School policy (https://gradschool.wsu.edu/policies-procedures/)

THE DISSERTATION

The student must consult with his or her doctoral committee regarding an appropriate format and timeline for research. The doctoral committee has sole jurisdiction as to the scope and format of dissertation research.

The Dissertation Format

All dissertations must comply with Graduate School regulations. The style, type, paper, title page, signature page, abstract, pagination and use of photographs or graphs are all carefully specified in the policies and procedures set forth by the Graduate School. It is the responsibility of the student to comply with these regulations. In addition to the *Graduate School Policies and Procedures*, specific guidelines for writing dissertations and approved dissertation formats are outlined in *Formatting Guidelines for Thesis/Dissertations* found on the Graduate School's Forms website: https://gradschool.wsu.edu/facultystaff-resources/18-2/.

A dissertation can take one of two forms: a thesis/dissertation format, or a manuscript format. The **thesis format** is similar to a book and includes a number of chapters. The **manuscript format** consists of several articles in place of book chapters. The articles must be based upon research undertaken at WSU, and the graduate student must be the major contributor and primary author of each article. In the case of published manuscripts, a letter of copyright release should be provided to the Graduate School.

The title page of the Interdisciplinary student's dissertation will indicate that he or she is receiving an Individual Interdisciplinary degree granted by the Graduate School.

THE FINAL DOCTORAL EXAMINATION

Once a doctoral committee has given preliminary approval to a student's dissertation, the student will give an oral defense of his or her research and dissertation. This final oral examination will be attended at minimum by the student, and the doctoral committee. The program coordinator of the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program may also be present. The examination must take place during regular university hours.

Responsibility of the Doctoral Committee

All members of the Doctoral committee are required to be present and vote during the final examination.

Responsibility of the Student

It is vital that the student consult the most current issue of the Graduate School's *Policies and Procedures*, as well as the *Deadlines and Procedures for Graduate Degree* (found at

https://gradschool.wsu.edu/facultystaff-resources/18-2/) for important deadlines in scheduling the final doctoral examination and applying for graduation. In addition, the student will find specifications and deadlines for supplying appropriate copies of the dissertation both preceding and following the examination, to members of the doctoral committee, the student's department (the office of the program coordinator of the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program) and the Graduate School.

A student must register for a minimum of two credits of INTERDIS 800 credits at the beginning of the semester in which he or she intends to take his or her final doctoral examination. The student must also apply to the Graduate School for graduation by the appropriate date during the semester in which he or she plans to graduate.

With the approval of his or her committee chair, the student is responsible to obtain signatures of all doctoral committee members on a scheduling form to be submitted to the Graduate School at the appropriate time (the examination must be scheduled *ten working days* ahead). **It is the responsibility of the student to check with the Graduate School regarding application for graduation deadlines and the last designated date for examinations permitted to graduate in a given semester.**

The student must have approval of his or her doctoral committee in order to schedule an examination, and supply each committee member as well as the Graduate School with a copy of his or her dissertation at least five working days before the examination. The student should bring copies of official signature pages to the examination which will eventually be inserted in the final copies of the dissertation. Members of his or her doctoral committee will sign these pages upon successful completion of the final examination. If a committee member is represented by a substitute during the examination, the official committee member (not the substitute) must receive and return the signature pages in a timely manner. The student must make any necessary changes in the dissertation, and turn in official copies via the Graduate School's submission process *within five working days* of the final examination.

The student should also turn in one bound copy of his or her dissertation (this copy does not need to be on bond paper, nor contain original signatures) to the program coordinator. This copy will be kept on file in the student's department, the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program office.

APPENDICES

INDIVIDUAL INTERDISCIPLINARY DOCTORAL PROGRAM
EVALUATION RUBRIC I

Candidate: _____

Please evaluate based on a 1-5 numeric system with 1 being the lowest and 5 representing the highest.

	Poor 1	**2**	**Competent 3**	**4**	**Excellent 5**	**Comments**
Demonstrates a comprehensive knowledge and substantial expertise in each of three areas of study: 1. 2. 3.						
Demonstrates a thorough understanding of existing scholarship that leads to a new and/or innovative approach to an issue or problem in that scholarship						
Demonstrates a cohesive theoretical framework that is well articulated and not purely derivative						
Presents a thorough, well-defined argument supported by the theoretical framework						
Communicates effectively in both written and oral forms						

INDIVIDUAL INTERDISCIPLINARY DOCTORAL PROGRAM
EVALUATION RUBRIC II

Candidate: _____

Please evaluate based on a 1-5 numeric system with 1 being the lowest and 5 representing the highest.

	Poor 1	**2**	**Competent 3**	**4**	**Excellent 5**	**Comments**
Demonstrates a comprehensive knowledge and substantial expertise in each of three areas of study: 1. 2. 3.						
Demonstrates a thorough understanding of previous and current research in the area(s) by developing a viable research problem						
Applies sound research methods and tools and describes the methods effectively						
Analyzes and interprets research data that makes clear sense of the data						
Communicates effectively in both written and oral forms						

INDIVIDUAL INTERDISCIPLINARY CHECKLIST

Student Name_____Student ID Number_____

Staff/Faculty working for degree? Yes No

Disciplines

1.
2.
3.

ADMISSION DATE_____

Received from student

Y/N	Date	Item	Dept.	
		Meet with Program Coordinator to discuss IIDP		
		Brief description of proposed plan of study		
		Doctoral Committee		
		Chair (major advisor) (#1)		
		#2		
		#3		
		#4		
		#5		
		Committee meeting		

Comments:

QUALIFYING EXAMINATION DATE_____

		Plan of study filled out and signed by committee
		Program approved
		Signatures from all department chairs of committee members
		Final proposal with completed signature page
		Approved by IIDP Graduate Committee

Comments:

PROGRAM OF STUDY, RESEARCH, EXAMS

		Program of study signed and submitted to Graduate School
		Committee meets to discuss preliminary examination
		Draft research proposal
		Proposal approved by committee
		Written and oral exam taken and passed
		Final defense
		Dissertation submitted; copy to IIDP office

Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program

Graduate Student Annual Evaluation 2022-2023

Evaluation Date: _____

Name: _____ WSU ID #: _____

Advisor: _____ Formal Admission to IIDP: _____

Committee: _____

Cumulative GPA: _____ Program of Study Filed: Yes No

Number of graduate advisory committee meetings since last review: _____
Date of most recent meeting: _____

Preliminary Exam Taken: _____ Date Scheduled/Planned: _____

Final Exam Scheduled/Planned: _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY STUDENT:

List of Awards or Scholarships received this year:

_____
_____
_____
_____

List of papers Presented or Published this year:

_____
_____
_____
_____

Comments:_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

TO BE COMPLETED BY ADVISOR:

Overall rating of academic performance: (1=poor, 5=superior)

1 2 3 4 5

Overall rating of research performance: (1=poor, 5=superior)

1 2 3 4 5

Overall rating of teaching performance: (1=poor, 5=superior)

1 2 3 4 5

Probable success in completing degree requirements (1=poor, 5=superior)

1 2 3 4 5

Overall rating (1=poor, 5=superior)

1 2 3 4 5

Enrollment should be continued _____ or discontinued _____

Comments: (include academic and research performance)

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

This evaluation has been discussed between both parties:

_____ _____
Student's Signature Date

_____ _____
Advisor's Signature Date

Please retain copies for the student and advisor and return the original to the Graduate School, c/o IIDP Coordinator

Certification of Assistantship Duties (if applicable):

If the student served in an assistantship position during the past year, please have the student review and sign below, along with the student's faculty advisor or supervisor.

Student: The graduate assistantship position that you have held during this past year and the related tuition waivers were contingent upon factors as outlined in your offer letter. By signing below you certify you have met the following contingent factors for the preceding semester(s) during which you held an assistantship (circle all that apply: fall / spring / summer / year: _____):

- I remained enrolled full time (at least 10 credits as defined in Graduate School policy manual, chapter 9) during the period of the appointment.
- I maintained a 3.0 cumulative GPA during the period of the appointment.
- I met the service requirement of an average of 20 hours per week for 0.5 FTE as scheduled by my department/supervisor (or based on hours required for partial FTE appointment).

_____ _____

Student Sign/Date Faculty Advisor/Supervisor Sign/Date

Please retain copies for the student and advisor and return the original to the Graduate School, c/o IIDP Coordinator

Assessment Plan for the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program

The Program mission, goals, student learning outcomes and program outcomes are detailed above in the handbook. For program assessment the data to be collected are described in the matrix below.

Outcome	***Data***	***Source***	***Collected***
1a. Develop knowledge and understanding of appropriate concepts, methods, and materials in three disciplines which appropriately constitute the framework of their studies	Course grades for the three subject areas Preliminary exam score	Grades reported by faculty on transcripts Faculty members directing exam	Annually At exam
1b. Attain fundamental experience to apply knowledge in three unique disciplines while providing opportunities for creative and integrative thinking	Preliminary exam/research proposal Annual review	Students and committee Faculty mentor and student	At exam Annually
1c. Prepare and present research in peer reviewed journals and conference papers at professional meetings on the local, regional, and national levels	Annual Review	Student and Faculty Mentor	Annually
1d. Participate in professional organizations, becoming members and attending meetings	Annual Review	Student and Faculty Mentor	Annually
2a. Attain fundamental mentorship from committee members from all three disciplines in support of the interdisciplinary research through integrative thinking	Annual Review Student Evaluations in courses	Student and Faculty Mentor University IT/Program chairs	Annually Each semester

2b. Become independent researchers/scholars in an interdisciplinary area of study by developing substantial expertise in that area which will allow them to make an original contribution to it	Rubric filled out at student's defense	Faculty committee members	At defense
2c. Develop a research question with an understanding of previous and current research and be able to demonstrate that knowledge capably **OR** develop a new and/or innovative approach to an issue or problem in existing scholarship	Rubric filled out at student's defense	Faculty committee members	At defense
2d. Apply sound research methods and tools to the research question and describe the methods effectively **OR** develop a cohesive theoretical framework that is well-articulated and not purely derivative	Rubric filled out at student's defense	Faculty committee members	At defense
2e. Analyze and interpret research data that makes clear sense of the data **OR** present a thorough well-defined argument supported by the theoretical framework	Rubric filled out at student's defense	Faculty committee members	At defense
2f. Communicate effectively in both written and oral forms appropriate to the interdisciplinary study	Rubric filled out at student's defense	Faculty committee members	At defense

3a. Attract and retain high-quality students and innovative thinkers	Application statistics, GPA, 2 step admission process (conditional and formal)	The Graduate School, Graduate Studies Committee	Annually
3b. Provide effective advising and mentoring that encourages students to matriculate in a timely manner	Time-to-degree statistics	The Graduate School	Annually
3c. Place graduates in position of academics, government and industry	Job placement statistics	The Graduate School	Annually
3d. Continue to maintain communication with disciplinary programs and faculty regarding the importance of attracting nationally recognized faculty, providing innovative advanced courses, and supporting independent, interdisciplinary studies for consistent interaction with IIDP students and their research	Faculty mentorship is evaluated at Annual Review Because the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program is coordinated through the Graduate School, these items are studied in Graduate Program Reviews for each discipline	Student and Faculty Mentor Individual Discipline Programs, The Graduate School, Graduate Studies Committee, Faculty Senate	Annual At review

Summary: Data to Be Collected:

- Course grades for the three subject areas
- Preliminary exam score
- Research/Scholarship proposal
- Annual review
- Student Evaluations in courses
- Rubric filled out at student's defense
- Application statistics, GPA, 2 step admission process (conditional and formal)
- Time-to-degree statistics
- Job placement statistics

- Because the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program is coordinated through the Graduate School, items pertaining to faculty and courses are studied in Graduate Program Reviews for each discipline.

Summary: When Data Are to Be Collected:

Data collected each semester by the appropriate subject/disciplinary program:

- Responses on student evaluations

Data collected annually:

- Annual review/Curriculum vitae
- Course grades
- Application statistics
- Time-to-degree statistics
- Job placement statistics

Data collected individually when available for each student:

- Rubric from Defense
- Research Proposal