

# PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES (PAIS)

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## **PAIS 2000 Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies (3)**

PAIS 2000 is an intensive, eight-week course that develops core competencies in interdisciplinary thinking and practice. Students begin by identifying a genuine, complex problem from their professional context and progressively deepen their analysis using multiple disciplinary lenses. Through systematic research across disciplines, critical analysis of diverse perspectives, and thoughtful integration of insights, students learn how interdisciplinary approaches reveal solutions that no single discipline could achieve alone.

## **PAIS 3000 Interdisciplinary Research Methods (3)**

PAIS 3000 is an intensive, eight-week course that develops advanced competencies in interdisciplinary research methods. Building on foundational understanding, students design and execute original interdisciplinary research projects. They identify wicked problems requiring integration across disciplines, conduct systematic literature reviews using disciplinary frameworks, analyze conflicts between disciplinary perspectives, develop evidence-based integration strategies, and communicate findings to multiple audiences. Through iterative cycles of analysis, synthesis, and reflection, students learn to produce actionable interdisciplinary knowledge that addresses complex real-world problems.

## **PAIS 4000 Advanced Interdisciplinary Studies (Capstone Seminar) (3)**

The PAIS 4000: Advanced Interdisciplinary Studies course serves as the culminating experience of the program. Students apply interdisciplinary methodologies to design and execute a major project aligned with their chosen concentrations. These projects—whether research papers, community-based initiatives, digital portfolios, or case studies—will need to demonstrate critical reasoning, leadership, and practical problem-solving skills.