

Interdisciplinary Programs

American Studies

American studies is an interdisciplinary program focused upon the multifaceted culture and civilization of the United States. The program integrates the study of fields such as history, literature, politics, art, philosophy, and religion in an effort to create a better understanding of the nation we call united.

The concentration in American studies is like a minor; however, unlike a minor that is contained in one specific discipline, the American studies concentration is interdisciplinary. If you complete a concentration in American studies, your transcript will reflect this upon graduation.

Requirements for area of concentration: A student may elect an area of concentration in American studies (along with his or her major) by completing the following requirements with a minimum grade of C:

- 1. Hist 2100: History of the U.S. to 1877 (4 sem. hours).**
- 2. Hist 2110: History of the U.S. from 1877 (4 sem. hours).**
- 3. Any English course in American literature (4 sem. hours).** Different ones are offered each semester.
- 4. Two electives approved for American Studies credit (8 sem. hours).** Any two courses in any participating department(s), including IDST courses. A list of approved courses is sent out through email each semester.

Questions about American Studies? If you have any questions about the American studies concentration, please contact Dr. Anne MacMaster in the English department or Dr. Robert McElvaine in the history department.

Christian Education

The area of concentration in Christian education helps prepare students to plan, organize, lead, and teach in religious education programs. For further information, see the chair of the religious studies department or the College chaplain.

Requirements for area of concentration:

1. RLST 2000: Introduction to Religious Studies,
2. RLST 2210: Hebrew Scriptures or RLST 2220: New Testament and Early Christianity,
3. RLST 3110: History of Christian Thought or RLST 3120: Modern and Contemporary Theology,
4. RLST 4850–4852: Religious Studies Internship,
5. IDST 1600: The Human Experience: A Cross-Cultural Perspective, and
6. EDUC 3200/3210: Classroom Methods and Management.

Environmental Studies

The area of concentration in environmental studies is an interdisciplinary program that may be pursued by students majoring in any discipline. The required course work provides students the opportunity to consider the relationship between people and the environment from social, cultural, economic, political, ethical, and scientific perspectives.

Requirements for area of concentration: Seven courses are required: (1) Geology 1100: Environmental Issues; (2) one of the field courses listed below or an internship course or research course approved by the director of the concentration; (3) two of the humanities and social sciences courses listed below; (4) two of the natural sciences courses listed below; (5) ENVS 4911: Environmental Studies Seminar.

Field Courses:

- SOAN 3410: Field Archaeology
- GEOL 3400: Special Problems in Geology: Yellowstone Field Study
- GEOL 3508: Directed Study in Geology: Living in Yucatán
- GEOL 4506: Field Geology
- BIOL 3210: Field Biology

Humanities and Social Sciences:

- IDST 2500: Globalization and Technology
- PHIL 3750: Special Topics: Environmental Ethics
- RLST 3150: Religion, Science, and Nature
- RLST 3750: Special Topics: Religion and the Environment
- HIST 3610: Environment, Technology, and Power
- HIST 4760: Modern Environmental History
- PLSC 1000: American Government
- PLSC 2010: American Public Policy
- ECON 2000: Principles of Economics
- SOAN 1100: Introduction to Anthropology
- SOAN 1110: Introduction to Archaeology

- SOAN 2410: Human Ecology
- SOAN 4730: Geographic Systems and Archaeology

Natural Science:

- GEOL 1000: The Physical Earth
- GEOL 2000: Plate Tectonics and Earth History
- GEOL 3300: Hydrology and Chemistry of Natural Waters
- CHEM 1213: General Inorganic Chemistry I and 1211: General Inorganic Chemistry Lab I
- CHEM 1223: General Inorganic Chemistry II and 1221: General Inorganic Chemistry Lab II
- CHEM 3730/Geology 4100: Geochemistry
- BIOL 1010: General Botany
- BIOL 2200: Ecology
- BIOL 3200: Aquatic Biology

4911 Environmental Studies Seminar (1 sem. hour). An interdisciplinary colloquium in which students share the results of the environmental research, internship, or field course work they have undertaken as a requirement of the environmental studies concentration. Ordinarily taken in the senior year. Prerequisite or Corequisite: field course, research course, or internship course approved by the director of the concentration. Taken by permission of the instructor.

European Studies

The program in European studies is designed for those students who are keenly interested in European affairs. The major or minor in European studies cuts across traditional departmental and divisional boundaries and allows the student to work with faculty to design a program of study that integrates those aspects of European affairs that best meet the student's interests. European art, business, history, languages, literatures, music, philosophy, and political science are among the areas of study available to students in European studies.

Requirements for major: Students complete a major in European studies with a total of 40 semester hours, including the following four components:

- 1. Introductory Course (4 sem. hours).** History 2210: European Civilization Since 1789.
- 2. Language Component.** Students are required to study one European language. In addition to satisfying the B.A. requirement in that language, the European studies major must complete at least twelve semester hours beyond the B.A. requirement in that language.
- 3. Multidisciplinary Component (20 sem. hours).** Students will take twenty semester hours, beyond those described above, from a list of elective courses provided by the director of the European studies program. No more than 12 semester hours may be in the same department. No more than four semester hours may be from the Core. No more than eight semester hours of language courses, beyond those that are required for the European studies major, may be counted as elective courses toward the major.
- 4. Colloquium and Comprehensive Exams (4 sem. hours).** Students will take written and oral examinations administered by the European Studies Committee.

Requirements for minor: Students may complete a minor in European studies with a total of 20 semester hours, including the following three components. First, students are required to

study one European language. In addition to satisfying the B.A. requirement in that language, the European studies minor must complete at least eight semester hours beyond the B.A. requirement in that language. Second, minors must complete the Introductory Course for European Studies (History 2210; 4 sem. hours). Third, minors must take eight semester hours, beyond those described above, from a list of elective courses provided by the director of the European studies program. Those two elective courses may not be in the same department, and none of them may be from the Core.

4000 European Studies Colloquium (4 sem. hours). An interdisciplinary research forum in which students pursue an individual, directed reading and writing project within their areas of concentration. This project will lead to the completion, during the spring semester of the student's senior year, of an interdisciplinary senior thesis.

Some form of financial aid may be available for certain European studies programs. Students interested in financial aid for any of these programs should contact the financial aid office for more information.

Faith & Work Initiative

The Faith & Work Initiative challenges students to build lives of long-term meaning and service. It includes both curricular and extracurricular programs aimed at helping students to discern their vocation or call in life and to pursue that call with passion, integrity, and an eye to the needs of the world.

Requirements for Lilly Interns program:

1. FWRK 2400 (cross-listed as RLST 2400 and PHIL 2750): The Meaning of Work
2. FWRK 3850: Lilly Internship I

Requirements for Lilly Fellows program:

1. FWRK 2400 (cross-listed as RLST 2400 and PHIL 2750): The Meaning of Work
2. FWRK 3850: Lilly Internship I
3. FWRK 4850: Lilly Internship II or a Sustained Service Commitment (consult with Associate Director)
4. A four-hour Ethics course
5. A Leadership Development project (consult with Associate Director)

Film Studies

The concentration in film studies draws together several dimensions of film studies to give the student an overview of the main cultural and practical issues in film art.

Requirements for Area of Concentration: Five courses are required, all to be approved by the director of the concentration, including: (1) an introduction to film history and theory, normally ENGL 3540 as History of Film or PHIL 2300; (2) a more specialized study of particular film genres, directors, or issues, such as ENGL 3540 as Film and Fiction; and (3) a course in screenwriting or production, such as ENGL 3760, Special Projects in Creative Writing. Various Millsaps courses may be adapted to meet these requirements.

Questions about Film Studies: Contact Dr. Steven G. Smith in the philosophy department or Dr. Austin Wilson in the English department.

Human Services

Human services is an interdisciplinary program designed to provide students with academic experiences relevant to a number of postgraduate employment and graduate study opportunities such as social work, clinical and counseling psychology, family therapy, child protective services, guidance and school counseling, and community activism. Students planning a career in human and helping services will find the concentration invaluable.

Requirements for area of concentration: The interdisciplinary human services concentration consists of six courses. All students are required to complete HMSV-1600: Introduction to Human Services. The Introduction to Human Services course provides an integrated interdisciplinary structure for connecting the various courses students can take to satisfy the concentration.

Additionally, students must complete one semester (4 sem. hours) of internship and four of the following courses from at least two disciplines:

Internship: approved and supervised by the concentration director.

Business:

ACCT 2000: Principles of Financial Accounting
ACCT 2010: Managerial Accounting, Budgeting, and Systems Control
ECON 2000: Principles of Economics
ECON 2200: Economic Policy Issues
MGMT 3000: Introduction to Management

Education:

IDST 1610: Human Experience—Cross Cultural Perspective
EDUC 2100: American Sign Language: Deaf Culture
EDUC 3130: Educational for the Exceptional
EDUC 3200: Classroom Methods and Management

Political Science:

PLSC 2050: Women and the Law
PLSC 2150: Urban/Metropolitan Politics
PLSC 3250: Public Administration
PLSC 3350: Politics of Race and Ethnicity
PLSC 4500: Political Sociology

Psychology:

PSYC 3020: Psychology of Women
PSYC 3130: Abnormal Psychology
PSYC 3160: Clinical Psychology: Theory and Method
PSYC 3170: Social Psychology
PSYC 3190: Psychological Tests and Measurements
PSYC 4750: Developmental Disabilities

Sociology/Anthropology:

SOAN 1010: Social Problems
SOAN 2130: Marriage and the Family
SOAN 2200: Sociology of Human Interaction
SOAN 2250: Gender in American Culture
SOAN 3220: Religion, Society, and Culture

SOAN 3310: Deviance: A Comparative Approach
SOAN 3500: Sociology of Law
SOAN 4790: Asians in America

International Studies

The concentration in international studies is designed to reward students who want to learn about contemporary global affairs in an interdisciplinary fashion.

The concentration in international studies requires the following courses:

Required Introductory Course (Choose one four-hour course.)

- An IDST 2500 (Core 5) Topics class that focuses substantially on international or cross-cultural relations.
- PLSC 2400: International Relations

Required study abroad: Students must participate in one study abroad program that is approved by the College. In consultation with faculty advisers, students may choose a program that takes place during a summer, a semester, or a year.

The program must provide at least four hours of approved credit. Those credits may be used to fulfill the distribution requirements for the concentration. In case of programs that are interdisciplinary in nature, the director of international studies will determine, in consultation with the student, which distribution requirements are fulfilled by that program.

160 | Programs are available in almost every country and discipline. The Millsaps study abroad office will assist students in identifying and selecting programs. Some of the best options are listed below, under distribution requirements.

Financial aid is now available for study abroad. Students may apply for loans to support study abroad. The study abroad office will work with students who are interested in applying for loans. Outside scholarships may also be available to students.

Distribution requirements: Students must choose courses worth **24 hours**, in at least **three departments**, in at least **two divisions**.

Courses are to be approved by the director of international studies in consultation with the members of the faculty who are offering the courses in question.

Approved courses will focus substantially on foreign, international, or cross-cultural issues that have developed since the beginning of the 20th century. By “substantial” focus on this time period, we mean that at least half of the course will address the period since 1900. For example, the survey of modern European history begins in 1789, but typically students in the course spend half of their time studying history since 1900. That course, and others like it, will count toward the concentration, in addition to courses that focus exclusively on the 20th century.

Eight hours of credit may be double-counted from the student’s major department, provided that the courses being double-counted have a substantial focus on contemporary and international issues.

Special Topics courses not listed in the catalog may also be counted, provided that they also have a substantial focus on contemporary and international issues.

Courses in Arts and Letters

- ARTS 2560: Modern Art (Europe and U.S.)
- ARTS 2590: Topics in World Art
- ENGL 3180: Studies in 20th Century Literature
- FREN 3210: Survey of French Literature after the Revolution
- FREN 3230: French Civilization after the Revolution
- FREN 3750: French Film
- GERM 3210: Survey of German Literature from the Time of Goethe
- GERM 3220: German Civilization
- GERM 3770: German Literature of the Early 20th Century
- GERM 3780: German Literature since 1945
- HIST 2210: Modern Europe
- HIST 2310: African History
- HIST 2400: History of the Middle East
- HIST 3310: South African History
- RLST 2110: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
- RLST 2120: South Asian Religions
- RLST 2130: East Asian Religions
- SPAN 3200: Survey of Peninsular Literature
- SPAN 3210: Survey of Spanish-American Literature
- SPAN 3220: Spanish Civilization
- SPAN 3230: Spanish-American Civilization
- SPAN 3770: Modernism-Postmodernism
- SPAN 3790: The Generation of 1898
- Suitable Special Topics courses may also be used to fulfill the requirements.
- Courses taught through the Millsaps programs in Costa Rica, France, Yucatán, and Europe.
- Courses taught in the Millsaps direct exchange programs with the University of Ulster and Queens University (Belfast, Northern Ireland) and with Kansai Gaidai University (Osaka, Japan).
- Courses taught in other approved study abroad programs.

Courses in the Sciences

- GEOL 1100: Environmental Issues of the 20th Century
- PLSC 1300: Comparative Government
- PLSC 3300: Western European Government and Politics
- PLSC 3310: African Government and Politics
- PLSC 3350: The Politics of Race and Ethnicity
- PLSC 3400: U.S. Foreign Policy
- PLSC 3410: International Organizations/Model United Nations
- PLSC 4300: Developing Nations (Prerequisite: Political Science 3300)
- PLSC 4400: Peace, Conflict Resolution, and International Security
- PSYC 1700: Sinister Side of the 20th Century
- PSYC 4750: Special Topics
- SOAN 1100: Introduction to Anthropology
- SOAN 3120: Non-Western Societies
- Suitable Special Topics courses may also be used to fulfill the requirements.
- Courses taught in the Millsaps programs in the Yucatán and in Europe.
- Courses taught in the Millsaps direct exchange programs with the University of Ulster and Queens University (Belfast, Northern Ireland) and with Kansai Gaidai University (Osaka, Japan).
- Courses taught in other approved study abroad programs.

Courses in Business

- MGMT 4010: International Business (prerequisite: junior level B.B.A. course)
- ECON 3040: International Economics (prerequisite: junior standing, MATH 1100, and ECON 2000). ECON 3110: History of Economic Thought (Prerequisite: ECON 2000)
- Suitable Special Topics courses may also be used to fulfill the requirements.
- Courses taught in the Millsaps program in Europe.
- Courses taught in the Millsaps direct exchange programs with the University of Ulster and Queens University (Belfast, Northern Ireland) and with Kansai Gaidai University (Osaka, Japan).
- Credits earned through participation in other approved study abroad programs.

Self-Designed Majors

The Self-Designed Major (SDM) is a customized major designed by a student working closely with appropriate faculty. The curricular, instructional, and administrative framework for the pursuit of an SDM is not, by contrast with that of standard majors, already in place. It must be constructed by a special effort. Although members of the faculty and administration of the College stand ready to help the student at many points along the way, the initiative for this special effort lies with the student. Consequently, a higher degree of self-motivation may be demanded of a person desiring an SDM than those traveling the more established routes to graduation.

The following requirements apply to all SDMs:

1. To qualify for consideration, the student must have at least a 3.00 GPA and must file an SDM petition and application in the spring semester of the sophomore year.
2. The proposed SDM will normally include at least 12 courses from two or three departments. To ensure analytical rigor and depth in the SDM, the student must complete the courses equivalent to a minor and one additional upper-division course (3000 or higher) within at least one of the Core disciplines. No credit will be awarded toward a minor in a discipline included as part of an SDM. One appropriate IDST Core course may count toward the major. Ordinarily, courses taken for a self-designed major will not count toward a second major.
3. The proposed SDM must focus on a coherent theme or issue and demonstrate an integration of the contributing disciplines.
4. Every student declaring an SDM must also meet all Core and degree requirements of the College to graduate, including the Core 10 requirement. Students will normally satisfy the Core 10 requirement by successfully completing the senior seminar in one of the disciplines. In exceptional cases where the faculty committee and the student agree that the academic goals of the SDM are not met by a senior seminar, an upper-division seminar designated by the committee or a senior thesis with an appropriate Core 10 component may satisfy the Core 10 requirement.

The following procedures must be followed for all SDM applications:

1. The student is responsible for investigating the feasibility of the proposed SDM, with appropriate faculty and consulting with the coordinator of SDMs about requirements and procedures.
2. The student must ask one faculty member from each participating department to support the SDM application. These members will form an advisory committee

that serves as the “department” for that particular SDM until all the requirements are completed. One member of the committee will serve as the adviser of record and the coordinator of SDMs will serve as chair for all SDMs.

3. The student will develop a petition, supported by the members of the advisory committee, explaining the rationale for this SDM; why the academic goals could not be met by existing majors or concentrations; and how this SDM advances particular career goals.
4. This petition will be part of the formal application, which should include the names of the faculty committee; a list and schedule of proposed courses, field research, directed studies, and internships; and a plan for meeting the senior comprehensive examination requirements. Under normal circumstances, the faculty committee will develop and administer these exams. Finally, the applicant should also indicate how the Core 10 requirement will be met. Normally, this would be satisfied by completing the senior seminar in one of the disciplines. If a senior thesis or designated upper-division seminar will be used to meet the Core 10 requirement, the applicant must demonstrate in the application why this option best serves the academic goals of the SDM.
5. The petition and completed application, approved and endorsed by the faculty committee members and the coordinator of SDMs, will be submitted to the College curriculum committee for final review and approval. In order for the SDM to be officially approved, it must have the signature of each faculty committee member, the coordinator of SDMs, the chair of the curriculum committee, and the senior vice president and dean of the College.
6. The coordinator of SDMs will track the progress of each major and work with the coordinator of records of the College to certify the completion of each SDM.

Women’s and Gender Studies

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Women’s and gender studies is an interdisciplinary program designed to promote the study of gender, women’s experiences, and various feminist theories across the College curriculum.

Requirements for area of concentration: A student may elect an area of concentration in women’s and gender studies by completing the following requirements: Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies, Senior Project, and three approved women’s and gender studies courses with multidisciplinary breadth. A minimum grade of C in these courses is required.

2000 Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies (4 sem. hours). This course is an interdisciplinary introduction to the field of women’s and gender studies; to the questions raised by the study of women’s experiences; to the intellectual debates surrounding the issue of gender; and to the role of these fields in the various liberal arts disciplines.

4000 Senior Project (4 sem. hours). This project consists either of an independent study with an instructor in the student’s major or a teaching practicum in the Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies course. See the coordinator of women’s and gender studies for information about this course.

Interdisciplinary Core

1000 Introduction to Liberal Studies - Core 1 (4 sem. hours). This course is designed to introduce students to the academic community, to provide opportunities for intellectual growth through critical thinking and writing on subjects of general interest, and to initiate a process of self-reflection that will continue to graduation. It is a writing-intensive course that takes the place of English composition.

1050 Introduction to Liberal Studies - Core 1 (4 sem. hours) (transfers and adults).

Liberal Studies 1050 is a seminar designed for students who are entering Millsaps College as transfers from other institutions. Students are assisted in developing their writing and critical thinking skills and introduced to the terrain of a liberal arts curriculum.

1118–1128 Heritage of the West in World Perspective (8 sem. hours each semester).

Beginning with antiquity and continuing to the present, this program brings together history, literature, philosophy, religion, and the arts in an integrated approach to the study of Western culture within a global context. It is the equivalent of eight semester hours each semester extending throughout the year. This course meets the requirements of Core 2–5 and the fine arts requirement.

1200 Topics of the Ancient World (4 sem. hours). Courses with different topics address developments in the period from pre-history to 600 C.E. from a variety of perspectives, including history, literature, philosophy, religion, and the fine arts. This course meets the requirements of Core 2.

1300 Topics of the Premodern World (4 sem. hours). Courses with different topics address developments from 600 C.E. to 1600 C.E. from a variety of perspectives, including history, literature, philosophy, religion, and the fine arts. This course meets the requirements of Core 3.

1600 Topics in the Social and Behavioral Sciences (4 sem. hours). Courses with different topics address issues relating to society and the individual by applying the methods of psychology, sociology, anthropology, politics, and economics. This course meets the requirements of Core 6.

1700 Topics in the Natural Sciences with Lab (4 sem. hours). Courses with different topics address issues relating to the natural world by applying the methods of biology, chemistry, geology, and physics. This course includes a laboratory and meets the requirements of Core 7 and/or 9.

1710 Human & Natural Disasters (4 sem. hours). Human & Natural Disasters is part of an integrated two-semester course sequence (with IDST 1720) encompassing geology and biology and emphasizing applications to real-world situations. Modules will include human evolution, plagues, biological and chemical warfare, and climatic and geologic disasters such as earthquakes and tsunamis. The course sequence fulfills Core 7 and Core 9 and is designed for freshman and sophomore non-science majors.

1720 How Things Work (4 sem. hours). How Things Work is part of an integrated two-semester course sequence (with IDST 1710) that encompasses chemistry and physics and emphasizes applications to real-world situations. Modules will include forensic science, kitchen chemistry, sports physics, dissection of small electrical gadgets, and how the universe works. The course sequence fulfills Core 7 and Core 9 and is designed for freshman and sophomore non-science majors.

1900 Topics in Science, Mathematics, and Computer Science (4 sem. hours). Courses with different topics address issues relating to science, mathematics, and computer science. This course does not include a laboratory and therefore does not meet the Core 7 requirement, but it does fulfill the Core 9 requirement.

2400 Topics of the Modern World (4 sem. hours). Courses with different topics address developments from 1600 to 1900 from a variety of perspectives, including history, literature, philosophy, religion, and the arts. This course meets the requirements of Core 4.

2500 Topics of the Contemporary World (4 sem. hours). Courses with different topics address developments after 1900 from a variety of perspectives, including history, literature, philosophy, religion, and fine arts. This course meets the requirements of Core 5.

4000 Reflections on Liberal Studies (4 sem. hours). This course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to draw together the various strands of their education, to make connections among disciplines, and to reflect upon the meaning of liberal arts. Required for students in the Honors Program, this course meets the requirements of Core 10. Prerequisite: senior status and completion of all other Core requirements, including the writing portfolio requirement.

Writing Program

1000 Writing and Thinking (4 sem. hours). This course is designed to provide additional writing experience to students who have already taken Introduction to Liberal Studies. (It may also be used by transfer students to meet Core 1 requirements.) Prerequisite: Liberal Studies 1000 and recommendation of instructor.

2001 Introduction to Teaching Writing (1 sem. hour). This course is designed to prepare prospective peer tutors to work in the Writing Center. It will introduce them to the writing process on a theoretical as well as practical level, and to theoretical and practical components of Writing Center work. Specific topics will include the role of the peer tutor, the rhetorical situation, types of academic writing, cultural perspectives, and approaches to talking about writing at various stages of the writing process. Faculty recommendation required.

3001 Advanced Teaching Writing (1 sem. hour). This course examines the theoretical and practical components of Writing Center work, paying particular attention to their reflective nature, that is, to the ways in which theories of collaborative learning challenge and extend Writing Center practice and the ways in which Writing Center practice interrogates and shapes Writing Center theory. The course will also further introduce students to aspects of Writing Center administration, particularly the task of marketing the Writing Center on the Millsaps campus. Specific topics will include recent critiques of collaborative learning, approaches to consultation, consultant roles, the role of grammar instruction in the Writing Center, consulting strategies for ESL students, and the use of computers in the Writing Center. Prerequisite: Writing Program 2001.

Other Interdisciplinary Courses

HMSV 1600 Introduction to Human Services (4 sem. hours). This course explores the contributions of psychology, anthropology, political science, and education to the planning, delivery, and content of human services such as education, mental health, medicine, welfare, child care, and social services.

IDST 2000 Topics in Southern Studies (4 sem. hours). A course for the general student to be offered by the Eudora Welty Professor of Southern Studies. It may be cross listed with one or more departments and may be repeated for credit with different topics.

STDA 2020 Living in Yucatán I (4 sem. hours). Course focuses on Mayan history, archaeology, ancient culture, and modern cultural anthropology. Issues that relate to the rise and eventful collapse of the classic Maya civilization, the evolution of a colonial system of human and environmental exploitation, and the impact of modern commercial development on are investigated. Field excursions to numerous Mayan ruins and historical places provide background information for understanding the rise of this powerful and influential culture. The impact of the Maya empire's decline and conquest by the Spanish and the effect on descendants are intensively studied. Living among and interacting with residents provides students with opportunities to understand the values, hardships, dreams, and reality of life in a culture very different from their own. With prior approval, students may direct credits to English and history requirements. Writing assignments will focus on developing skills and style critical to composing successful historical and travel writing. Evening lectures and discussion augment the field activities. This course must be taken in sequence with STDA 2030: Living in Yucatán II.

STDA 2030 Living in Yucatán II (4 sem. hours). Course integrates study of Yucatán's biology and geology with economic and cultural issues. A predominant theme in this portion of the course relates to the impact of tourism and development of the Riviera Maya. An understanding of the physical environment aids the student in understanding the limits to development. Biological and geological field excursions provide multiple opportunities to study the peninsula's forest ecology, coastal ecology, reef ecology, and hydrology as they relate to important environmental issues. The historical impact of natural systems on the rise and eventful collapse of the classic Maya civilization is also intertwined with that of current issues. Daily activities include botanical studies in herbariums, local family gardens, and field studies in forest environments. Geological and coastal studies are conducted by boat, snorkeling, in caves, and land-based field stops. Evening lectures and discussions augment field excursions. This course must be taken in sequence with STDA 2020: Living in Yucatán I.