South Dakota Board of Regents

New Site: Request to Offer an Existing Degree Program

Use this form to request authorization to deliver an existing degree program at a new site or by distance delivery. The Executive Director or the Board may request additional information.

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| **University** | **South Dakota State University** |
| **Degree(s) and Program** | BS in Interdisciplinary Studies |
| **New Site(s)** | University Center - Rapid City |
| **Proposed Implementation (term)** | Spring 2013 |

**University Approval**

To the Board and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this request, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

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| President of the University |  | Date |

After approval by the President, a signed copy of the proposal should be transmitted to the Executive Director. Only after Executive Director review should the proposal be posted on the university web site and the Board staff and the other universities notified of the URL.

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| **1. What is the need for this program in this site (these sites)? What is the expected demand for graduates in the site(s)?** |

South Dakota State University requests authorization to offer the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies at University Center - Rapid City. Delivery of this program in Rapid City will provide access to both traditional and non-traditional place bound students. The Interdisciplinary Studies major is designed for students who have a personal or professional goal that cannot be met by an established major. It is not designed to meet the needs of returning adult learners who are more appropriately served by the Bachelor of General Studies degree.

The Interdisciplinary Studies program enables students to develop competencies across a range of disciplines as selected by the student and academic advisor. Students combine two or more disciplines into a unified degree, providing exposure to multiple programs and possible career paths. Students learn to integrate multiple perspectives and critically articulate fundamental principles underlying each discipline. The plan of study developed by the student and academic advisor will not duplicate existing degrees authorized at UC-RC but rather focus on content areas unique to SDSU including agriculture, natural sciences, natural resource management, agronomy, animal and range sciences. Students will complete the required 30 credits of system general education coursework from UC-RC offered by Black Hills State University. Major requirements will be offered through a combination of on-line and face-to-face instruction. Offering the B.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies in Rapid City will contribute to the development of South Dakota’s west river workforce.

Graduates of the BS IS program pursue a wide range of careers and graduate studies based upon their unique plans of study. About 50% of the graduates (since 2007) have pursued advanced study in graduate or professional programs in law, medicine, management, agriculture and business. Those who have moved directly into the workforce have pursued a wide range of careers in the military, natural resources, agricultural related businesses and management. Several have started their own businesses in South Dakota and the region including a construction company and game farm. Some have returned to the family farm, ranch or other family business.

Delivery of the Interdisciplinary Studies program in Rapid City supports the system strategic goals (Policy 1:21):

* Increase college participation rates
* Increase number of graduates
* Offer programs off-campus
* Workforce development: Students can select courses related to their current employment or to prepare for a different career.

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| **2. Is any regental university authorized to offer a similar program at the new site(s)? Is any non-system institution offering a similar program at the new site(s)?** **If either answer is “yes,” identify the institution(s) and program(s) and explain why authorization is requested.** |

SDSU has the only B.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies program in the system. The University of South Dakota’s Bachelor of Liberal Studies is not offered online or off-campus.

All system universities are authorized to offer the Bachelor of General Studies in Rapid City *(Minutes, 2010 June 24-25, pp. 1117 & 1283-1340; and 2010 December 16-17, pp. 3172 & 3465-3467).* There are important differences between the South Dakota State University BS in Interdisciplinary Studies (BSIS) and the Bachelor of General Studies (BGS):

* The BSIS program was designed as a major program based upon the recognized methods and “ways of knowing” of interdisciplinary studies as a distinct area of study based on information and standards identified by the Association of Interdisciplinary Studies (AIS). The BGS was designed as a degree completion program for ready adult learner.
* Interdisciplinary Studies students must complete a three-semester course sequence; develop a written statement of goals detailing the knowledge, skills and abilities they wish to acquire; develop a plan of study based on the goal and a senior thesis. BGS students may complete the program in one term depending upon credit transfer. All BGS students have stopped out of higher education for some time.
* All BGS students are returning adults who have had a gap in their educational plan and at least 60 credits as required for admission to the program. BSIS students are a mix of traditional aged college students, non-traditional distance students and some returning adult students seeking an educational experience that will prepare them for advanced studies or unique career pathways with a focus on multi-disciplinary investigation and linkages. The BSIS program offers students the opportunity to create their own plan rather than being confined to a predetermined curriculum.

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| **3. Are students expected to be new to the university or redirected from other programs or both?** **Complete the table and explain how the estimates were developed. How will the new site(s) affect enrollments in other campus and off-campus programs in the regental system?** |

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|  | Fiscal Years\* | | | |
|  | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th |
| Estimated | FY14 | FY15 | FY16 | FY17 |
| New to the university | 5 | 7 | 9 | 10 |
| Redirected from other programs | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Continuing from previous year | NA | 7 | 16 | 24 |
| = Total in the program at the site | 7 | 16 | 27 | 31 |
| Credit hours, majors in program courses\*\* | 0 | 0 | 36 | 118 |
| Graduates |  |  |  | 3 |

\* Do not include current year.

\*\* This is the total number of credit hours generated by the majors in the required or elective program courses. The same numbers are used in Appendix B – Budget.

Development of Estimates

The estimates in the table were developed based on several factors:

* the need for more SDSU program options at UC in Rapid City
* inquiries made by potential students to UC-Rapid City and to SDSU main campus
* the need for a feeder program to the graduate programs at UC-RC (Education and Counseling)

Impact on Existing Programs

It is not expected that this degree program will impact enrollment in the on-campus degree program in Brookings. The University anticipates that the majority of students will come from the local community and surrounding rural areas.

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| **4. Complete the table and explain any special circumstances. Attach a copy of the program as it appears in the current catalog. If any program modifications are requested, attach that form. Explain how the new courses will be delivered. Attach the new course request forms.** |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| South Dakota State University  BS in Interdisciplinary Studies | Credit hours | Credits currently available from this university online | Credits currently available from other universities available at this site | Credits new to this site |
| System General Education Requirements | 30 |  | 30 | None |
| Institutional Graduation Requirements | 5 | 3 |  | 2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Subtotal, Degree Requirements | 35 | 3 | 30 | 2 |
| Required Support Courses | 0 |  |  |  |
| Major Required credits | 8 | 8 |  |  |
| Major Electives or Minor | 32 | 9 |  | 23 |
| Subtotal, Requirements of the Major | 40 | 17 |  | 23 |
| Free Electives credits | 45 | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| Total, Degree with Proposed Major | 120 | 35 | 45 | 40 |

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| **5. How will you provide student services comparable to those available for students on the main campus?** |

A program area advisor will serve as the advisor to students in the major and will maintain an appointment schedule to meet the needs of students at the University Center in Rapid City. Appointments may also be scheduled using Skype, teleconferencing, and Elluminate to meet the needs of students traveling from remote locations. The Student Services Advisors will also provide onsite general support to students in the program.

Library support services will be available to students through a variety of means:

* Faculty may place materials on reserve for student use in D2L.
* Distance librarians from Briggs Library will provide materials to students through its distance library services as needed.
* SDSU students in online classes will have access to EBSCO host and other electronic databases available through Briggs Library. A distance access librarian is also available to these students.

Other student services such as disability services accommodations will be available to students upon request.

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| **6. Is this program accredited by a specialized accrediting body? If so, address any program accreditation issues and costs related to offering the program at the new site(s).** |

There is no specific program accreditation for Interdisciplinary Studies.

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| **7. Does the University request any exceptions to Board policy for delivery at the new site(s)? Explain requests for exceptions to Board policy.** |

None

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| **8. Costs, Budget & Resources Related to New Courses at the Site:** **Explain the amount and source(s) of any one-time and continuing investments in personnel, professional development, release time, instructional technology and software, other O&M, facilities, student services, etc needed to implement the program at the new site(s).** *Complete Appendix B – Budget using the system form.* |

The program will be funded from self-support tuition revenue.

A budget is NOT provided because no additional courses will be needed to offer the Bachelor’s in Interdisciplinary Studies.

Courses will be taught by SDSU faculty, faculty from other Regental institutions, and additional adjunct faculty. If enrollment in the program grows to a level where a new faculty member is needed, the position will be funded with self-support tuition revenue.

No additional classroom or laboratory resources are required to offer this program at University Center – Rapid City.

**Appendix A**

**Bachelor’s of Interdisciplinary Studies Curriculum**

*South Dakota State University Undergraduate Bulletin 2012-2013*

Requirements for Interdisciplinary Studies Major

System General Education Requirements\*: 30

Goal #1 Written Communication: ENGL 101\* and ENGL 201\* Credits: 6

Goal #2 Oral Communication Credits: 3

Goal #3 Social Sciences/Diversity Credits: 6

Goal #4 Arts and Humanities/Diversity Credits: 6

Goal #5 Mathematics Credits: 3

Goal #6 Natural Sciences Credits: 6

Institutional Graduation Requirements\*\*: 5

Goal #1 First Year Experience Credits: 2

Goal #2 Culture Awareness and Social and Environmental Responsibility Credits: 3

Major Requirements: 40

IDL 262 - Foundations of Interdisciplinary Studies Credits: 3

IDL 362 - Interdisciplinary Inquiry and Integration Credits: 2

UC 489 - Transition to Careers Credits: 1

IDL 479 - Interdisciplinary Studies Capstone (AW) Credits: 2

Plan of Study courses selected by student Credits: 32

Electives: 42

Total Required Credits: 120