

The Department of Global Interdisciplinary Studies

Chinese Studies Major (GIS)

Chairperson: Chiji Akoma, Ph.D.

Office Location: 36 Garey Hall

Telephone: 610-519-6302

[\[Website\]](#)

About

The Department of Global Interdisciplinary Studies (GIS) provides students with a tripartite of skills, knowledge, and values that foster critical thinking, problem solving, and preparation for responsible global citizenship. Students gain an understanding of global studies, acquiring the know-how in global and digital literacy, cultural diversity and intercultural competences, interdisciplinary research, and a passion for social justice, nurtured in experiential learning.

Required Major Courses (36 credits)

The Chinese language is spoken by over one billion people, making it the most spoken language in one country in the world, while it continues to gain global ascendancy and influence. Chinese Studies offers students extensive instruction in Chinese language coupled with interdisciplinary studies that position the language and culture of China within subject areas with global significance. Students will study Chinese to advanced levels, including taking courses on translation, with a capstone thesis partially written in Chinese. Sitting for external proficiency exams provides language certification, and a required Study Abroad experience provides experiential learning that re-enforces cultural literacy.

Course	Title	Credits
GIS 2000	Intro to Global Interd Studies	3
GIS 5011	GIS Select	3
GIS 5000	Special Topics	1
GIS 6500	Capstone I: Research	3
GIS 6600	Capstone 2:Thesis	3
	Intermediate Chinese Courses	8
	Advanced Chinese Courses	12
	Asian Studies Course with Attribute	3

Core Curriculum Requirements (44 credits)

Course	Title	Credits
ACS 1000	Ancients	3
ACS 1001	Moderns	3
THL 1000	Faith, Reason, and Culture	3
PHI 1000	Knowledge, Reality, Self	3
ETH 2050	The Good Life:Eth & Cont Prob	3
	Mathematics or Statistics (1 course)	3
	Natural Science (2 courses with laboratory)	8
	Literature and Writing Seminar (1 course)	3
	History (1 course)	3
	Social Sciences (2 courses)	6
	Fine Arts (1 course)	3
	Upper-Level Theology (1 course)	3
	Language Requirement	
	Diversity Requirement (2 courses)	

Free Elective Requirement (42 credits)

Students with a Chinese Studies primary major have forty-two (42) required free elective credits.

Degree Credit Summary

- **Major Credits:** 36 credits
- **Core Credits:** 44 credits
- **Free Electives Credits:** 42 credits
- **Total Required Credits:** 122 Credits

SECONDARY MAJOR

Students who declare Chinese Studies as a **secondary major** must complete the Required Major Courses to achieve this major. Students are able to count any eligible course taken in their primary major, the core curriculum, minors, concentrations, or free electives toward these requirements.