Interdisciplinary Studies is a great way to build your own concentration and tailor your coursework toward a rewarding career of your choosing. The idea of an interdisciplinary program is to combine coursework from multiple subject areas that fit together toward an academic goal or career interest. Find out more information about the Bachelor’s degree program by visiting our web site at http://www.coastal.edu/ids/.

Follow these steps to ensure you will be successful in the Interdisciplinary Studies program:

**Step 1: General Interest**
Before joining the program.

- Gain an initial understanding of Interdisciplinary Studies through information gathering. Access the program web site for specifics and explore broad concepts of interdisciplinarity by searching online.
- Schedule and attend a meet & greet with the Academic Advisor to learn more about the program.
- Resources: About the Program, Academic Advisor.

**Step 2: Career Selection**
Before joining the program.

- Students interested in Interdisciplinary Studies must first identify a specific career interest.
- If unclear on potential careers, set up an appointment with Career Services to discuss vocational opportunities, complete interest and ability inventories, and gain personal & professional insight.
- Select a potential career based on your interests and abilities. Search for information about the career, including specific education and experience requirements necessary for entry level jobs in the field. If the selected career requires graduate school, search for admissions requirements.
Step 3: Pre-Major Declaration
When ready to join the program.

- First Year Students select Undeclared on the Freshman Application through Admissions. Students are not permitted into the Interdisciplinary Studies program until Sophomore year, however any interested students may request the Interdisciplinary Studies Academic Advisor during Orientation.
- Transfer Students select Interdisciplinary Studies on the Transfer Application through Admissions. Students will meet with the Interdisciplinary Studies Academic Advisor during Transfer Orientation.
- Re-Admitted Students returning from an absence select Interdisciplinary Studies on the Re-Admit Application through Admissions. After receiving an acceptance letter, students should contact the Interdisciplinary Studies Academic Advisor to introduce themselves and schedule an appointment.
- Current Students enrolled at Coastal should contact their present Academic Advisor and request a signed Change of Major form. Bring the form to the Interdisciplinary Studies Academic Advisor.
- Resources: Admissions, Apply to CCU, Forms, Academic Advisor.

Step 4: Coursework Selection
After joining the pre-major program.

- Consider the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in your chosen career field.
- Use the Search for Sections function in WebAdvisor and the course descriptions in the Catalog to identify coursework labeled 300-499 that will assist you in gaining knowledge and skills for your career. Focus on courses or disciplines that will fit together academically & vocationally.
- Make a list of the coursework identified in your search and record the associated prerequisites. Then, meet and collaborate with the Academic Advisor to generate an academic plan for success.
- Resources: Program Concentrations, WebAdvisor, University Catalog, Academic Advisor.

Step 5: Formal Major Declaration
After identifying applicable coursework.

- Complete the Interdisciplinary Studies Declaration form to request acceptance into the major. Each student's formal Declaration is subject to review, editing and approval by faculty committee.
- In order to complete the Declaration, students must be able to identify 30 credit hours of previous, present, or future coursework labeled 300-499 that fit together toward an academic or career goal. Students must also type a well-written essay explaining their career interest and course selection.
- Resources: Forms.

Step 6: Academic Advisement
Consistently, each semester in the program.

- Students may request guidance or assistance from the Academic Advisor at any point throughout the year, however all students must meet one-on-one for advisement once each semester before the registration date. Around midterm of the currently enrolled semester, use the My Registration Appt Time function in WebAdvisor to discover your exact registration date and time.
- Use the Schedule Advising Appointment function in WebAdvisor to locate the Interdisciplinary Studies Academic Advisor meeting times listed under University College. Advisement meetings can be scheduled before, during, or after registration in March & April, and October & November.
- After attending an advisement meeting, students will be able to use the Register for Sections function in WebAdvisor in order to sign up for classes at their specific Registration Appt Time.
- Resources: WebAdvisor, Academic Advisor.
Step 7: Graduation & Commencement
After approval of formal major declaration.

- Access the Program Evaluation function in WebAdvisor to check progress toward degree each semester before and after registration. After registering for the final semester of courses, the Program Evaluation should read "(Pending (Anticipated Complete))" or "(Complete);" if the summary reads "(Incomplete)," then you should contact the Academic Advisor for clarification.
- Complete the Graduation Application. Submit payment for the Diploma Application Fee through WebAdvisor. Then, bring the application form & receipt of payment to the Academic Advisor.
- Anticipate correspondence from the Office of the Registrar and the Office of Special Events.
- Resources: WebAdvisor, Forms, Commencement, Academic Advisor.

Step 8: Career Advancement
During Senior year of study & after graduation.

- Practice explaining your interdisciplinary studies program to potential employers including your advanced knowledge, developed skills, & achievement through experiential learning.
- Utilize the resources at Career Services to help you successfully build a professional resume and cover letter, search for applicable careers, develop interview skills, and apply for jobs.
- Career Services is available for assistance to all current students and successful graduates; the Alumni Relations office can also connect with and assist individuals with a degree from Coastal.
- Resources: Career Services, Alumni Relations