

ASSOCIATE DEGREE IN

# MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

The associate degree in Multidisciplinary Studies is a liberal arts program designed to provide a well-rounded education for students interested in careers in business, law, government, education, or social services. It is ideal for students interested in careers in business, law, government, education, social services, and other areas.

The objective of the degree program is to broaden students' understanding, interests, and skills and to help students become more responsible, productive members of the community. Working closely with an adviser, students may use elective credits to build an even stronger expertise in areas in business, social sciences, humanities, sciences, or foreign languages, which will provide excellent preparation for careers in those fields, to continue their studies in a baccalaureate degree program at Penn State Berks, at another Penn State campus, or at another location.

## Career Opportunities

The program is enhanced by the opportunity to transfer to baccalaureate degrees at Penn State Berks, including Communication Arts and Sciences, Global Studies, or Business, as well as a wide variety of baccalaureate majors offered at Penn State University Park campus, at other Penn State campuses, and at other educational institutions.

The degree can also serve as a pre-professional entry to programs that require two years of college. In addition, the associate degree program is a common choice for non-traditional students who want a college degree but are not ready to make a four-year commitment. For such students, the associate degree program serves as a motivating first step toward future studies.



## Career Services

The associate degree in Multidisciplinary Studies provides a solid foundation for careers in a wide variety of fields. With proper planning and advising, graduates can also make the transition into one of Penn State Berks' baccalaureate degree programs. The Penn State Berks Office of Career Services maintains a strong relationship with local and regional employers, and assists program graduates with career placement.



**PennState**  
Berks

For more information, please visit

**BERKS.PSU.EDU**

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## Course Requirements

The 60-credit program emphasizes critical thinking, understanding differing points of view, problem solving, and active and collaborative learning. Some of the required courses include: English composition, communication, arts, humanities, and science. Students may choose an area of concentration (usually nine credits) in one of the following fields:

- Arts
- Humanities
- Social and behavioral sciences
- Natural sciences and quantification
- Foreign language skills

## What Will I Learn?

Students in Multidisciplinary Studies will develop skills conducive to their future academic and professional endeavors. Students will learn to:

- Use oral and written communication skills persuasively;
- Develop the capacity to read, integrate, and respond analytically and intuitively to content in various academic disciplines, including humanities, mathematics, social sciences, sciences, and the arts;
- Improve their ability to present ideas publicly and to engage and inform a live audience;
- Draft successful papers in stages, to respond critically and constructively to the work of their fellow students, and to thereby enhance their own writing;
- Effectively use information systems;
- Use appropriate tools (databases, documents, etc.) to critically evaluate important academic issues and interpret these sources for bias and validity;
- Critically evaluate and/or conduct research; and
- Evaluate United States and global cultural and societal issues theoretically and critically.

Dr. Thomas Lynn

Program Chair

610-396-6298 [TJL7@psu.edu](mailto:TJL7@psu.edu)

## Admission Process

Applying for degree admission to Penn State Berks is simple. Applications are available on the web at [berks.psu.edu](http://berks.psu.edu). Penn State reviews applications throughout the year. Students can expect a decision within four to six weeks after completing the process. Contact the Berks Admissions Office with your questions at 610-396-6060.

## Transfer Students

Penn State Berks welcomes students who began their education at other institutions. Contact the Berks Admissions Office with your transfer questions at 610-396-6060.

## Financial Aid

Eligibility for all financial aid is determined by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form available on the web at [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov). Contact the financial aid coordinator at Berks or visit [psu.edu/studentaid](http://psu.edu/studentaid) for a complete description of the types of available student aid and the application process at 610-396-6070.

THIS PUBLICATION IS AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATIVE MEDIA ON REQUEST.

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