

MASTER OF ARTS IN INTERCULTURAL STUDIES

Available on the San Francisco, CA and Jackson Campuses

Mission

To provide a rigorous interdisciplinary program in intercultural studies designed to complement academic and professional preparation in a variety of fields.

Admission Information

Admissions requirements

All students, whether degree-seeking or non-degree-seeking, who wish to take MAIS courses must meet the prescribed admission criteria.

Applicants should submit the following to the MAIS office:

- Official transcript(s) showing completion of baccalaureate degree and all undergraduate and graduate coursework attempted.
- Official transcript(s) indicating a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale of all undergraduate and post-baccalaureate coursework.
- An official GRE score (Graduate Record Exam)
- A completed Application to MAIS
- Non-native speakers of English must have a minimum score of 560 (paper) or 220 (computer) on the TOEFL
- A \$25 application processing fee
- Three letters of professional/academic reference specifying the applicant's ability for graduate study

Conditional Admission

Students who do not meet the minimum requirements for admission may apply to the Admissions Committee for conditional admission. The committee may request a writing sample and/or interview with the prospective student. The committee may then recommend that the student be admitted conditionally. After successfully completing one semester in the MAIS program including a minimum of 6 hours of UU courses with at least a 3.0 average, the student may appeal to the Program Director for full admission to the MAIS.

Program Features

The curriculum for the program consists of two components, the 27-hour MAIS core curriculum and a 12-hour professional component approved by the program director. The delivery system for the MAIS core is non-traditional and based on a modified cohort model. A group of up to 20 students will pursue each of the nine MAIS courses together. The cohort will be divided into study groups of eight to ten students. Prior to the beginning of the semester, students will receive a reading list and assignments for the first course session. Instruction will begin with an intensive class meeting with the professor early in the semester. For the second segment of the course, students will meet with their study group on a weekly basis for discussion of research and project development. An MAIS program representative may facilitate these meetings, as the instructor deems necessary. Throughout

this period, the instructor may also interact with students through on-line activities or discussions. Finally, the cohort will meet for a second intensive class meeting to complete the course. Dates and times for the intensive sessions and interim class meetings will be announced at preregistration each semester.

Graduation Requirements

1. Completion of the 27 hours of required MAIS course work.
2. Completion of a 12-hour professional component approved by the program director.
3. A minimum grade point average of 3.0 for the required course of study.
4. Transfer credit: maximum 12 hours with grades of B or higher and approval of Director.

Financial Information

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| Application Fee: | \$ 25 |
| Graduation Fee: | 25 |
| Tuition/semester hour: | 300 |

Financial Aid

The M.A.I.S. program does not qualify for Federal Stafford Loans. However, the student may contact the Financial Aid Office about private alternative loans.

Course Descriptions: Intercultural Studies (ICS)

510 Intercultural Communication (3)

An examination of intercultural communication with a focus on self-awareness and developing effective communication.

515 International Professional Realities and Opportunities (3)

An introduction to the professional intercultural environment designed to help the student develop an awareness and understanding of the skills needed to develop a professional platform for employment in other cultures.

520 Organizational Systems of Society (3)

A study of systems encountered across cultures. Emphasis is on the development of skills for the recognition and assessment of systems with a focus on developing strategies for successful interaction with these systems.

525 Field Research Methods (3)

A course designed to provide students with conceptual tools and research skills in the area of comparative cultural studies. The hands-on approach helps students prepare to design and conduct their own ethnographic research in culturally diverse settings.

530 Field Data Analysis and Strategic Planning (3)

A course that builds on in-class and applied field research knowledge by guiding students through the process of

field data analysis. Attention is given to both qualitative and quantitative analytical methods. Students participate in process-focused learning and writing workshops which culminate in the preparation of case-study reports based on their field research/ data.

535 Artistic and Intellectual Expressions of Culture (3)

An emphasis on how to develop learning skills to understand the lexicon, grammar, and semantics of other intellectual and artistic systems encountered across cultures.

540 Language and Culture (3)

A study of language development and its relationship to culture. Examines principles of language acquisition and language teaching methodologies.

545 Capstone Seminar (3)

An integration of interdisciplinary principles, themes, and concepts learned in the study of intercultural interaction and understanding.

555 Field Experience (3)

Field experience in which students will conduct ethnographic research. All projects must have instructor's approval.