

# INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

## Ben Gatling, Interim Director

5200 Horizon Hall  
Fairfax Campus

Phone: 703-993-8762  
Website: [mais.gmu.edu](https://mais.gmu.edu)

The master of arts degree program in interdisciplinary studies (MAIS) is designed for students who seek a degree that integrates knowledge from several disciplines. It addresses a rapidly evolving demand for specialized and individualized graduate study. Students choose one of seven structured concentrations or devise an individualized program of study when traditional degree programs do not meet their evolving careers or life goals.

The degree requires coursework from a home department and selected courses from other disciplines. Students complete their degrees with a project or thesis.

## Concentrations

Students pursuing a master's degree program in interdisciplinary studies can choose established concentrations in these areas:

- Computational Social Science
- Energy and Sustainability
- Religious Studies
- Social Entrepreneurship
- Social Justice and Human Rights
- War and the Military in Society
- Women and Gender Studies

For a variety of reasons, traditional graduate programs are not able to meet the specific educational goals of some students. They can choose an individualized concentration. With the help of a faculty advisor, they design an individualized program of study that includes courses from several academic disciplines.

## Faculty

## Concentration Heads

### Associate Professors

Lisa C Breglia (<https://mais.gmu.edu/people/lbreglia/>)  
Maria M Dakake (<https://mais.gmu.edu/people/mdakakem/>)  
Benjamin Gatling (<https://mais.gmu.edu/people/bgatling/>)  
Christopher H. Hamner (<https://mais.gmu.edu/people/chamner/>)

### Term Associate Professors

Anamaria Berea (<https://mais.gmu.edu/people/aberea/>)  
Rachel A. Lewis (<https://mais.gmu.edu/people/rlewis13/>)  
Shayna Maskell (<https://mais.gmu.edu/people/smaskell/>)

### Term Assistant Professors

Samuel L. Frye (<https://mais.gmu.edu/people/sfrye4/>)

## Programs

- Interdisciplinary Studies, MAIS