MULTIDISCIPLINARY ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

To enrich the curricular opportunities available to students and faculty, the Yale College Faculty authorized the creation of multidisciplinary academic programs in the Yale College and a framework for approving them. These programs provide opportunities for Yale College students to examine pressing social challenges from a variety of disciplinary perspectives among a community of students and faculty who have shared interests. Students from any major can apply to these programs, and faculty from across the university participate in them. Each program focuses centrally on a distinct and different set of issues, but they all share common features, including a core curriculum—beginning with a gateway course and culminating in a senior capstone project—and opportunities for practical experience that allow students to combine theory and practice, applying what they have learned in the classroom and in their research. Education Studies, Energy Studies, Global Health Studies, and Human Rights Studies are the current multidisciplinary academic programs offered in Yale College.

Combinations of majors, multidisciplinary academic programs, skills-based and interdisciplinary certificates, and degree programs are limited by the Academic Regulations in Yale College to ensure that students configure combinations that will best serve the purposes of a liberal arts education. In general, students are limited to three combinations of curricular options, so that they are better able to organize their interests into coherent sets of courses.

Additionally, no more than two course credits may overlap in the fulfillment of the requirements of a major, two majors, a multidisciplinary academic program, a certificate, or a simultaneous degree. Students may not apply the same course credit toward the requirements of more than two curricular programs. For example, the same course credit may not be used to fulfill the requirements of two certificates and a major.

See Curricular Combinations and Course Overlap Allowances in Yale College Programs of Study for more information.

Yale College is no longer inviting proposals for new multidisciplinary academic programs, having approved the creation of certificate programs.

For purposes of consistent and reliable record keeping, the University Registrar’s Office is the official repository of information about who has been admitted to and who has completed such multidisciplinary programs.