Are you looking for an academic option outside the College of Education? Consider pursuing a new major that allows you to focus on your strengths and career interests, while using some of the classes you’ve already taken.

**Options in the College of Social Science (CSS)**

**Interdisciplinary Studies in Social Science (IDS)**

Community Governance & Advocacy Concentration

A major that explores issues and problems related to community organizations, political or social advocacy, governance, private-public sector partnerships, philanthropy, and other local, state, or regional matters. Course offerings deal with physical development, social interaction, race and ethnicity, family, gender, economics, and politics as they relate to challenges of community life.

**Examples of Career Options:**
- Community and governmental agencies and organizations that provide human services within changing societies and serve children, youth, and families
- Work for state and federal government agencies, nonprofits, and other advocacy organizations

**Skill Sets Similar to Teaching Majors:**
- Appreciation for diversity, interest in social change, interpersonal skills, decision making, problem solving, advocacy, helping people

**Differences:**
- Does not lead to K-12 teacher certification

**Education-Related Courses that Meet IDS Degree Requirements:**
- University Requirements
- Planned Program Courses: HST 202, GEO 204, LIN 200, LIN 401, MTH 201/202
- Special Education Courses: PSY 101
- Teachable Major Courses:
  - Arts & Letters: STA, ENG, LIN, LLT, CLA, THR
  - Social Science: EC, PLS, HST, GEO
  - Natural Science: BS, PSL, ZOL, PHY, GLG, AST, CEM
- Electives Allowed: Between 0-16 credits

**Steps for Changing Major to IDS:**
1. Meet with an IDS academic advisor
2. Advisor sends request for major change to college office

**IDS**

**Overview of Degree Program:**
[ids.socialscience.msu.edu/ids/about](ids.socialscience.msu.edu/ids/about)

**Academic Advisor**
- Nicolas Gisholt, gisholt@msu.edu
  [cis-ss.msu.edu/ids/Gisholt](cis-ss.msu.edu/ids/Gisholt)

**Career Consultant**
- Amy Deitrickson, 517-432-0746
deitricksona@ssc.msu.edu
  [careernetwork.msu.edu/advising](careernetwork.msu.edu/advising)
**CHILD DEVELOPMENT (CD)**

**Concentration in Preschool Teaching in an Early Childhood Setting**

A major that combines a basic education in child development and family studies with a broad general education and preparation related to employment in early childhood education settings.

**Examples of Career Options:**
- Child-related aspects of fields such as policy, health care, or administration
- Work for Head Start programs, preschools, recreational facilities, foster care organizations, day care centers, or social services

**Skill Sets Similar to Teaching Majors:**
- Active listening, critical thinking, cross-disciplinary coordination, working with young children & families, student assessment & program evaluation, advocacy, helping people
- Can teach in pre-K settings that do not require teaching certificate

**Differences:**
- Does not lead to K-12 teacher certification

**Education-Related Courses that Meet CD Degree Requirements:**
- University Requirements
- Planned Program Courses: HST 202, GEO 204, LIN 200, LIN 401, MTH 201/202
- Special Education Courses: CEP 240, PSY 101
- Teachable Major Courses:
  - Arts & Letters: STA, ENG, LIN, LTT, CLA, THR
  - Social Science: EC, PLS, HST, GEO
  - Natural Science: BS, PSL, ZOL, PHY, GLG, AST, CEM
- Electives Allowed: Between 0-20 credits

**Steps for Changing Major to CD:**
1. Meet with a Child Development academic advisor
2. Advisor sends request for major change to college office

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**HUMAN DEVELOPMENT & FAMILY STUDIES (HDFS)**

A major for those committed to improving the health and well-being of diverse individuals and families across the lifespan through research, teaching, and professional practice.

**Examples of Career Options:**
- Community & governmental agencies and organizations that provide human services within changing societies and serve children, youth, and families
- Work for adoption agencies, government agencies, recreational facilities, disability services, nonprofits
- May apply for provisional certification as a Family Life Educator or Child Life Specialist through this program

**Skill Sets Similar to Teaching Majors:**
- Empathy, appreciation for diversity, interest in social change, communication, decision making, problem solving, educating others, advocacy, helping people

**Differences:**
- Does not lead to K-12 teacher certification

**Education-Related Courses that Meet HDFS Degree Requirements:**
- University Requirements
- Planned Program Courses: HST 202, GEO 204, LIN 200, LIN 401, MTH 201/202
- Special Education Courses: PSY 101
- Teachable Major Courses:
  - Arts & Letters: STA, ENG, LIN, LTT, CLA, THR
  - Social Science: EC, PLS, HST, GEO
  - Natural Science: BS, PSL, ZOL, PHY, GLG, AST, CEM
- Electives Allowed: Between 0-16 credits

**Steps for Changing Major to HDFS:**
1. Meet with an HDFS academic advisor (see information on Meagan Mitin above)
2. Advisor sends request for major change to college office
AGRICULTURE, FOOD & NATURAL RESOURCES EDUCATION (AFNRE)
Non-Teacher Certification Track

A major that engages students by building a foundation of knowledge in sustainability, agriculture, food, natural resources, and education. It focuses on expanding learning opportunities and integrating coursework with leadership and entrepreneurship skills. Graduates demonstrate proficiency in the following areas: critical thinking, systems thinking, ecological literacy, economic literacy, boundary crossing, community, equity, civic engagement, leadership, ethics, initiative and practical skills. In addition, students gain experiences and knowledge related to program development and management, technology, instructional material development, and leadership.

Examples of Career Options:
- Future Farmers of America (FFA) advisor, extension or community education, consulting, work with nonprofits

Skill Sets Similar to Teaching Majors:
- Teaching & training, program planning, active learning, problem solving, relationship building, helping people, advocacy

Differences:
- Does not lead to K-12 teacher certification

Education-Related Courses that Meet AFNRE Degree Requirements:
- University Requirements
- Planned Program Courses: MTH 201
- Teacher Education Courses: TE 150, TE 250
- Teachable Major Courses:
  - Natural Science: BS 161, BS 162, BS 172, CEM 141, ZOL 355, ZOL 355L
  - Social Science: EC 201/202
- Electives Allowed: Between 0-15 credits

Steps for Changing Major to AFNRE:
1. Email Dr. Michael Everett at everettm@msu.edu to schedule an appointment
2. Follow the advisor’s instruction for completing the major change

AFNRE
Overview of Degree Program:
[canr.msu.edu/majors/](http://canr.msu.edu/majors/)
[environmental_studies_and_agriscience](#)

Academic Advisor
- Dr. Michael Everett
  everettm@msu.edu, 517-432-0292
  [canr.msu.edu/undergraduate/](http://canr.msu.edu/undergraduate/)
  [undergraduate_advisors](#)

Career Consultant
- Jill Cords
  j cords@msu.edu, 517-355-0234
  [careernetwork.msu.edu/advising](#)

OTHER MAJORS & MINORS TO CONSIDER

MAJORS
- Linguistics (CAL)
- Psychology or Sociology (CSS)
- Sustainable Parks, Recreation, & Tourism (CANR)

MINORS
- Leadership & Integrated Learning (Bailey Scholars Program—College of Agriculture & Natural Resources)
- Educational Studies (College of Education)
- Linguistics (CAL)
- Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (CAL)
- Women’s & Gender Studies (CAL)
- Cognitive Science (CAL)
- Global Studies in Arts & Humanities (CSS)

For more information on majors, minors & specializations, go to
[reg.msu.edu/academicprograms](http://reg.msu.edu/academicprograms)
OPTIONS IN THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS (CAL)

INTERDISCIPLINARY HUMANITIES (IDH)

This major is ideal for students who seek a broad liberal education. It offers study in several fields of knowledge which have a close intellectual relationship and illuminate each other. The major consists of courses in three student-selected “triads” (e.g., TE, CEP, HST, Social Studies, MTH, Science) to help a student gain cross-disciplinary knowledge.

Examples of Career Options:
- Human services, government, law, or general business
- Work in museums, nonprofits, research, communication

Skill Sets Similar to Teaching Majors:
- Analytical thinking, written communication, verbal communication, cultural competence, people skills, teamwork, leadership, helping others

Differences:
- Does not lead to K-12 teacher certification

Education-Related Courses that Meet IDH Degree Requirements:
- University Requirements
- Planned Program Courses: LIN 200, LIN 401, MTH 201/202
- Teachable Major Courses:
  - Arts & Letters: STA, ENG, LIN, LLT, CLA, THR
  - Additional courses may apply depending on “triads” chosen by student
- Electives Allowed: Between 0-20 credits

PLEASE NOTE: CAL requires 2 years of a foreign language

Steps for Changing Major to IDH:
1. Meet with a IDH academic advisor
2. Follow the advisor’s instruction for completing the major change

IDH

Overview of Degree Program:
cal.msu.edu/academics/undergraduate

Academic Advisor
- Laura Essig
  essiglau@msu.edu, 517-355-0366
cal.msu.edu/current-students/advising/schedule-appointment/

Career Consultant
- Becky Brewer
  brewerre@msu.edu
  517-432-8257
careernetwork.msu.edu/advising

Laura Essig

Need more help choosing a major/career path?
Talk to a College of Education advisor. We’re here to help you.

Janet Chedwidden
Academic Advising
chedw11@msu.edu
517-353-9685

Joella Cogan
Academic Advising
coganj@msu.edu
517-432-2733

Kristy Dumont
Academic Advising
dumontk@msu.edu
517-353-9684

Michael Zaborowski
Academic Advising
zaborowm@msu.edu
517-355-1827

Pepa Casselman
Career Advising
carls173@msu.edu
517-353-9682

College of Education Student Affairs Office, 134 Erickson Hall, 517-353-9680, education.msu.edu/resources/students/student-affairs