

Individualized Studies Assessment Plan

Mission Statement: Buffalo State's Individualized Studies major fosters cross-disciplinary learning. Its students devise unique and challenging programs that achieve unity by building upon the resources of diverse elements. INS students therefore demonstrate the ability to think beyond the confines of traditional compartmentalized boundaries in service to an independent academic vision that is informed by effective advisement. Individualized Studies students:

- Demonstrate direct responsibility for the quality of their learning
- Demonstrate effective critical thinking skills through personal program design and the ability to synthesize diverse resources into a rigorous course of study
- Demonstrate research skill, as well as practical competence, through a required capstone experience

STUDENT OUTCOMES	MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT	ASSESSMENT MEASURES
Students will identify learning objectives that lead to an intentional course of study.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Required admission interview • Multiple advisement sessions • Referral to colleague offices, such as Career Development • Identification of capstone experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal admission application essays • Students will identify relevant courses to support a programmatic theme • Student survey responses
Students will demonstrate the ability to synthesize and apply diverse academic fields to achieve a coherent cross-disciplinary course of study.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple advisement sessions • Consultations with college faculty • Consultations with college professional staff, such as Career Development Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of an appropriate degree audit • Appropriate course selection • Appropriate capstone
<p>Students will perform academic research at the senior undergraduate level through a capstone research project.</p> <p>Or....</p> <p>Students will apply academic coursework to a professional environment through a capstone internship.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultations with college faculty • Advisement sessions • Preparation of a coherent project abstract, signifying approval of a discipline-appropriate instructor • Procurement of appropriate internship placement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion/submission of final research project evaluated by instructor • Completion/submission of evaluation of internship site supervisor • Completion/submission of analytical paper about identified internship topic
Students will identify their academic strengths and weaknesses, and then take steps to improve in areas of need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisement sessions • Participation in appropriate academic and student support programs • Consultations with college faculty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of course registration/ schedule preparation to address identified needs • Evidence of modification of programmatic theme, as appropriate • Continuing satisfactory degree progress