

MASTER OF ARTS IN INTERCULTURAL STUDIES

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Mission

Intercultural engagement—including community development, humanitarian outreach, and integrative research skills—is essential for a globalized world and increasingly important to our student population. Union's M.A. in Intercultural Studies (M.A.I.S.)—integrative, academically rigorous, missional—is a 39 credit-hour graduate program that provides its students with an interdisciplinary approach to current theory and research relevant to intercultural engagement.

Admission Information

Admissions requirements

All students, whether degree-seeking or non-degree-seeking, who wish to take M.A.I.S. courses must submit the following information:

- Completed application to the M.A.I.S. and \$25 application fee. (Apply online at uu.edu/applications/graduate/)
- Official transcript(s) showing all course work, completion of baccalaureate degree(s), and all graduate credit previously attempted. Even if withdrawal occurred prior to earning credits and even if those credits do not apply to the current degree being sought, official transcripts must be sent from each institution.
- Official Graduate Record Exam (GRE) score.
- Three references from people who know your academic, communication, and leadership abilities; one must be from a former professor. A copy of the reference form is attached to the application.
- Completed Certificate of Immunization. The certificate is attached to the application.
- A 9–11 page writing sample submitted to the Director of the M.A.I.S.
- A 2–3 page Statement of Purpose, outlining the anticipated research and vocational goals you anticipate achieving through the M.A.I.S.

Additional admissions requirements for international students:

- Visit the International Student page: www.uu.edu/international/forms/graduate-application.pdf
- Contact the Union University International Student Advisor and PDSO, Pam Whitnell: pwhitnell@uu.edu
- Completed International Graduate Student Application: uu.edu/international/forms/MAIS-intl.pdf
- Proof of Finances: uu.edu/international/forms/nances-grad-intl.pdf
- "Certificate of Physical Examination."

- Official TOEFL score of 83 or higher.
- Official evaluation of transcript(s). Approved transcript evaluation companies: Josef Silny & Associates, Educational Credential Evaluators, World Education Services.
- Official evaluation of transcript(s). Union University accepts only National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) certified transcript evaluation companies including but not limited to World Education Services.

Admission and Conditional Admission

Admission to the Master of Arts in Intercultural Studies program is based on the overall record and aptitude of the applicant. The M.A.I.S. Director and the M.A.I.S. Admissions Committee will determine whether to accept or conditionally accept an applicant based on the overall record and aptitude of the candidate.

After successfully completing one semester in the M.A.I.S. program, including a minimum of 6 hours of UU courses with at least a 3.0 average, students who are conditionally admitted, will earn full admission to the program.

Program Features

The curriculum for the program consists of a 27-hour core of classes and a 12-hour emphasis approved by the program director. As a low-residency program, the delivery system for the core classes is intensive and full-time status for a regular semester is 6 graduate credit hours. At other times throughout the course, students complete readings, online course activities and other assignments as required by the professor. Dates for the intensive course meetings are announced as part of the preregistration process each term. Transfer credit: maximum 6 hours with grades of B or higher and approval of Director.

Academic Calendar and Schedules

Calendars and Schedules of Course offerings for the M.A.I.S. program are available from the Program Coordinator.

Graduation Requirements

Completion of the 39 credit hours of required coursework, including an approved 12 credit-hour emphasis with a total minimum grade point average of 3.0 or higher. For more information regarding the 12 credit-hour program emphasis, see the concluding section of this program's catalog entry.

M.A.I.S. Emphases

The M.A.I.S.'s 12-hour program emphasis is designed to enhance a student's learning experience and/or provide specialization for a given student's vocational goals. The Director of the M.A.I.S. works with students to craft emphases that are cohesive, academically rigorous, and interculturally relevant. Primary consideration is given to emphases completed within the MAIS, while secondary consideration is given to emphases completed within Union's graduate coursework.

in pursuing appointment with the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention should consult the Director of the MCS to devise an M.A.I.S. program emphasis that meets IMB's requirements. Course options for the Masters of Christian Studies (MCS) emphasis include the following (see MCS section of the catalogue for course descriptions):

MCS 500 Old Testament I: Promise, Covenant, and Praise
MCS 505 Old Testament II: W<</MCID 2574 >>BDC BT -0.023 Tw 10

Emphases within the M.A.I.S.

Students seeking intercultural theory, research, and internships/ externships work with the M.A.I.S. Program Director to craft an emphasis within the program.

Emphases within Union's graduate programming

Students seeking emphases of a disciplinary nature may propose coursework from other Union graduate programs. Partnering with Union's AACSB-accredited Masters in Business Administration (MBA), the Masters in Christian Studies (MCS), the CSWE-accredited Masters in Social Work (MSW), and the Department of Languages, the MA in Intercultural Studies offers an emphasis in Business, Christian Studies, Social Work, French, and Spanish. The MA in Intercultural Studies also offers graduate training in Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL). These programs provide an integrative framework for current theory, practice, and research for those seeking private and public sector opportunities both stateside and abroad. Students are encouraged to pursue structured field experiences relevant to their vocational interests when available.

Emphases include but are not limited to the following:

Business Emphasis, Intercultural Studies

Business Emphasis Course Options: For the M.A.I.S. program's three-course research sequence, students pursuing this program of study may craft their research around business and commerce-related phenomena. Students will work with the M.A.I.S. Program Director to craft an emphasis best suited for their individual vocational goals. Course options for the Master of Business Administration (MBA) emphasis include the following (see MBA section of the catalogue for course descriptions):
MBA 620 Ethical Management
MBA 621 Business & the Legal Environment
MBA 622 Social Issues in Management
MBA 628 Strategic Marketing
MBA 630 Management Information Systems
MBA 643 Negotiations & Conflict Resolution
MBA 648 Organizational Behavior

Christian Studies Emphasis, Intercultural Studies

Christian Studies Emphasis Course Options: For the M.A.I.S. program's three-course research sequence, students pursuing this program of study may craft their research around theological, faith-based, and/or worship-based phenomena. Students will work with the M.A.I.S. Program Director to craft an emphasis best suited for their individual vocational goals. MAIS students interested

