Dear Prospective Student,

In order to be considered for admission into the Master of Arts (MA) in Interdisciplinary Studies, you are required to write a Letter of Intent. It is important that you adequately address the content requested and demonstrate your potential for graduate-level work through your writing of this important document.

When writing your Letter of Intent, please use the section headings bolded in the document description provided here—in other words, actually copy and paste those into your document. We are pleased that you are interested in our program, and we look forward to reviewing your Letter of Intent.

Sincerely,

The Interdisciplinary Studies Team

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The Letter of Intent, an Admission (aka Entrance) Requirement for the MA in Interdisciplinary Studies

A Letter of Intent is required of all students seeking admission into the MA in Interdisciplinary Studies. This Letter of Intent should be submitted at the time of application (and no later than the end of the student’s first term or “conditional admit” term) and should be sent electronically to interdisciplinary@wnmu.edu. This letter of intent should meet the following formatting guidelines:

- 5 typed-pages (minimum) with page numbers
- 1” margins
- double-spaced
- no unnecessary, extra spacing (use paragraph indentations rather than blank lines between paragraphs)
- 12-point, professional font
- saved as either a Microsoft word (preferred) or pdf document.

Be sure to thoroughly address the following issues using the bolded section headings shown here (in other words, those headings must appear in your document):

1. Student Contact & Concentration Information:
   Include your name, mailing address(es), phone number(s) and email address(es). Also clearly state concentrations with intended hours to be completed in each area.

2. Summary of previous educational (post-secondary) and professional experiences: If relevant, describe previous graduate training. Describe your undergraduate studies. In what professional capacities have you worked that relate to your intended concentration areas or your pursuit of graduate studies in general? For this item, you are focusing on the experiences you have already accumulated, whereas in items 3 and 4 you will focus on goals for the future. Please limit this section to only relevant information. The majority of your document should be spent covering #3 and #4 below. Please note, the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies can provide you with information and assistance if you are intending to transfer graduate credits to our MA degree.

   * As a Letter of Intent, the majority of your writing should be under #3 and #4. Please focus on your interest in the program and goals.

3. Interest in the Program: Describe your interest in this interdisciplinary degree program and how it suits your educational goals. In this section, please clearly state what concentration areas (2-3) you will be pursuing and how you intend to distribute your hours across those fields (e.g., 18 in ENGL, 9 in HIST, etc.). Be clear in describing how BOTH this program and these concentrations will help further your personal and professional goals. It is a great idea to take a degree plan (provided to you by our office) and complete it based on available course rotations within your concentration areas. These rotations are available on the program webpage. Please include this document as an appendix to your letter of intent.

4. Learning Objectives & Outcomes: Articulate some clear learning objectives for the degree and your concentration areas. In other words, what do you really want to get out of this program, and concentration areas, in terms of your knowledge and expertise? Your course selections and learning objectives should align.

5. Other Relevant Personal Information: What special abilities, personal qualities and life experiences do you bring to the program that you would like to mention here? This is your chance to tell us anything about yourself that might explain or illustrate your desire for graduate work in our Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies.