



Interdisciplinary Studies

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

*Imagining, creating and sustaining a more
equitable, just, and humane world*

Program Highlights

The Social Justice and Human Rights (SJHR) concentration in the Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies program allows you to focus your studies around issues you are committed to. This program provides a foundation for understanding the social, political, cultural, historical, and economic implications of an array of social injustices and human rights issues. It emphasizes a global and intersectional approach while engaging students in imagining and applying strategies for creating and sustaining a more equitable, just, and humane world.

Experiential learning is required and opportunities can include internships, service-learning, consulting projects, and field studies or research (including overseas).

Current and former students have focused research and activism on issues such as

- racial justice
- domestic violence prevention
- immigration
- educational rights
- (dis)ability rights
- youth unemployment
- environmental justice
- indigenous rights
- animal rights
- human trafficking

Others have focused on regional contexts such as the Middle East, Central Europe, East Africa, or Central America.

For the most up-to-date application and degree requirements visit:

mais.gmu.edu/programs/la-mais-isin-sjhr

**website: mais.gmu.edu
email: mais@gmu.edu**

Degree Requirements – 36 Total Credits

INTS 540 Contemporary Issues in Social Justice Human Rights – 3 Credits

INTS 537 Critical Race Studies – 3 Credits

WMST 602 Queer Theory or **WMST 630** Feminist Theories – 3 Credits

Social Justice and Human Rights Issues and Movements Course – 3 credits

Research Methods Course – 3 Credits

Emphasis Courses – 6 Credits

- Courses with an emphasis on a specific social justice or human rights issue; the theme of the emphasis courses should be reflected in the student's experiential learning project.

Experiential Learning – 3 Credits

Elective Courses – 6 Credits

MAIS 793 Integrated Learning Experience – 3 credits

Capstone Project or Thesis – 3 Credits

How to Apply

Along with the completed Application for Graduate Admission and application fee, applicants should submit:

- Official transcripts from previous institutions of higher education attended
- Goals statement
- Two letters of recommendation
- Resume
- Formal writing sample of at least 1,000 words

See chss.gmu.edu/admissions for complete details on the application process.

MAIS: Design Your Own Degree

The Interdisciplinary Studies (MAIS) program in the College of Humanities & Social Sciences consists of multiple established degree paths that exist in partnership with academic units and faculty across the University. It offers a home for students with broad academic interests who seek a master's degree to help them to create a better world. While their degree paths may vary dramatically, our students share a desire to address critical problems facing the world today.

Available Degree Paths

Computational Social Science
Energy and Sustainability
Individualized Studies
Religious Studies
Social Entrepreneurship
Social Justice and Human Rights
War and the Military in Society
Women and Gender Studies