

Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program (IIDP) bylaws

I. IIDP Objectives

- a. The Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program (IIDP) at Washington State University is designed for graduate students who wish to pursue research that transcends traditional disciplines' boundaries by leveraging and combining insights from two or more disciplines.
- b. The Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program (IIDP) graduate degree is a Ph.D. The WSU system awards this degree through The Graduate School, physically located in Pullman, WA, USA.
- c. Two degree-specific courses (INTERDIS 591 and INTERDIS 598), which prepare the students for the qualifying examination, are listed on the Pullman Schedule of Classes. IIDP students are expected to complete INTERDIS 591 and INTERDIS 598 by the end of their third semester of the program.

II. Individual Interdisciplinary Program Executive Committee

- a. The Program Executive Committee oversees IIDP curriculum, admission, examination, and scholarship.
- b. The Program Executive Committee includes the Associate Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary Initiatives, the Associate Vice Provost for Graduate Academic Programs, and the Associate Vice Provost for Graduate Enrollment Management.

III. Faculty Eligibility

- a. IIDP graduate program faculty who are eligible for an IIDP student's advisory committee are members of the Faculty of the Graduate School and include WSU Graduate Faculty, Associate Graduate Faculty, and Auxiliary Graduate Faculty.
- b. Individuals who are not WSU faculty may serve as advisory committee members on an ad hoc basis.
- c. External advisory committee members must hold a degree comparable to that sought by the student and have specific expertise that is particularly important to the student's proposed program. Examples of external advisory committee members would include faculty from another university or individuals from an appropriate government, business, or industry organization. Such individuals must be nominated to serve on an advisory committee by the chair of the graduate student advisory committee. Nominations are submitted to the vice provost for graduate and professional education, who makes the final decision. A current curriculum vita and nomination form must be included with the request, which is submitted through the GRM along with the Program of Study or Change of Committee form.
- d. All IIDP faculty must have terminal degrees aligned with Washington Administrative Code [250-61-100.2.a-e](#). Exceptions may be approved by the Vice Provost for Graduate and Professional Education Faculty case-by-case.

IV. Composition of an IIDP Student's Doctoral Committee.

- a. An IIDP advisory committee assists students with their formal proposal and guides them throughout their interdisciplinary doctoral program. A minimum of four faculty are required for a IIDP student's doctoral committee. Of the four advisory committee members:
 - i. A minimum of two members must be Graduate Faculty within the Faculty of the Graduate School.
 - ii. Other members may be Associate Graduate Faculty or Auxiliary Graduate Faculty within the Faculty of the Graduate School.
 - iii. Within a four-member committee, no more than one non-WSU faculty may be approved for the committee. To be approved, they must be an expert in the research topic, as documented by a memo from the chair of the student's advisory committee, with a supporting CV.
 - iv. The committee chair must be a Graduate Faculty member and should have previous experience on doctoral committees. An Associate Graduate Faculty member can serve as a co-chair.
 - v. Faculty must be from at least two academic degree-granting departments or programs.
 - vi. At least one of the two academic disciplines must be a Ph.D.-granting unit.

V. IIDP Administration

- a. The Vice Provost for Graduate and Professional Education serves an equivalent role as both graduate program chair and college dean.
- b. The Vice Provost for Graduate and Professional Education may appoint a Program Director and delegate appropriate duties. The Program Director provides overall academic leadership and represents the interests of the program to campus and university administrators.
- c. The IIDP is supported by an Academic Coordinator who supports in all the above activities as needed. They assist the program director with the day-to-day management of the program and with the advising of the IIDP applicants and students.

VI. Dismissal from IIDP

- a. The IIDP will adhere to the Graduate Program Policies & Procedures Manual in determining whether a student meets the academic requirements and make decisions regarding dismissal from the program on a case-by-case basis.
- b. Appeals to dismissals are described in the program handbook.

VII. IIDP Bylaw Amendment

- a. The IIDP bylaws shall be amended by a vote of the Program Executive Committee.