Written English Proficiency Requirement
The University has a requirement for written English proficiency that is to be assessed at two different points in a student's program. **Level One** must be met prior to admission. See above in Eligibility for the Program. A student who fails to meet the writing criteria will not be admitted.

**Level Two** is determined toward the end of the student's program. The dean of Graduate Studies and faculty overseeing the program will assess Level Two writing through review of a final paper from a selected graduate course that requires intensive writing. In addition, the major advisor, in consultation with other committee members as necessary, will determine that the student writes in a "scholarly" manner in the subject area (theme) of the program. Most often the satisfactory completion of a master's thesis or a written field research project will satisfy this second level requirement. How this second level requirement is being met must be indicated on the Advancement to Candidacy (ATC) form.

Advising for the Program
The applicant is responsible for developing the program proposal and obtaining the endorsements of three tenured/tenure-track faculty members of the university eligible to work in graduate programs as defined in the University Bulletin. The primary responsibility for academic program advising will rest with the members of this committee, especially the major advisor. The major advisor must come from a department/program in which a significant amount of the program coursework is to be taken. At least one of the committee members must come from a different department/program from the primary focus of the student's proposal. The dean of Graduate Studies is responsible for the general administration of the program in lieu of the traditional college and department. Students interested in the Interdisciplinary Studies program should meet with a graduate advisor in Administration Building room 254. See the Graduate Studies website for advising information.

Program Requirements
Students in the Interdisciplinary Studies major must complete all requirements for a master's degree offered by the university. In addition, students in the Interdisciplinary Studies program are expected to meet the following standards:

- Maintain close contact with the major advisor and other committee members to assure that the program is carefully planned, and that satisfactory progress is made toward its completion.
- Maintain a 3.0 GPA every semester in all coursework specified for the degree. CR/NC courses are not allowed except for the culminating experience course.
- Make continuous progress toward the degree in every semester until graduation, taking no fewer than nine units toward the degree each year. Courses not related to the degree are not permitted.
- Complete the 30-36 unit degree in no more than five years from the date of enrollment.

Advancement to Candidacy (ATC)
The Advancement to Candidacy form must:

- Include a minimum of 30-semester units of coursework exclusive of special (individual) study, experimental, transfer, and credit-by-examination type of credit.
- Include courses from a minimum of three specified disciplinary areas as directed by the degree advisors;
- Include a minimum of three units of a research methodology and three units of statistics beyond elementary statistics;

Final approval to pursue an interdisciplinary study degree is made by the dean of Graduate Studies.
• At least 70 percent of the units required for the degree must be in graduate level courses (i.e., numbered 700 and above on this campus);
• Include no more than 12 units of coursework in any one discipline;
• Make provision for a three-unit culminating experience requirement (e.g., 898, thesis; 894, creative work project; 895, field research project; etc.) that utilizes a committee of three faculty advisors sitting on the student’s committee; and
• Include the signature of the major and second advisors. The dean of Graduate Studies will review and approve the ATC in lieu of a college coordinator and on behalf of the university.

General Procedures for the Program
Developing an Interdisciplinary Studies degree takes a great deal of initiative, independent thought, and follow-through by the student. To initiate the process:

1. Meet with a Graduate Studies advisor to review program requirements and processes for developing a proposal.
2. Meet with the Dean of Graduate Studies to discuss the degree program.
3. Identify and meet with the primary faculty advisor and two additional tenured or tenure-line faculty members at SF State campus who have the expertise and interest in advising and supporting you in the proposed program of study. The primary faculty advisor must be from a department that offers a graduate degree. Lecturer faculty may not serve on Interdisciplinary Studies committees because lecturer faculty may not be available each semester for advising.
4. When the proposal form has been approved by all three advisors, submit the proposal with the faculty signatures to the Dean of the Graduate Studies for final approval. Following approval, you must be admitted to the University via the online Cal State Apply.