



MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDIES (MDS)

Davis College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Consumer Sciences

Students in the Davis College are offered fields of study that complement a wide variety of careers. Programs are constantly being updated to reflect industry trends, and student initiative is strongly encouraged. Advising is conducted by faculty members, promoting mentorship. Many current students and alumni comment on the small-school feel of the Davis College, citing the individual attention from faculty, substantial extracurricular opportunities, and hands-on learning that enhance our academic experience.

The Davis College has 22 undergraduate major fields of study and a growing number of minors in the academic divisions of animal and nutritional sciences, design and merchandising, forestry and natural resources, plant and soil sciences, and resource management. Our programs allow for considerable flexibility, as several offer individual academic tracks depending on student interests and goals.

Instructional facilities and unique settings offer varied learning opportunities for students. The majority of classrooms, laboratories, design studios and offices are located on WVU's Evansdale Campus. The College also maintains eight farms, a campus greenhouse, and more than 8,000 acres of forest land for teaching and research. Hands-on experiences, service learning, undergraduate research and study abroad are strongly encouraged for students in every program.

The Multidisciplinary Studies (MDS) major in the Davis College of Agricultural, Forestry, and Consumer Sciences is a flexible degree program that allows students and their advisors to tailor a set of courses to meet the students' interest and career plans. The major was developed in response to increasing demands from employers and students for broad based educational programs that prepare students for our rapidly changing society and economies. There are an increasing number of students who wish to tailor their education to their career interests without being constrained by traditional academic majors. The program is distinct from other WVU colleges and schools and is oriented toward students who want to focus their studies on the academic areas of the Davis College.

Program Admission and Curriculum Students who meet University admissions requirements may be accepted directly into the Davis College as Multidisciplinary Studies majors. Students may be admitted as freshmen or transfer students.

There is no requirement for a minimum number of course hours to be completed at WVU before admission to the Davis College MDS Program. To earn a bachelor's degree, students must complete 128 credit hours, including WVU's General Education Curriculum and the requirements for three minors, at least two of which must be minors in the Davis College.

The student, along with his or her faculty advisor from the Davis College, chooses three minors and a program of elective courses that fits the student's focus and career objectives. Students are not limited to courses in a particular area, but have the opportunity to develop expertise in several areas with an interdisciplinary focus.

Employment Opportunities

Graduates of MDS programs often enter the same fields as graduates of more traditional majors. These often include sales, management, and service careers that require problem-solving and communication from an interdisciplinary perspective. Specific examples include urban forestry, international wood industries, landscape design, and sports field manager. Starting salaries are generally comparable to those of most majors. Graduates may use their degrees as foundation of further studies in professional and graduate school.



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Majors in the Davis College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Consumer Sciences

Agribusiness Management & Rural Development:	B
Agricultural & Extension Education:	B, M
Agricultural & Resource Economics:	M
Agriculture, Forestry, & Consumer Sciences:	M
Agroecology:	B
Agronomy:	B, M
Animal & Food Science:	D
Animal & Nutritional Sciences:	B, M
Applied & Environmental Microbiology:	B
Biochemistry:	B
Design Studies:	B
Entomology:	M
Environmental & Natural Resource Economics:	B
Environmental Microbiology:	M
Environmental Protection:	B
Family & Consumer Sciences:	M
Fashion Design & Merchandising:	B
Forest Resources Management:	B
Forest Resources Science:	D
Forestry:	M
Genetics & Developmental Biology:	M, D
Horticulture:	B, M
Human and Community Development:	D
Human Nutrition & Foods:	B
Interior Design:	B
Landscape Architecture:	B
Multidisciplinary Studies:	B
Natural Resource Economics:	D
Plant & Soil Sciences:	D
Plant Pathology:	M
Recreation, Parks, & Tourism Resources:	B, M
Reproductive Physiology:	M, D
Resource Management:	D
Soil Science:	B
Wildlife & Fisheries Resources:	B, M
Wood Science & Technology:	B

B = Bachelor's; M = Master's; D = Doctorate

For more information, visit
www.davis.wvu.edu

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