

## **West Virginia University Multidisciplinary Studies Degree Program**

Hello my name is Professor Evan Widders and I am the director of the Multidisciplinary Studies Program at West Virginia University. I would like to tell you a little about the program.

The Multidisciplinary Studies degree program is comprised of three related minors. The program does not limit students to courses of study in a particular area, but rather stresses the importance of breadth of knowledge and cross-disciplinary communication. The program emphasizes flexibility and combines specialized knowledge from individual disciplines with a unique ability to approach problems from divergent perspectives.

What I am really here today to tell to you about is our new Web MDS program. One of the most exciting aspects of the program is that with Multidisciplinary Studies, you control your education. Simply choose the three minors that best correlate to your educational and career aspirations and begin taking classes. When you complete the required courses, sign up for the MDS Capstone and perfect the ability to market your own unique skill set. You succeed in the program because it is designed for you by you.

Another exciting part of the program is the wide number of minors that are now available through the WVU Extended Learning campus. We offer Business Administration, Entrepreneurship which focus on starting and running a small business, Advertising, Public Relations, Communication Studies, History, and Professional Writing and Editing. You may choose any three of these minors as the basis for your MDS academic program.

The ability to approach problems from an interdisciplinary perspective is an increasingly valuable skill in today's highly specialized society. The breadth of study available to our students empowers them to be successful in any field they choose. Multidisciplinary Studies degree holders are flourishing in business, law school, hospitality, and public administration. They are earning advanced degrees in social work, business administration, and teaching. Some are even striving to succeed as sports agents and play in the NFL.

The first step in joining the program is to apply and be admitted to

West Virginia University as an undergraduate. Upon completion of 58 credit hours of WVU or transfer credit, a student with a 2.0 cumulative grade simply needs to request an **Intent to Declare MDS** form. The form can be sent to the prospective student by email, fax, or mail. Upon the receipt of the completed form by the MDS department, the student will be assigned an advisor. As soon as the University has processed their transcripts, the advisor will provide the student with an evaluation of their transcript, a list of classes required for graduation, and an estimate of the time required to graduate.

For information on how to apply to the program, or simply to learn more, please visit our website at [mds.wvu.edu](http://mds.wvu.edu). We here at the MDS program look forward to hearing from you and helping you complete your educational and career goals.