

UCDHSC
Graduate Interdisciplinary Studies Program
Change of Advisor Form

All incoming students have as their academic advisor either the program director or assistant director. The advisor helps design a course of studies consistent with the students intellectual interests. A student may change advisors if he or she wishes to work with a faculty member outside of the program staff. In this case, students should follow the instructions below, complete this form, and file it with the program office.

Instructions for changing advisors:

1. Contact the original advisor (either the Program Director or Assistant Director) to inform him or her of the change.
2. Contact new advisor and obtain his or her consent to serve as advisor by having him/her sign below.
3. Provide new advisor with a copy of this form and its accompanying advising guidelines.

Old Advisor: _____
(signature)

(print name and date)

New Advisor: _____
(signature)

(print name and date)

Student: : _____
(signature)

(print name and date)

Return the original of this page to the Program offices to be filed. Change of Advisors is not considered official without this signed document.

**Guidelines for Advisors
of students in the UCDHSC
Graduate Interdisciplinary Studies Program (MHMSS)**

Dear Colleagues,

For the Humanities and Social Science programs to run efficiently, we rely on your assistance for the design of students' programs of study. Your role as advisor is to navigate between the student's intellectual interests and your view as to what background is indispensable for either a Master of Social Science or Master of Humanities degree.

For more information on program requirements, please see our Web site at

<http://thunder1.cudenver.edu/ict/index.html>

- Each student is **required to complete 36 credit hours**, which includes a master's thesis (6 credits) **or** a master's project (3 credits) **or** coursework to total 39 hours in the case of non-thesis/non-project students.
- Each student is allowed to take **2 independent study courses** to be included in the 36 hours.
- Each student can take up to **2 upper-division undergraduate courses at the 4000 level only** to apply toward the degree.
- Coursework should cover **at least 3 different disciplines** within either Humanities or Social Science.
- **Humanities students must take 3 mandatory courses:** Methods & Texts in the Humanities (offered each Fall), a Mid-Program Seminar constituted by a graduate level HUM course, and Directed Research and Reading in Interdisciplinary Humanities (offered each Spring). (There are a number of courses which may qualify as the Mid-Program Seminar. Typically they are designated as such in our course listing for that semester. Other courses may qualify if they are sufficiently interdisciplinary.)
- **Social Science students must take 3 mandatory courses:** Elements of Social Thought, Philosophical Problems in Social Sciences and Humanities, and (toward the end of their coursework in preparation for writing a thesis or a project) Research Perspectives in Social Science.

This leaves students up to 30 hours of elective courses (depending on their program concentration or track) that they can take based on their individual interests.

Your role is to help them structure these remaining courses. Please assist students in choosing courses appropriate to their interests within Social Science or Humanities. (History, Communication, and sometimes Philosophy serve as "bridge" disciplines.) Your guidance should provide: (1) an overall distribution of courses to serve as an overview of what constitutes either "Humanities" or "Social Science;" (2) a coherent set

of courses based on the student's interests and your judgment as to what constitutes necessary background; and (3) assistance as to what two or three disciplines should appropriately dominate the student's choices.

For example, all students who graduate from the Humanities program should have taken coursework appropriate for that particular student in history, philosophy, fine arts, literature, etc.—and should be familiar with prominent figures and historical epochs in those areas. Likewise, students who graduate from the Social Science program should have appropriate courses in History, Sociology, Political Theory, etc..., and have commensurate familiarity with thinkers and epochs.

Please make sure that the courses you advise your students to take are those you know to be intellectually demanding.

The above are only guidelines and their purpose is by no means to interfere with your judgment when you are directing a student's program of studies.

To make your task easier, we provide a list of courses that students have taken before applying to our program to inform you about their background. The student will bring the list on her/his first visit with you. Furthermore, we maintain a list of suggested course offerings on our Web site for each semester in advance of registration.

Thank you for working with our students. We appreciate it.

Myra Bookman, Program Director
Margaret Woodhull, Program Assistant Director