

# Intercultural Studies

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## Overview

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In keeping with Trinity Lutheran College's respected tradition of developing leaders for Christian missions, the B.A. in Intercultural Studies prepares students for Christ-centered cross-cultural service through a variety of organizations, for both international and North American urban contexts. The goal of this department, which extends to the entire Trinity community, is to equip individuals to engage knowledgably, sensitively, and skillfully with the biblical, cultural, relational, and global aspects of God's mission to bring compassion, justice, and the saving Gospel to all people. Graduates of this program serve today in a variety of churches, mission organizations, urban outreaches, development agencies, and non-government organizations (NGOs) throughout the world and in North America.

Courses in the major provide students with comprehensive knowledge and skills to work in such fields as evangelism, discipleship, church planting, intercultural relations, development and human care ministries, and urban outreach. The degree also prepares students for graduate-level studies in intercultural studies, missiology, world religions, community development, teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL), leadership development, linguistics, or pastoral ministry.

After completing the program, students will be able to:

- Articulate the biblical, theological, and historical foundations of Christian mission
- Understand and apply sociological and anthropological tools for intercultural work
- Identify and knowledgably address issues of global evangelization and justice
- Observe and analyze varied cultural contexts, and adapt to them
- Participate effectively with groups and individuals of other cultures
- Plan and execute effective programs
- Students, in conversation with department faculty, have the opportunity to specialize their degree program by choosing a track that captures their interest

## Tracks Available

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**Global Track:** Students choosing this track have with an interest in serving internationally or in North American ethnic communities, generally in a non-English-speaking context. Coursework equips students with language and culture acquisition skills, and prepares them holistically for a variety of careers in global outreach. Students choose from a wide variety of options to complete a four-week international cultural immersion course, a junior-year intercultural practicum, and a fourteen-week international internship.

**Urban Track:** Students choosing this track have a concern for the increasingly urgent needs of the growing urban centers in North America. Coursework teaches students to analyze and address the spiritual, social, racial, and economic complexities of cities, preparing them holistically for a variety of careers in urban outreach. Genuine exposure and practical experience are provided through a four-week immersion course, an urban ministry practicum, and a fourteen-week urban internship.

**Customized:** Students with specific interest varying from the tracks offered are invited to create their own. Coursework in the customized track can be a combination of courses offered by other degree programs at Trinity, through independent study with a faculty advisor, or, in some cases, courses taken at another college or university. Students will complete a junior-year practicum and a senior-year fourteen-week internship with organizations and in settings that closely align with their customized track.

## Application Process

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Students apply to the degree program during the spring semester of their sophomore year. (Application dates vary for transfer students. See department chair for details). Failure to complete the application process by the stated deadline will delay registration in further courses within the major. Students must be accepted into the degree program to enroll in upper-level courses in major. The student is responsible for any costs incurred in the application process.

## Major in Intercultural Studies (42 Credits)

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EDUC 120	Methods of Teaching	[2]
ICUL 211	World Religions and Belief Systems	[4]
ICUL 201	Dynamics of The Global Christian Movement	[4]
ICUL 310	Intercultural Outreach I	[2]
ICUL 311	Intercultural Outreach II	[2]
RELI 331	Luke-Acts	[2]
ICUL 350	Lavik Lecture on Cross Cultural Evangelism	[1]
ICUL 380	Intercultural Ministries Practicum I	[2]
ICUL 381	Intercultural Ministries Practicum II	[2]
ICUL 382	Intercultural Internship Preparation	[1]
ICUL 450	Biblical Theology of Mission	[2]
Sub-total		[24]

### Choose one of the following tracks:

#### **Global Track** [20]

ICUL 330	Language and Cultural Immersion Experience	[4]
ICUL 420	Global Mission Strategies	[2]
ICUL 425	Global Intercultural Ministry Internship	[14]

#### **Urban Track** [20]

ICUL 320	Perspectives on Urban Ministry	[4]
ICUL 410	Urban Mission Theory and Practice	[2]
ICUL 415	Urban Intercultural Ministry Internship	[14]

#### **Customized Track** [20]

Students considering this track must create a proposal for their intended course of study and submit it to the department chair for approval before any coursework can be counted toward the major.

#### **Total Required Credits** [42 credits]

*Note: The department also requires ANTH 205 Introduction to Archaeology within the General Education Department.*

## Minor in Intercultural Studies (20 Credits)

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Required courses:

ANTH 205	Intro to Cultural Anthropology	[4]
ICUL 201	Dynamics of the Global Christian Movement	[4]

Electives:

An additional 12 credits from ICUL courses in accordance with the student's interests and goals.

## Certificate of Professional Studies in Intercultural Studies

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### Overview

The Certificate in Professional Studies in Intercultural Studies is designed as a continuing education opportunity to develop new skills or update previous learning. To enter the program, students must hold a bachelor's degree in any discipline. By combining biblical studies with courses in intercultural studies and missions, students strengthen their personal faith and increase their skills for ministry in a specific area. As a full-time student, the certificate can be completed in two regular semesters.

### Requirements

A total of 30 credits are required to earn a Certificate of Professional Studies. Four components make up the certificate program.

#### 1. Biblical and Theological Studies Component

At least 8 credits must be completed in Biblical or Theological Studies courses (designated as RELI).

#### 2. Intercultural Studies Component

At least 12 credits must be completed in Intercultural Studies courses (designated as ICUL) or Anthropology.

#### 3. Intercultural Ministries Practicum Component

In addition to other ICUL courses, two semesters of Intercultural Ministries Practicum (designated as ICUL 380 and 381) must be completed, totaling 4 credits. (Under exceptional circumstances this requirement may be replaced with two semesters of a regular Service Learning Practicum, totaling 2 credits.)

#### 4. Electives

Students take additional courses as electives to reach the minimum of 30 credits required.