Faculty
Justin D. Barnard (2007). Associate Dean for Intellectual Discipleship and Associate Professor of Philosophy in the Honors Community. B.A., Palm Beach Atlantic College; M.A. and Ph.D., Florida State University.

Mission Statement
The Institute for Intellectual Discipleship exists to promote the cultivation and responsible use of the life of the mind by supporting a broad range of curricular and programmatic initiatives designed to advance the Christian intellectual tradition, to highlight the integration of faith and knowledge under the Lordship of Christ, and to equip Christians for lives of cultural engagement through informed, Christian reflection about crucial aspects of contemporary life.

Through a variety of programs and partnerships, both within Union University and in the community at-large, the Institute works to promote increased understanding of a Christian world and life view and its currency in the church, the academy, and society. Programs of the Institute include the Town and Gown Lecture Series, as well as periodic conferences and colloquia. In addition, the Institute provides administrative support for such curricular initiatives as interdisciplinary courses (UNI) and the Gateway experience (pending approval).

The Gateway Experience
A two semester-hour course required of all freshmen, the Gateway experience aims at instilling the joy of learning, an appreciation for the art of critical thinking, and a sense of the overarching interrelatedness of knowledge from a Christian perspective. Students will
• explore the nature of the liberal arts and their value as a foundation for learning
• examine and articulate their own worldviews through exploring sources of knowledge, Christian intellectual traditions, and cultures
• consider what faith affirmations Christians share, regardless of denominational affiliation, and will begin to identify conflicts and agreements between the Christian faith and contemporary secular worldviews
• cultivate virtues and relationships central to a Christian academic community with implications for their behavior in their local, regional, national, and global, communities
• have opportunities to reflect critically on their own goals as university students.
Course Offerings in University Studies (UNI)

100. Gateway (2) – pending approval
The development and ownership of personal learning in the context of Union’s Christian liberal arts approach through critically reflective reading, writing, and interaction.

201. Personalized Academic and Career Exploration (2) F, S
This course offers personalized academic and career exploration to promote student success. Students will gain a better understanding of the concepts dealing with life calling and career planning and achievement while gaining practical study strategies to enhance academic performance and critical thinking. This course explores individual and group personality types and interest inventories and offers practical training in personality preferences, study skills, learning styles, time management, reading speed/comprehension, and test-taking strategies. The information and resources covered in this course will serve as a foundation for student success for the student’s major and minor courses of study at Union University. This course is a part of the Institute for Intellectual Discipleship curriculum and can be taken as a elective, 2-hour course of study providing sound self-assessment, academic performance skills, and life calling and career research and exploration strategies. This course counts as a general elective.

300. Integrative Arts in the Classroom (3)
Prerequisite: EDU 150
The design and implementation of art, music, and movement into elementary classroom instruction. An emphasis on using art, music, and drama as expressive activities for facilitating physical and social development is also included.

179-279-379-479. External Domestic Study Programs (1-3) As Needed
All courses and their applications must be defined and approved prior to registering.

180-280-380-480. Study Abroad Programs (1-4) As Needed
All courses and their applications must be defined and approved prior to travel.

195-6-7. Special Studies (1-4) On Demand
Lower-level group studies which do not appear in the regular departmental offerings.

395-6-7. Special Studies (2 or 3)
Upper-level group studies which do not appear in the regular departmental offerings. Includes, but not restricted to, offerings of the Scholar-in-Residence Program.

495-6-7. Independent Studies (2-4)
Individual research under the guidance of a faculty member(s).

498. Seminar (1-3)
To be used at the discretion of the department.