Mission
To provide a rigorous interdisciplinary program in intercultural studies designed to complement academic and professional preparation in a variety of fields. With an integrative framework of theory, research, and practice, the MAIS provides its students with an interculturally competent approach to community development and cross-cultural vocations.

Admission Information

Admissions requirements
All students, whether degree-seeking or non-degree-seeking, who wish to take M.A.I.S. courses must submit the following information:

- Completed application to the M.A.I.S. and $25 application fee. (Apply online at uu.edu/applications/graduate/)
- Official transcript(s) showing ALL undergraduate and post-baccalaureate coursework attempted, including completion of baccalaureate degree(s).
- Official transcript(s) indicating a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale of all undergraduate and post-baccalaureate coursework.
- Official Graduate Record Exam (GRE) score.
- Three references from people who know your academic, communication, and leadership abilities; one must be from a former professor. A copy of the reference form is attached to the application.
- Completed Certificate of Immunization. The certificate is attached to the application.

Additional admissions requirements for international students:
- Visit the International Student page: uu.edu/institutes/international/students/forms.cfm
- Contact the Union University International Student Advisor and PDSO, Pam Whitnell: pwhitnell@uu.edu
- Completed International Graduate Student Application: uu.edu/international/forms/MAIS-intl.pdf
- Proof of Finances: uu.edu/international/forms/finances-grad-intl.pdf
- “Certificate of Physical Examination.”
- Official TOEFL score of 83 or higher.

Admission and Conditional Admission
Admission to the Master of Arts in Intercultural Studies program is based on the overall record and aptitude of the applicant. The M.A.I.S. admissions committee may request a writing sample, an interview, or both, to assist them in evaluating the prospective student. The committee may then decide to admit the student fully, or recommend that the student be admitted conditionally.

After successfully completing one semester in the M.A.I.S. program, including a minimum of 6 hours of UU courses with at least a 3.0 average, students who are conditionally admitted, will earn full admission to the program.

Program Features
The curriculum for the program consists of a 27-hour core of classes and a 12-hour emphasis approved by the program director. As a low-residency program, the delivery system for the core classes is intensive. MAIS courses meet twice each term for two and one-half day intensive class sessions. At other times throughout the course, students complete readings, online course activities and other assignments as required by the professor. Dates for the intensive course meetings are announced as part of the preregistration process each term.

Academic Calendar and Schedules
Calendars and Schedules of Course offerings for the M.A.I.S. program are available from the Program Coordinator.

Graduation Requirements
1. Completion of the 27 hours of required M.A.I.S. course work.
2. Completion of a 12-hour emphasis approved by the program director.
3. A minimum grade point average of 3.0 for the required course of study.
4. Transfer credit: maximum 12 hours with grades of B or higher and approval of Director.

Financial Information
Application Fee: .......................................................... $ 25
General Student Fee: ............................................. 20/hour
Tuition/semester hour: ............................................. 450

If a student withdraws from a class that meets on the intensive weekend schedule, any refund will be prorated according to the course time elapsed at the time of the withdrawal.

All financial information is subject to change without notice.

Financial Assistance
M.A.I.S. students on the Jackson campus may qualify for Federal Stafford Loans.
Study Abroad/External Academic Programs

All students participating in external academic programs in the United States or abroad must officially notify the University prior to beginning the registration process for the program. Failure to do so may jeopardize appropriate transfer of credits and/or applicable funding. All students who study abroad or participate in other external academic programs pay a fee to cover administrative costs. The fee for any study abroad or other external academic program lasting three weeks or longer is $150. The fee for study tours and programs lasting less than three weeks is $50. Additional fees may be assessed as necessary to cover specific expenditures required for study in a particular program. For additional information, contact the Institute.

Course Offerings in Intercultural Studies (ICS)

510. Intercultural Communication (3)
An examination of intercultural communication with a focus on self-awareness and developing effective communication.

515. International Professional Realities and Opportunities (3)
An introduction to the professional intercultural environment designed to help the student develop an awareness and understanding of the knowledge and skills needed to develop a professional framework for employment in other cultures.

520. Organizational Systems of Society (3)
A study of organizational systems encountered across cultures. Emphasis is on developing skills necessary for the recognition and assessment of systems and strategies for successful interaction with these systems.

525. Field Research Methods (3)
A course designed to provide students with conceptual tools and research skills in the area of comparative cultural studies. The hands-on approach helps students prepare to design and conduct their own ethnographic research in culturally diverse settings. All students are required to complete the appropriate security training course prior to beginning field research.

530. Field Data Analysis and Strategic Planning (3)
A course that builds on in-class and applied field research knowledge by guiding students through the process of field data analysis. Attention is given to both qualitative and quantitative analytical methods. Students participate in process-focused learning and writing workshops which culminate in the preparation of case-study reports based on their field research/data.

535. Artistic and Intellectual Expressions of Culture (3)
An emphasis on how to develop learning skills to understand the lexicon, grammar, and semantics of other intellectual and artistic systems encountered across cultures.

540. Language and Culture (3)
A study of language development and its relationship to culture. Examines principles of language acquisition and language teaching methodologies.

545. Capstone Seminar (3)
Students complete and integrative interdisciplinary research project that demonstrates their understanding of the principles, themes and concepts that are foundational to the core curriculum of the MAIS and the student’s professional emphasis. A formal written presentation and a formal oral presentation of the research are required.

555. Field Experience (3)
Field experience in which students will conduct ethnographic research. All projects must have instructor’s approval.

579. External Domestic Study Programs (1-4)
All courses and their application must be defined and approved prior to travel.

580. Study Abroad Programs (1-4)
All courses and their application must be defined and approved prior to travel.