



The University of Texas at Austin  
**Bridging Disciplines Programs**  
 School of Undergraduate Studies

## Advising Syllabus

Flawn Academic Center (FAC) 338  
 Office hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

### Katie Davidson

*katie.davidson@austin.utexas.edu*

- Design Strategies
- Environment & Sustainability
- Innovation, Creativity & Entrepreneurship
- Social Entrepreneurship & Non-profits

### Janelle Lim

*janelle.lim@austin.utexas.edu*

- Conflict Resolution & Peace Studies
- Ethics & Leadership (all certificates)
- Public Policy
- Museum Studies

### Larissa Noake

*larissa.noake@austin.utexas.edu*

- Digital Arts & Media (interim advisor)

### Shannon Rose

*shannon.rose@austin.utexas.edu*

- Children & Society
- Human Rights & Social Justice
- Social Inequality, Health & Policy

## CONTACT & COMMUNICATION

- Please call 512-232-7564 to make appointments. We do not schedule appointments by email and we do not make same day appointments.
- Drop-in advising is held every Thursdays from 1:30-4:00 p.m., except in the summer.
- If you are more than 10 minutes late for an advising appointment, you will be asked to reschedule.
- Keep your email address current and read all correspondence from the BDP office and your BDP advisor.
- You will be placed on a BDP student listserv, as well as one for your individual BDP.

## ADVISING REQUIREMENTS & EXPECTATIONS

You are required to come in for a 30-minute first semester advising appointment. We also strongly recommend that you come in for advising when you are planning for a Connecting Experience.

Please feel free to visit us often and consider the BDP office your 'home base' on campus! You may speak to your advisor about academic and post-graduate planning, as well as about any non-academic issue you may have.

### As a BDP student, we expect you to:

- Be proactive, take initiative, and own your academic experience.
- Identify your interests and career goals, and learn how these connect to resources at UT.
- Come prepared for advising sessions by thinking about courses or Connecting Experiences.
- Actively follow up on ideas and/or referrals discussed in advising appointments.
- Coordinate your BDP requirements with those of your degree plan.
- Use BDP experiences to refine future goals and plans and reflect on these experiences in writing.

### BDP advisors are here to:

- Provide you with individualized guidance, support, and advocacy.
- Help you take advantage of university resources, such as working with faculty members, getting involved in research, studying abroad, and participating in internships.
- Help you integrate your degree requirements with your BDP certificate.
- Help you connect your academic interests with your post-graduate plans and goals.
- Help you select courses and experiences that will enhance your understanding of your BDP subject area and the benefits of addressing a topic through multiple perspectives.
- Help you meet BDP learning objectives.



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## ADVISING PHILOSOPHY

The BDP advisors practice academic advising that is student-centered, individualized, and proactive. This means that advisors will help you to define your own needs and goals, provide individual feedback and direction based on those specific needs, and are proactive in reaching out to students to help you understand what you need to do to be successful in your BDP.

Students and advisors assume shared responsibility for the advising process. BDP advisors look forward to forming a partnership with you as you work to achieve your goals.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

### **Disciplinary Awareness**

Before you can successfully apply an interdisciplinary perspective, you must first understand what it means to study a topic through disciplinary perspectives. Demonstrating disciplinary awareness involves referring to disciplines relevant to the topic you're addressing and accurately applying the perspectives, methodologies, and knowledge offered by those disciplines.

### **Interdisciplinary Awareness**

Interdisciplinary awareness involves referring to multiple disciplines relevant to a subject, and demonstrating that you understand the value of different perspectives, methodologies, and knowledge from those disciplines.

### **Thinking Across Disciplines**

Beyond showing that you are aware of multiple disciplinary perspectives, you should be able to demonstrate that you can bring these perspectives together in order to come to a more complex or sophisticated understanding of a topic. Demonstrating that you can think across disciplines might involve comparing the perspectives, methodologies, or tools offered by different disciplines, or it might involve integrating multiple perspectives for a more complete understanding.

### **Transferring Knowledge and Skills Across Contexts**

You should be able to articulate how knowledge or skills that you have developed in one context have impacted your understanding in another. You might, for example, demonstrate that something you've learned in the classroom has been helpful to you in a research or internship experience, or that something you've learned in a connecting experience has caused you to reevaluate or come to a deeper understanding in the classroom.

### **Reflecting on your Interests, Strengths, and Goals**

The BDP experience should be one of self-reflection, where you use your experiences to reflect on your interests and strengths and how they might connect to possible intellectual and professional goals for the future.

### **Developing Understanding of your BDP Topic**

Part of the purpose of the BDP is to allow you to develop a secondary area of expertise over and above your major. By the time you graduate with your certificate, you must be able to demonstrate that you understand this interdisciplinary topic.