

# interdisciplinary studies

## CONFERENCES

One of the most unique elements of a King's education is the opportunity to take two days out of each term where the entire campus community gathers to explore key questions about our world. For these two days, regularly scheduled classes are cancelled so that students can participate in the two-day conference from 9am to 3:30pm each day, including keynote lectures and small-group breakout sessions. The Interdisciplinary Studies (IS) conferences take place in September and January (dates can be found in the Academic Calendar).

During these conferences, students hear from respected academics and professionals on a variety of topics chosen by surveys of the student body and the IS Faculty and Student committees.

The conferences are a place to make connections between what you are studying and the "real world," to step back and look at the big picture, and to explore practical examples of what it looks like to engage the King's vision to "pursue a more humane, just, and sustainable world."

### **IS requirements**

Students taking 9 credits or more each term should register for INST (Interdisciplinary Perspectives), worth 0.5 credits. Because these are important all-campus conversations, every student is required to participate, even if planning to transfer to another institution. While you are on campus, we want YOU to be part of the conversation! A total of 3.0 credits (or 6 conferences) is required to graduate from King's. Students who need to make up IS credits can enroll in INST 499 as a directed study.



Student learning at the conference is assessed either by attending a discussion section or writing a paper. Each student is assigned to a faculty marker, who will communicate the expectations and requirements to pass. The course is graded on a pass/fail basis.

### **Recent conferences**

Conference topics are chosen in conjunction with the IS Student Committee, surveys sent to current students enrolled in IS, as well as faculty members. Some of the recent IS conferences have focused on topics such as:

- Post-Truth? Facts and Faithfulness
- Blessed Living in a Broken World
- Does the church matter?
- Generous Citizenship
- Getting to the Heart of What You Want
- Culture-Making
- Oil Things Considered
- Know Fear

## Course list

**INST 200/210** – Interdisciplinary Perspectives (fall/winter term of first year) 0.5 credits each

**INST 300/310** – Interdisciplinary Perspectives (fall/winter term of second year) 0.5 credits each

**INST 400/410** – Interdisciplinary Perspectives (fall/winter term of third year) 0.5 credits each

**INST 499** – Directed Studies in Interdisciplinary Studies (requires prior approval) ranges from 0.5 to 3.0 credits

## Opportunities for participation

In the past, students have participated in the IS conference in many ways:

- Suggesting a topic or speaker
- Partnering with a faculty member to co-lead a breakout session
- Serving on the IS Student committee
- Hosting a guest speaker while on campus
- Helping to set-up and tear-down the gym

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please contact IS Director Rebecca Warren.



*Students participating in a poverty simulation exercise with guest speaker Jeremiah Basuric*

## Past conference speakers

**Margaret Aymer**, Professor of New Testament Studies at Austin Theological Seminary

**John Bell**, Iona Community–Scotland

**Andy Crouch**, former executive editor at *Christianity Today*

**Katharine Hayhoe**, Director of the Climate Science Center

**Richard Mouw**, President Emeritus at Fuller Theological Seminary

**Calvin Seerveld**, Professor Emeritus at the Institute for Christian Studies

**Murray Sinclair**, Chair of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission

## IS Faculty Committee

**Ms. Rebecca Warren**, Director of Interdisciplinary Studies

**Dr. Lloyd den Boer**, Dean of the Faculty of Education

**Dr. Neal DeRoo**, Associate Professor of Philosophy, Canada Research Chair

**Dr. Amy Feaver**, Assistant Professor of Computing Science

**Dr. Randy Haluza-Delay**, Associate Professor, Sociology

**Dr. Daniel Kim**, Assistant Professor, Leder School of Business

**Rev. Tim Wood**, Campus Minister

## For more information

[www.kingsu.ca/programs/isconf](http://www.kingsu.ca/programs/isconf)

Contact IS Director, Rebecca Warren:

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