An Interdisciplinary PhD program must conform to all specifications listed in the Graduate Catalog. Additionally, the student may apply for an interdisciplinary PhD program only after he or she has been admitted to an existing PhD program. The proposal should address the following key points:

1. **Goals and objectives**.
   1. Explain the reasons that an interdisciplinary PhD is being sought, in the context of WPI’s existing PhD programs. Address whether this same project and plan of study could be completed under an existing program.
   2. List the (at least 3) departments or programs that will be involved in the proposed program
2. **PhD Advisory Committee Members**
   1. List the members of the PhD committee, along with their affiliations. Explain, if necessary, the rationale for including certain members.
3. **Proposed Coursework**
   1. List the proposed formal coursework for the PhD program. Per ID PhD program rules, no more than 50% of courses may be taken from a single program at WPI. Explain the rationale for courses, in the context of the student goals and objectives.
4. **Proposed Dissertation Project**
   1. Summarize the general research problem that will be addressed in the student dissertation.
5. **Qualifying Exam and Thesis Proposal**
   1. Describe the proposed process by which the student will be advanced to candidacy. The exam must be equivalent in rigor to those common in existing PhD programs. It is acceptable to use an existing format.
6. **Additional Requirements**
   1. Describe any additional requirements that the student will meet to complete the degree. These must be equivalent in rigor to those in existing PhD programs.
7. **Comparable Programs**
   1. Describe any similar PhD programs at other Universities, if relevant.