Twin Cities Campus

Individually Designed Interdepartmental B.A.

CLA Dean's Office

College of Liberal Arts

- Program Type: Baccalaureate
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2018
- Required credits to graduate with this degree: 120
- Required credits within the major: 50
- Degree: Bachelor of Arts

The individually designed interdepartmental major (IDIM) enables students to fulfill program requirements for the BA degree by completing an interdepartmental program of coursework focused on a theme of their own choosing, designed in consultation with faculty and staff advisers. IDIM programs consist of three or four areas of concentration, integrated in such a way that the major has strong thematic unity and coherence.

Working closely with an IDIM advisor, students develop a written proposal and course list that articulates a cohesive and unified interdisciplinary theme. IDIM program proposals must be approved by a committee and three faculty or department advisers with expertise in the areas of concentration. Some departments have established guidelines for students who wish to include concentration areas based in those departments.

For specific information on proposal approval procedures and department guidelines, see the individualized degree programs website at https://cla.umn.edu/academics-experience/majors-minors/individualized-degree-programs

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Admission Requirements

For certain concentration areas, prerequisite courses must be completed before submitting a program proposal. For certain concentrations, a minimum overall GPA or a minimum tool course GPA is required before a student can submit a program proposal.

Students can declare the major after attending an information session (held two to three times a week) and preparing a preliminary course list. Students are not approved for the degree until they have submitted a program proposal (the submission deadline is once per semester) and the proposal has been approved by a committee and faculty or department advisors.

See the IDIM advisor for more information.

For information about University of Minnesota admission requirements, visit the Office of Admissions website.

General Requirements

All students are required to complete general University and college requirements including writing and liberal education courses. For more information about University-wide requirements, see the liberal education requirements.Required courses for the major or minor in which a student receives a D grade (with or without plus or minus) do not count toward the major or minor (including transfer courses).

Program Requirements

Students are required to take 4 semester(s) of any second language.

Because of its interdisciplinary nature, this program is not held to the CLA requirement of 18 upper division credits outside the major.

Students must have their program approved by a committee and three department or faculty advisors.

At least 20 credits in the major must be completed after the program has been approved.

No more than 12 credits of directed study may be applied toward the program.

All incoming CLA freshmen must complete the First-Year Experience course sequence.

Concentration Area Courses

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Students must complete at least 50 approved credits from CLA departments distributed among three or four concentration areas, and at least 40 of the 50 credits must be upper division (3xxx or higher). The concentrations may be departmental or thematic in composition, and each must include at least 11 upper division credits. Courses must be chosen in consultation with an advisor.
Take 50 or more credit(s) from the following:

First Concentration Area

1xxx or 2xxx first concentration
Take 11 or more credit(s) from the following:
- 3xxx or higher first concentration

- **Second Concentration Area**

1xxx or 2xxx second concentration
Take 11 or more credit(s) from the following:
- 3xxx or higher second concentration

- **Third Concentration Area**

Take 11 or more credit(s) from the following:
- 1xxx or 2xxx third concentration
- Take 11 or more credit(s) from the following:
  - 3xxx or higher third concentration

Capstone

Students must complete an integrating capstone project via directed study, earning at least 2 credits in conjunction with the project. Projects may vary widely in form, depending on a student's program, and the capstones course designator will change based on the faculty members department. Capstone project proposals must be approved by faculty and staff advisors the semester before the project begins. The project itself must be reviewed and approved by the faculty advisor.
Take 1 or more course(s) totaling 2 or more credit(s) from the following:

Subgroup 0

Students who double major within CLA and choose to complete the capstone requirement in their other major are still required to take the I.D.I.M. capstone.
- Capstone (2 cr)

or Completion of an honors thesis will count for honors students completing a I.D.I.M.

Upper Division Writing Intensive within the major

Students are required to take one upper division writing intensive course within the major. Students work with their advisor to select the appropriate course.

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