

Interdisciplinary Studies (comprehensive) Major Description [▲ Top](#)

The Interdisciplinary Studies major is a comprehensive major and is designed for students, who cannot adequately realize their educational objectives through an existing academic program offered at UW-Superior.

The major is designed by the student in consultation with an academic advisor and selected faculty. The student is also required to take IDS 300 Educational Planning, a one credit online course that helps them design the major. The approval process for the major includes the advisor, faculty panel members from the selected academic areas of study, the Director for Distance Learning, and the Credits and Reinstatement Committee.

Additional information about the Interdisciplinary Studies Major can be found at the [Distance Learning Center](#) website, or by contacting the Distance Learning Center at 877-528-6597 or [✉ dlc@uwsuper.edu](mailto:dlc@uwsuper.edu).

Interdisciplinary Studies (comprehensive) Major Requirements [▲ Top](#)

54 total major credits

Major Requirements:

1. A minimum of 3 different discipline areas must be chosen
2. A minimum of 9 credits, maximum of 22 credits, in each discipline area
3. A minimum of 18 credits must be in courses numbered 300 or higher
4. Must complete IDS 300 Individualized Educational Planning
5. Must include a Capstone course
6. Student must have earned at least 43 credits prior to submitting the IDS petition form
7. Must submit (and have approved by the Credits and Student Reinstatement Committee) an Interdisciplinary Studies petition form.

Additional Degree Requirements:

1. A minimum of 36 credits numbered 300 or higher
2. A minimum of 30 credits earned at UW-Superior
3. A resident GPA of at least 2.0 (UW-Superior courses only)
4. A major GPA of at least 2.0 (all courses used to meet major requirements--including transfer courses)
5. The last 12 credits for the degree must be earned at UW-Superior

Individually Designed Major Description [▲ Top](#)

Students who have a unique need for a major, and whose needs cannot be met by an existing on-campus program, have the option of developing an Individually Designed Major. This is done with timely advice and guidance from the student's advisor and in close consultation with a specially appointed advisory panel consisting of at least the student's advisor and two faculty members representing disciplines other than that of the advisor. The petition may not be submitted before the second semester of the student's sophomore year but must be submitted before the end of the student's junior year.

Individually Designed (non-comprehensive) Major Requirements [▲ Top](#)

A minimum of 33 total major credits

This major may be declared by on-campus or Distance Learning students. Major Requirements:

The student must take IDS 300 or work with their advisor to develop her/his IDM program plan. This plan includes curriculum, learning goals and outcomes, assessment plan, and contract.

The IDM must list learning goals and outcomes articulated by the student (related to each discipline area, if there is more than one.)

A maximum of three faculty need to be involved in the development and approval of the IDM plan if there are more than one discipline areas featured in the IDM plan.

1. Student must declare a minor or second major in a different subject area. The same courses cannot be used to meet the Individually Designed major requirements as well as minor or second major requirements.
2. A minimum of 18 credits shall be remaining (to be completed) at the time the petition form is submitted for approval
3. A minimum of 18 credits must be in courses numbered 300 or higher
4. Plan of courses included on the IDM petition form must include a Capstone course
5. Student must have earned at least 43 credits prior to submitting the IDM petition form
6. Student shall not have earned more than 83 credits prior to submitting the IDM petition form
7. A minimum of 6 credits of Prior Learning can be applied to this major
8. Must submit (and have approved by the Credits and Student Reinstatement Committee) an Individually Designed major petition form.
 - The petition form must be developed in consultation with the student's advisor and at least one faculty member representing disciplines other than that of the advisor.

Additional Degree Requirements:

1. A minimum of 36 credits numbered 300 or higher
2. A minimum of 30 credits earned at UW-Superior
3. A resident GPA of at least 2.0 (UW-Superior courses only)
4. A major GPA of at least 2.0 (all courses used to meet major requirements--including transfer courses)
5. The last 12 credits for the major must be earned at UW-Superior

Individually Designed Minor Requirements [▲ Top](#)

A minimum of 21 total credits. Minor Requirements:

1. Students in good standing and have earned at least 43 credits to declare this minor
2. Students must complete an Interdisciplinary Studies minor petition and have it approved by the Credits and Reinstatement Committee
3. At least 7 credits must be 300 level or higher.

Individually Designed Minor proposals require the approval of the student's advisor and the appropriate department chair; then they must be submitted to the Credits and Reinstatement Committee for final approval.

IDM/IDS Oversight Committee Meeting
September 24, 2014-2015 Academic Year
Minutes respectfully submitted by Lois Veenhoven Guderian, PhD

The IDM/IDS Oversight Committee convened on September 24, 9:00 AM in Erlanson 304. In attendance:
Virginia Donovan, Steve Rosenberg, Christina Kline,
Lois Guderian, Jeff Kirschling

Items Discussed and Decisions Determined/Recommended

1. In accordance with the charge for the committee, and in order to clarify requirements for the IDM and IDS majors and IDM minor, during 2013-2014, via the examination of existing documents followed by group discussion and decision-making, the IDM/IDS Oversight Committee prepared a new document for the 2012-2014 edition of the catalog. The document was approved by UAAC on April 19, 2014.

In comparison of the new, published catalog copy with the approved document of 4/19/14, IDM/IDS Committee members noticed that the two documents did not match. Christina Kline set about and completed the task of editing the two documents for approval by the committee. The new document will be submitted to UAAC for approval.

2. The IDM/IDS Oversight Committee recommends a change in name from the current degree programs (IDM and IDS) to *Liberal Studies Program* to be housed in UAAC.

3. The IDM/IDS Oversight Committee recommends that periodic program review take place for the IDM/IDS Majors and IDM minor (*Liberal Studies Program*) conducted by either UAAC or by departments on campus. UAAC should make the determination of how and who will conduct the program review.

4. The IDM/IDS Oversight Committee recommends that a checklist of requirements be created to assist faculty who are working with students who want to pursue an IDM, IDS, or IDM minor.

5. The IDM/IDS Oversight Committee recommends that each department develop a policy based on minimum requirements for any possible IDM/IDS majors and IDM minor that include the discipline as a component of the degree. Coursework should be available via distance learning.

6. The recent changes in procedure and requirements for the IDM/IDS degrees should be communicated to all departments. The IDM/IDS Oversight Committee recommends 3 possibilities for dissemination of the information:

- By way of a whole campus session as part of Enhancement Day for Spring Semester 2015
- A written document sent to all chairs
- An open forum

MINUTES APPROVED BY ELECTRONIC MAJORITY VOTE:

That would do it. Insofar as students aren't typically looking to do more than necessary, perhaps the upper limit to a "range" isn't necessary. - JWE

From: Kline,Christina M
Sent: Wednesday, October 01, 2014 1:12 PM
To: Engstrom,Jeffrey W; Donovan,Virginia R; Guderian,Lois V; Johnson,Gary W
Subject: RE: Please reply to email for vote

Perhaps we could add the work 'minimum' of 21 or 33 credits.

From: Engstrom,Jeffrey W
Sent: Wednesday, October 01, 2014 1:01 PM
To: Donovan,Virginia R; Guderian,Lois V; Kline,Christina M; Johnson,Gary W
Subject: RE: Please reply to email for vote

I vote yes to accept and approve the minutes.

I have a comment on the catalog document. It states for an individually designed major: 33 credits. It states for an individually designed minor: 21 credits. Would it not be better to provide a range of credits? E.g. 33-36 for the major and 21-24 for the minor. In the recent past I've been made aware that some proposals were turned down because they included too many credits. I understand the need to provide a cap in the number of credits, but are we prepared to deny a proposal because the major calls for 34 credits and not 33 (as specified by the catalog)? Students have no control over how many credits are assigned to a course. Should they pick and choose what they need and the total doesn't hit the standard on the head (21 and 33) it would seem less than reasonable to make them "go back to the drawing board."

JWE

I approve both the minutes and the catalog copy.

Christina

Since I was not able to be at the meeting I will abstain from voting on the minutes. As for the catalog copy it looks good to me. I would be okay with Jeff's comments.
Johnson,Gary W GJohnson@uwsuper.edu

I vote to approve both the minutes and the catalog copy as corrected.
Ginny Donovan