

Student-Designed (Interdisciplinary) Major or Minor

To be eligible to propose a Student-Designed Major or Minor, students should be in good academic standing (a minimum 2.0 cumulative grade point average is required though a 3.0 is recommended). Proposals to the Curriculum Committee should be filed before the end of the fourth semester of study. Advisor(s) appropriate to the proposed areas of study will be identified. These advisor(s) *will collaborate* in the development of the proposal, possibly recommending other faculty with whom the student should confer. At least one advisor must submit a letter of support explaining what they perceive to be the rationale for the courses listed in the application. The letter should briefly describe the advisors' collaborative role in the development of the major/minor. The Curriculum Committee will accept no application without the attachment of this letter.

The Student-Designed Major or Minor proposal should be carefully constructed. The major should consist of no fewer than thirty and no more than fifty-four credits. The minor should consist of no fewer than eighteen and no more than twenty-one credits. In addition to the major/minor, the student will be required to complete the GLE Curriculum and accumulate a total of at least 120 credits in order to graduate. The proposal must represent a *coherent* educational goal with attention given to the nature of *introductory, middle-level, upper-level, and culminating work* in the Student-Designed Major or Minor. Each such major *must include a methods course* appropriate to the field of study and must fulfill the capstone requirements: a senior thesis or independent project that pulls together the experience of the Student-Designed Major. The course choices must represent a *coherent program* as opposed to a *set of electives*. In other words, there is a difference between one thoughtfully arranging courses to comprise a program of study and one freely choosing elective courses.

Following the above guidelines for *coherence of program content*, the student reviews the proposal with their Undergraduate College Coordinator or their College Coordinator or designee, and then forwards the proposal to the Curriculum Committee for consideration. **The student may be asked to meet with the Curriculum Committee to further explain the proposal.** The Curriculum Committee will report its recommendation to the Dean of the appropriate College for the proposed major or minor, who will communicate the decision to the student and Associate Provost. The Associate Provost will review the Curriculum Committee's recommendation and either approve or decline to approve the proposal. If approved by the Associate Provost, then the Associate Provost should forward a copy of the proposal to the Registrar. Once approved, any changes in the proposed courses of the student-designed major/minor must be approved by the academic advisor(s) and the Associate Provost.

Details to Consider when Preparing and Submitting a Student-Designed Major/Minor Proposal

- Have a 3.0 minimum GPA
- Be in the fourth or earlier semester of study
- Meet with Associate Provost to go over the process
- Identify appropriate advisors for areas of study
- Advisor(s) letter(s) of support for the proposal, with rationale for courses listed & advisor collaborative role

Student-Designed Major:

- **30-54** credits for Major courses work
- at least **12 credits at 300-400 level**
- GLE requirements included
- Total of 120 credits for entire program of study
- Coherent educational goal representing a coherent program - NOT a series of electives
- Include introductory, middle-level, upper-level courses
- Include an appropriate Methods course
- Include culminating experience (e.g., capstone, senior thesis, senior project)

Student-Designed Minor:

- **18-21** credits for Minor course work
- Coherent educational goal representing a coherent program; NOT a series of electives
- Include introductory, middle-level, upper-level courses
- Include culminating experience (e.g., capstone, senior project)

Required Steps:

1. Meet with Associate Provost to go over process
2. Identify appropriate advisor(s) to help review the proposal and write supporting letter(s)
3. Write proposal using appropriate guidelines/forms
4. Have Undergraduate Program Coordinator or College Coordinator or Designee review the proposal
5. Submit complete proposal packet to the Curriculum Committee

Checklist for Student-designed major/minor proposal packet

Approval form

Proposal form

Narrative statement that includes:

- Statement of Rationale for major/minor
- Statement of Rationale for courses selected
- Statement of Educational and Career Goals
- Plan of Senior Thesis/Project (for major only)

Copy of unofficial transcript

Copy of letter(s) from advisor(s)

Declaration of major/minor form completed with student-designed major/minor listed

STUDENT-DESIGNED MAJOR/MINOR APPROVAL SHEET

STUDENT NAME:

STUDENT NUMBER:

TITLE OF PROPOSED MAJOR/MINOR:

Approved

The attached proposal for a Student-Designed Major/Minor has been reviewed as follows:

yes no Advisor (1): _____
printed name signature date

yes no Advisor (2): _____
printed name signature date

yes no Advisor (2): _____
printed name signature date

yes no Undergrad Program Coordinator/College Coordinator/Designee: _____
printed name date

Undergrad Program Coordinator/College Coordinator/Designee: _____
signature

yes no Dean of the Appropriate College*: _____
printed name signature date

yes no Associate Provost: _____
printed name signature date

***Considered the Dean responsible for the student's completion of the major or minor.**

STUDENT-DESIGNED MAJOR/MINOR PROPOSAL

Student Name:

Student ID:

Date:

Number of Credits Completed to date:

Cumulative GPA:

Current Major(s)/Minors/Certificates:

Student-Designed Major (name):

B.A.

B.S.

Student-Designed Minor (name)

On the next pages, use the tables to present your proposed program content, listing courses selected to apply towards GLE and towards your Student-Designed major/minor. When completing the "College Course" column, choose from the following options:

COB - College of Business

CHNS - College of Health and Natural Sciences

CLASS - College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

ID - Independent (courses not associated with a particular college)

GLE Course Plan

(Required only for a Major)

Course Number	Course Name	Credits	Course Status (in progress, completed, not taken)	GLE Requirement
GLE101	FYI	3		FYI
GLE110	First-year Composition	3		First-year Comp
GLE230	Sophomore Composition	3		Soph Comp
		3-4		Math
		3		Humanities
		3		Humanities
		3		Humanities
		3		Social Science
		3		Social Science
		3		Art & Design
		3		Art & Design
		4		Natural Science
		4		Natural Science

Total 41-42

NARRATIVE ON STUDENT-DESIGNED MAJOR/MINOR

1. Statement of rationale for major/minor: why are you developing this major/minor?
2. Statement of educational and career goals.
3. Explain your rationale for selecting the courses listed.
4. **For the major only**, include a description of your plans for your culminating experience (e.g., senior thesis, project)
5. If you need to add more pages, use the Tools option to select "Organize Pages" to add the additional page(s) file to this PDF document as an additional page(s) using the 'insert' from file option.