

Individualized Minor College of Arts and Sciences Drake University

Students with well-defined educational goals that do not exactly fit within any of the minor fields listed in the catalog may submit a proposal to pursue a combination of existing courses as an individualized minor. The minor should be a separate and distinctive program of study that demonstrates well-developed goals, not simply a combination of courses. The formal proposal must set forth:

1. The objectives the student hopes to achieve by pursuing an individualized minor.
2. A list of the courses to be included in the program of study.
3. A statement of how these courses will lead to the realization of the objectives.

The proposed program of study must form an integrated whole and must include a minimum of 18 hours of coursework, of which 9 hours must be upper level (courses numbered 100 and above).

The student's written proposal is reviewed by a committee consisting of the Associate Dean, student's advisor, and a second advisor from another discipline. If the proposed individualized minor is approved, the student would complete the minor program under the direction of the above advisors. After the program has been accepted, any change must be approved by the committee, which may require a program of directed study or reading or the preparation of an essay to synthesize the course work.

Special Notes:

All other requirements for a degree from the College of Arts and Sciences, such as general education requirements and number of upper level hours, must be met in every student's overall academic program.

Procedure:

1. Make an appointment with your current academic advisor, who may be able to direct you to an existing program that fits your goals. If no established minor works, discuss some of your ideas for an individualized minor.
2. Prepare a description of the individualized minor that you will submit to your advisors and the Associate Dean. This description will cover the points listed above.
3. Submit your proposal to your advisors for discussion and possible revision. Once the signatures of the advisors are obtained, submit the proposal to the Associate Dean for approval. Any later amendments would go through the same approval process.

