



INDIVIDUALLY DESIGNED STUDY

Are you a creative thinker and a self-starter? Are you responsible and resourceful? Do you enjoy blazing your own trail? The U of M's design-your-own-major programs allow you to pursue your passions and prepare for life after graduation.

Interested in three subjects, but unsure about a triple-major? Drawn to two degree programs based in separate University of Minnesota colleges? Our programs for individualized study offer great academics and great opportunities. You can choose from thousands of courses to create a challenging degree that is custom-fit to your academic goals.



Great Academics

Whatever your academic passions, the U of M will provide you with a world-class education. The U of M is one of the top research universities in the nation. You can take courses in many of our 147 major programs and learn from renowned faculty. If you're a self-starter with an innovative spirit, then check out these "design-your-own" major options:

- **Individually Designed Interdepartmental Major (IDIM)** (College of Liberal Arts)

While focusing on one theme, you will select your major courses from three or more CLA departments. For example, one past student developed a major entitled Race, Identity, and Social Change in the United States.

- **Bachelor of Individualized Studies (BIS)** (College of Liberal Arts)

Interested in three distinct areas of study? Combine them through the Bachelor of Individualized Studies program. One of your areas of concentration may be outside CLA. For example, a past student's program consisted of communication studies and cultural diversity management.

- **Inter-College Program (ICP)** (College of Continuing Education)

If your academic interests are based in various colleges at the U of M, you can choose areas of concentration in two or more of the undergraduate colleges to create your desired program.

REAL ACHIEVEMENTS

"Since I graduated, I have had a large amount of interviews and as far as employers are concerned, I have found that they not only look upon a B.I.S. degree favorably, but I have found it to be advantageous. In today's business world a person has to be extremely well-rounded and be able to wear many hats to succeed. Earning a B.I.S. degree shows that the candidate not only knows what he/she wants out of their educational experience, but he/she is assertive enough to find a way to tailor one's degree to his/her interests. Additionally, I feel a B.I.S. embodies the spirit of the University of Minnesota. To succeed, a student must be independent, focused and a go-getter. I feel that earning a B.I.S. degree, along with my many other experiences during college, has made me an extremely well-rounded individual."

Toni Miller, Fall 2004 B.I.S. graduate with areas of concentration in Communication Studies, Philosophy, and English and a minor in Psychology.

"For me there is no question that my successes since graduation have been a direct result of my education. IDIM taught me how create, think, and work for myself. The IDIM Program, like Hollywood, is not for slackers. It is an opportunity for a passionate few to make an indelible mark on themselves and the world. A career path takes equal parts of thought, planning, preparation, effort, and passion. IDIM is a great place for students who can't sit back and wait for life to happen. Be proactive in your future. There are so many opportunities in world—never be afraid to reach out and grab one."

Nicole Porter, Fall 2002 IDIM graduate with major entitled Racial Identity and Mass Media.

Source: <http://idp.class.umn.edu/profiles/>



- **Program for Individualized Learning (PIL)**
(College of Continuing Education)
If you'd like to measure your academic success in an alternative way, this program is based on a set of standards, called graduation criteria. These criteria, rather than number of credits, provide the framework for structuring the degree program and assessing its success.
- **General Management Self-Designed Major**
(Carlson School of Management)
Design a degree that allows you to pair management study with an area of special expertise. For example, a student interested in managing golf courses for a living recently combined management with turf studies.

CAREERS AND INTERNSHIPS

Alumni of individualized programs have reported that employers and graduate schools take notice of their creativity, initiative, ability to define and pursue goals, and genuine desire to maximize their college education. “[Employers] are amazed at the amount of dedication and commitment you have to achieving your goals,” said one graduate.

Great Opportunities

Study Abroad

To prepare you for life in a global society, the U of M actively encourages studying abroad. Working or learning in a foreign country will build your skills, confidence, and cultural awareness as you enter a diverse world. The Learning Abroad Center offers more than 300 programs in 67 countries, from Nepal or Tanzania to Australia or Mexico.

Freshman Seminars

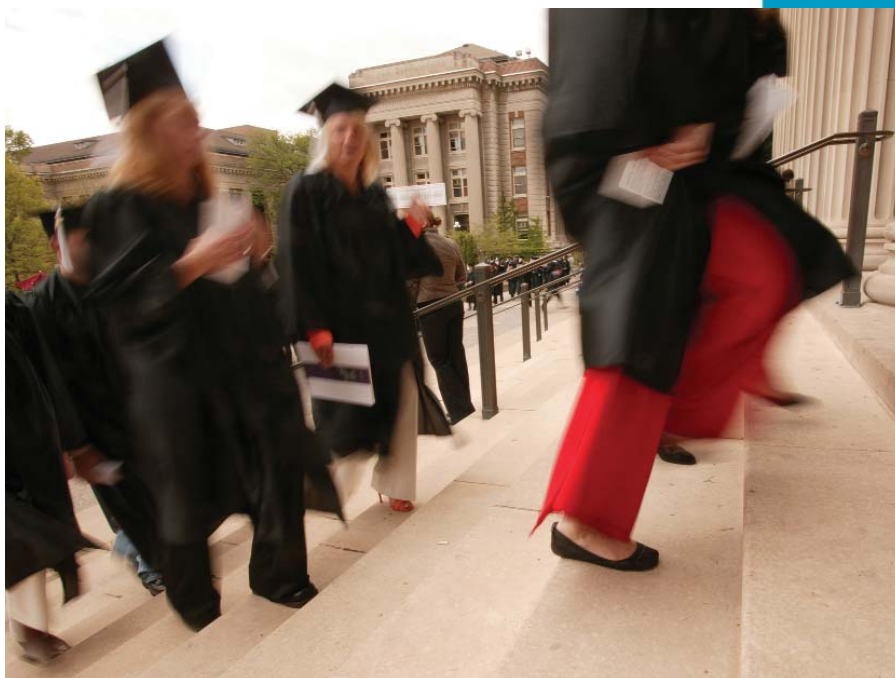
Designed to enhance your first-year experience, Freshman Seminars are an incredible way to begin your academic career at the University of Minnesota. You'll learn from some of our most distinguished faculty, while getting to know other first-year students who share your interests. Recent topics include *Monarch Butterfly Biology*; *Art in the Twin Cities*; *Hmong Life in America*; and *Physics for Game Developers*.

Mentor Program

The mentor-student partnership brings a “real-world” perspective to your academic program. You'll learn from seasoned professionals and experience behind-the-scenes realities of your chosen field. Participants get an inside view of companies or organizations in the Twin Cities area. Each of the U of M colleges offers mentor-matching services.

Research Opportunities

Imagine participating in a research program with world-class experts, and getting paid to do it! As a student in the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP), you'll conduct paid research or pursue special projects beyond your regular courses. Recently, students have conducted research ranging from the mental health needs of first-generation Americans to the use of symbols in computer games.



Campus Involvement

Even in the midst of an electric Big Ten atmosphere, the University of Minnesota has an intimate student community. It's easy to get involved here; we have over 600 student organizations where you can connect with other students who share your interests. Join academic organizations such as the Society of Women Engineers, Forensic Science Club, or the Creative Society of Writers. Connect with multicultural groups like the Hindu Student Society or Black Student Union. Share your passions with interest-based groups like the U Skydiving Club or Hip Hop Committee. Join a fraternity or sorority, or run for Minnesota Student Association.

Great Location

Consistently ranked among America's most livable communities, the Twin Cities provide an exciting and comfortable home to University of Minnesota students. Minneapolis and St. Paul are international centers for business, agribusiness, medicine, technology, media and the performing arts.

- In 2005, *Forbes Magazine* named Minneapolis-St. Paul 18th nationwide among the best metro areas for business and careers.
- According to a Census Bureau report in 2003, the Twin Cities metro area is attracting young, single college graduates at a faster pace than any other major metropolitan area in the region.
- The Twin Cities is the second "coolest community for young talent," according to Next Generation Consulting.

MEET US IN PERSON!

Like what you see so far? Come meet us in person! There's no better way to learn about the University of Minnesota. As you tour our breathtaking Twin Cities campus and meet our friendly staff and students, you'll see for yourself why the U of M is the perfect place to launch your career. We'd be happy to customize your visit to your interests. Schedule your visit today!

Online: <http://admissions.tc.umn.edu/visit>
By phone: 800-752-1000 or 612-625-0000

Curious about student life? Check out Gopher Blog at
<http://admissions.tc.umn.edu/blog>

CONTACT US TO LEARN MORE!

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Freshman Admission Welcome Center

200 Jones Hall
27 Pleasant Street S.E.

Transfer and International Admissions Welcome Center

240 Williamson Hall
231 Pillsbury Drive S.E.

