Individualized Major Program

Degree Offered

• Bachelor of Arts

Major: Interdepartmental Studies

The individualized major program provides highly motivated undergraduate students with an opportunity to complete an individually tailored program when their educational aims fall between established department or program boundaries. Students interested in this program should first explore the possibility that their aims can be met through a combination of established majors and minors, or through the Multidisciplinary Studies Program (http://mds.wvu.edu/). The Multidisciplinary Studies Program allows a student to combine three minors to create an interdisciplinary major.

An individualized major involves two or more academic areas, at least one of which must be in the Eberly College. The major program should be planned so that the academic depth and rigor meets or exceeds that of a traditional major. Since its approval in 1972, the individualized major program has attracted a number of interesting and challenging student proposals. Representative examples include a program in religious studies including courses in both religious studies and communication studies, a psycho-biology program focused on the integration of knowledge about the physiological and psychological mechanisms involved in learning, and a European culture program which combined elements from the Departments of History, World Languages, and Political Science.

The individualized major program is administered by the associate dean for undergraduate studies of the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences. Students interested in pursuing an individualized major should read the information at http://eberly.wvu.edu/undergraduate/individualized-major carefully and then make an appointment to meet with the associate dean for undergraduate studies of the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences by calling (304) 293-7476 to discuss their goals and the procedures they will need to follow to develop their program. Students should obtain approval for their major program no later than the end of their sophomore year as they are normally expected to embark on this program by the beginning of their junior year. This program may not be used to “patch together” courses already taken to create an individualized major. More information about this program and the application process is available at: http://eberly.wvu.edu/undergraduate/individualized-major.

FACULTY

COORDINATOR

• Valérie Lastinger - Ph.D. (University of Georgia)
  Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies