

DESIGN YOUR OWN MAJOR (INDIVIDUAL MAJOR)

Overview

The Individual Major is an opportunity for highly qualified and motivated students within the College of Letters & Science who wish to create their own unique major. This opportunity is for exceptional students with well-defined, interdisciplinary interests that cannot be accommodated by traditional academic disciplines. Students must fulfill specific academic criteria and submit a formal proposal for approval.

Eligibility:

- Completed at least three quarters of work at UCLA
- Completed a minimum of 45 UCLA units
- Minimum GPA of 3.4

Proposal

The major proposal must be submitted and approved by the first week of classes, three quarters before the intended graduation date. Your proposal must include:

- The 15 - 20 page proposal should state the following:
 - A brief title that reflects the central theme of the major
 - Well-thought out definition and purpose of the new major
 - Its relation to the student's goals
 - Reasons why the program cannot be accommodated within some existing majors
- Letters of support from two faculty advisors indicating that there has been thorough faculty consultation devising the program. The two faculty advisors (one primary advisor and a secondary) should be regular members of the faculty of the College of Letters and Science with a professorial title in a department that offers a major in the College.
- A list of the course numbers and titles in the preparation for the major and in the major itself, including an indication of the relevance of each course or group of courses to the program.
 - The major should consist of at least twelve and no more than fifteen upper division courses.
 - a majority of the courses should be in departments offering a major in the College of Letters and Science
 - Course list should include a 199 Capstone course (Senior Thesis)
 - Alternative courses included in the major may be considered to provide some flexibility for possible program planning issues.
 - The major may not include any courses taken on a P/NP basis.

Completion of the Individual Major

- Complete all courses proposed for the preparation for the major and the major itself
- Submit a senior thesis with any additional materials to the Honors office no later than Friday of finals week of the student's last quarter.

Completion of the Individual Major (continued)

- The thesis should synthesize and integrate a principal theme or themes common to the courses comprising the major.
- The thesis should have a brief title that reflects the central theme of the major.
- An abstract must be submitted in addition to the thesis.
- The faculty advisors will be responsible for reviewing the quality of the senior thesis which will also include letters of support.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Individual Major proposals must not be used to expedite graduation or to circumvent requirements of a departmental major. If your proposed program closely resembles an existing departmental major with a language requirement, your individual major must incorporate a comparable language requirement within the preparation coursework. This requirement must be fulfilled no later than your junior year.

Contact

For additional information on the Individual Major, please request an appointment with Director of Counseling, **Angel Perez**.

Appointments are available through [Message Center](#) (Zoom or in-person, 30 minutes). Include:

- Phone number
- Availability: Provide at least 3 options Monday through Friday, 9:00am – 11:30am, 1:30pm – 4:00pm
- Preference: Indicate in-person, zoom, or no preference; please also include whether or not you are open to zoom, if in-person is not available
- Brief description of the appointment reason (e.g. individual major)

