

Quinnipiac University
College of Arts and Sciences

Guidelines for INDEPENDENT MAJOR

Catalog Description:

A student may design a unique major program to fit his or her individual goals. The responsibility for the planning of such a program rests with the student proposing it. The independent major proposal must contain suitable justification and a coherent curricular plan. The full proposal must be submitted to the director of the Collaborative for Interdisciplinary/Integrative Studies for approval by no later than the first semester of the junior year and also must have the approval of a three-member faculty committee, chosen by the student, which works with the student to plan and carry out the program.

Deadlines for acceptance of proposals for review: March 1 (spring), and October 15 (fall).

Independent majors must include at least 24 credits of coursework at the 300 level or above, as well as a capstone project or final evaluation project.

Independent major proposals must be submitted no later than the first semester of the junior year.

Program Minimum Requirements:

- The major must consist of a minimum of 30 credits (may include courses already completed)
- No fewer than 24 of the 30 credits must be at the 300 level or above (QU301 and UC Integrative Capstones do not count)
- The major plan must include a final assessment, which may take the form of a class or a project. This assessment must be appropriate for a CAS major. The final assessment plan must be submitted by the second half of the junior year, and the assessment itself must be evaluated by the student's committee (see below) at the end of the senior year
- All UC requirements must be completed, outside the major
- All CAS requirements must be completed, outside the major
- Any minor requirements must be completed outside the major

Petition Checklist:

- Signatures of three full-time faculty members, chosen by the student, who agree to serve as the student's sponsors/advisors, and to participate in evaluating the final assessment for the proposed plan of study (these faculty members sign the petition form)
- All pre-requisites, as well as permissions to take courses set aside for traditional majors, are the responsibility of the student
- Written endorsements from two faculty members *in the College of Arts and Sciences* who know the student's work
- A written justification/rationale for the major that describes how the proposed major meets the student's academic goals (1 page), and how each area of coursework proposed by the student supports those goals (length will vary)
- An outline of all proposed courses, by field, including courses already completed
- A semester-by-semester plan for completing all requirements for graduation (see reverse)
- Completed and signed "Petition for Approval of an Independent Major Concentration" form

Semester: _____

Course Number/Title	Credits	Requirement Fulfilled

Semester: _____

Course Number/Title	Credits	Requirement Fulfilled

Semester: _____

Course Number/Title	Credits	Requirement Fulfilled

Semester: _____

Course Number/Title	Credits	Requirement Fulfilled

Final Assessment Plan (by 2nd half of Junior Year):