OTHER PROGRAMS

DESIGN YOUR OWN MAJOR

Individual Major

Overview
The Individual Major is an opportunity for highly qualified and motivated students in the College of Letters & Science to design their own major. This option is available to those outstanding students who have well-defined, interdisciplinary interests for which no suitable major is offered in the traditional academic disciplines.

To request an individual major, a student must meet the minimum academic requirements and submit a individual major proposal.

Academic Requirements to apply
☐ Completed at least three quarters of work at the University of California
☐ Minimum of 45 UCLA units completed
☐ Minimum grade point average of 3.4

Proposal Requirement
The major proposal must be submitted and approved no later than the first week of classes of the third quarter before the student's intended graduation. The following must be included in your proposal:

☐ The 15 - 20 page proposal should state the following:
  o A brief title that reflects the central theme of the major
  o Well-thought out definition and purpose of the new major
  o Its relation to the student’s goals
  o Reasons why the program cannot be accommodated within some existing major

☐ Letters of support from two faculty advisors indicating that there has been serious 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.
  o The major should consist of at least twelve and no more than fifteen upper division courses,
  o a majority of the courses should be in departments offering a major in the College of Letters and Science.
  o Course list should include a 199 Capstone course (Senior Thesis)
  o Alternative courses included in the major may be considered to provide some flexibility for possible program planning issues.
  o 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.
  o The thesis should synthesize and integrate a principal theme or themes common to the courses comprising the major.
  o 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 programs should not be designed merely as short-cuts to graduation, or in order to evade requirements in a departmental major. When a program is close to some departmental major that has a language requirement, the individual major must itself include a language requirement comparable to that of the related department, as preparation for the major. This requirement need not be fulfilled before starting on the major, but should be completed no later than the junior year.

Contact
For additional information on Individual Majors, please make an appointment with Honors Counselor, **Toi Turner** by calling (310) 825-1553 or by visiting A-311 Murphy Hall. Before scheduling an appointment, please consult with your faculty advisors regarding your proposed individual major.