Swarthmore College  
Office of the Registrar

# INDIVIDUALIZED MAJOR

With permission of the departments concerned, student's mayplan an individualized major that includes closely related work in one or more departments. Individualized majors consist of at least 10 credits and no more than 12 credits. Students with individualized majors typically complete a minimum of six courses in the primary department or program, omitting some of the breadth requirements of the major field. However, course requirements central to systematic understanding of the major field may not be waived. Students with individualized majors must complete the major comprehensive requirement, which may consist of a thesis or other written research project designed to integrate work across departmental boundaries, or a comprehensive examination. The departments involved collaborate in advising and in the comprehensive examination.

**Individualized majors need *four* categories of approval.** Any change of program or title requires complete re-approval. You need to speak with the relevant faculty and secure their approval via signature on this form. Submit completed form to the Registrar's Office via email ([registrar@swarthmore.edu](mailto:registrar@swarthmore.edu)) for final approval and record update.

1. **Individualized major title**: Approval required from the chair(s) of all department(s) suggested in the wording of the title, and the Registrar.
2. **Courses**: Approval required from the chair(s) of any department with 2 or more credits listed.
3. **Comprehensive exercise**: Approval required from the chair of the department offering the senior comprehensive exercise (comp) for the individualized major. The comp is usually the same or similar to the comp in the department of the individualized Major Advisor.
4. **Faculty Advisor**: Approval required from the faculty member advising the individualized major. Important Note: This person will be asked to certify major fulfillment in May of the senior year.
5. **Honors Director**: Approval required if you are pursuing an Honors Individualized Major.
6. **Registrar's Office**: Approval required to update your academic record.

NAME ID# GRAD YEAR

TITLE OF INDIVIDUALIZED MAJOR *(see #1 above):* Check for Honors? check box to indicate interest in joining the Honors Program

COMPREHENSIVE EXERCISE:

*List Course Information below.* ***Important Note****: There is a 10-credit minimum and 12-credit maximum*

|  | Subject | Course number | Semester/Year | Credits |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |
| 5 |  |  |  |  |
| 6 |  |  |  |  |
| 7 |  |  |  |  |
| 8 |  |  |  |  |
| 9 |  |  |  |  |
| 10 |  |  |  |  |
| 11 |  |  |  |  |
| 12 |  |  |  |  |

| Individualized Major Faculty Advisor, Signature, Date | Department Print Name |
| --- | --- |
| Comprehensive Exercise Chair, Signature, Date | Department Print Name |
| Department Chair Signature, Date | Department Print Name |
| Department Chair Signature, Date | Department Print Name |
| Department Chair Signature, Date | Department Print Name |
| Director of the Honors Program, for Honors Review | Date |
| Registrar, the Major Title Review | Date |

UNJ 12/2024