Swarthmore College

Office of the Registrar

INDIVIDUALIZED SPECIAL MAJOR

With permission of the departments concerned, it is possible for a student to plan an individualized special major that includes closely related work in one or more departments. Special majors consist of at least 10 credits and normally of no more than 12 credits. Students with special majors normally 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 special majors must complete the major comprehensive requirement, which may consist of a thesis or other written research projects designed to integrate the work across departmental boundaries, or a comprehensive examination. The departments involved collaborate in advising and in the comprehensive examination.

Special majors need **four** categories of approval. Any change of program or title requires complete re-approval. Obtain signatures and give copies to Registrar and signatories.

1. Special 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 the relevant department with 2 or more credits listed.
3. Comprehensive exercise. Approval required from the chair of the department offering the senior comprehensive exercise for the special major. The comp is usually the same or similar to the comp in the department of the Special Major Advisor.
4. Faculty Adviser. Approval required of the faculty member advising the special major. ***This person will be asked to certify major fulfillment in May of the senior year.**
5. Honors Coordinator. Approval required of the Honors Coordinator if you're pursuing an Honors Special Major.

NAME_____ID#_____GRAD YEAR_____

TITLE OF SPECIAL MAJOR *(see #1 above)*: _____ Check for Honors? ☐

COMPREHENSIVE EXERCISE: _____

	Dept. /No.	Course Title	Semester/Yr	Credits
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				
			(10 credit Minimum)	
11.				
12.				
			(12 credit Maximum)	

_____ *Special Major Faculty Advisor, Date

_____ Dept. _____ Comp. Exercise Chair Signature, Date

_____ Dept. _____ Chair Signature, Date

_____ Dept. _____ Chair Signature, Date

_____ Dept. _____ Chair Signature, Date

_____ Dept. _____ Chair Signature, Date

_____ Director of the Honors Program, for Honors Review, Date

_____ Registrar, the Major Title Review, Date

Jmj 3/18