

Special Studies Programs

A Special Studies Program is an interdisciplinary program to take the place of a recognized major program in cases in which a student wishes to earn a degree in a specialized area not covered by recognized majors, or an area that intersects two or more recognized majors and cannot be accommodated by a combination of a recognized major and minor, second major, or approved program.

A Special Studies Program is developed by the student in consultation with an academic adviser (referred to as the Special Studies Primary Advisor) in one of the primary departments and in consultation with advisors/faculty from all involved departments. The college to which the Primary Advisor belongs is designated as the college for which the College Curriculum Committee approves the plan of study.

The program should include completion of the liberal studies program, and any other applicable college and university requirements. It should include a distribution of courses to complete the Special Studies program, in place of a recognized major, plus a minor, second major, or approved program (as needed). It should include a plan for some kind of senior project, capstone course, or final assessment component.

The Special Studies Program will be approved by ~~all involved department heads, the curriculum committees of all involved colleges, the primary department's college curriculum committee and dean, with consultations attached from all departments involved in the program of study and the University Wide Curriculum Committee.~~ The consultations/reviews should pay University Curriculum Committee should pay particular attention to the assessment component(s) of the proposed program and will approve or disapprove the special studies program. Once approved at the college level the plan is forwarded to the Office of the Provost for processing.

The Special Studies Proposal form can be obtained from the Office of the Provost.