

has completed 7 or the 10 courses required for the major. A proposed Special Contract Major/Minor must receive preliminary approval from the faculty advisor of the Contract Major/Minor and any Chair or Director directly related to the proposed program of study, and the final approval from Curriculum Council. The proposal should be submitted to Curriculum Council no earlier than fall semester of the sophomore year and no later than March 1st of the junior year.

Students wishing to construct a Special Contract Minor must follow the same procedures and regulations for Special Contract Majors. Because of the limited number of courses for a minor (5-7), special consideration must be given to the cohesiveness of the proposed program of study.

Minor Field of Study

An optional minor establishes a structured program in a field other than the major. The student may thus engage in a more systematic study of a second field than is the case in the general education curriculum. Specific requirements for minors can be found in the various department and school listings. The following general guidelines also apply:

1. A minor consists of 5-7 course units designated by the department/school/program area.
2. A minimum grade point average of 2.0 with no more than one course unit of “D” work is required in the minor.
3. A minimum of two course units in upper division courses are required for the minor. (numbered 300 or higher)
4. A course unit may count for both a general education requirement and a departmental major or minor requirement but may not be counted toward both a major and a minor requirement.
5. No courses taken under the credit/no credit option (see page 71) may count toward a minor.

Independent Directed Study

Most departments in the University offer independent study on topics of the student’s own choosing under the guidance of faculty members who work with students and evaluate their work. Self-discipline, intellectual independence, closer relationships with faculty members, and the opportunity to explore areas outside the regular curriculum are among the benefits students may gain through independent study projects. To qualify for independent study, students must have a 2.0 cumulative grade point average earned after completion of at least three academic terms at Illinois Wesleyan or the equivalent in academic credit earned elsewhere.

Honors Research students of high academic achievement can elect to pursue the designation of Research Honors through a senior research project. Research Honors are available in any area of study offered at the University, including interdisciplinary fields. The typical research honors candidate pursues the research project throughout the senior year, receiving independent study credit toward the degree. The honors project culminates in a final research paper which the honors candidate defends before a faculty hearing committee. Further details on the program can be found on pages 79-80.