

**Academic Support Center**

3307 Third Avenue West Suite 116

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**Student-Designed Major Application**

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Students with a particular interest that crosses the boundaries of disciplinary majors may design an individualized major consisting of courses from at least but preferably more than two disciplines.

**Eligibility:**

* A student can apply for a student-designed major after completing at least two quarters at SPU and at least one year before their intended graduation date.
* A student must be in good academic standing (minimum 2.00 GPA in all courses taken at SPU).

**Guidelines:**

* A student-designed major must be clearly distinct from existing SPU programs, including reasonable combinations of both majors and minors. It must include courses from at least two disciplines and may include an internship and independent study courses.
* A student-designed major must follow all policies described in the Undergraduate Catalog (see “Standards governing completion of a major” for the applicable catalog year).
* A student-designed major must conform to the policies of the departments involved. For example, the student must meet the minimum GPA for entry into other majors in those departments (if applicable)~~.~~

**Required Documents:**

* This application form requires the rationale for pursuing a student-designed major and a list of all courses for the major. If the space below is not sufficient, you may provide attachments.
* If the student-designed major resembles a major offered at another school, a copy of the school’s catalog description of that program, including a list of courses, should be attached. Similarly, if there are national guidelines for such a program, those should be attached.
* If the student-designed major involves licensing, certification, and/or competency requirements, a copy of those should be attached.

**Approval Process:**

* The student must work with a faculty advisor in a discipline included in the student-designed major.
* The advisor and student should devise a title for the major that begins with “Student-Designed Major in" (for example, “Student-Designed Major in Public Health”).
* The advisor will determine that the proposed configuration of courses is academically defensible as a major, clearly distinct from existing programs, and similar in rigor to other majors at SPU. The advisor will complete their section of this application and sign this form attesting to their approval.
* The application also requires signatures from the chairs of all academic departments represented in the student-designed major.
* The student will submit a complete application to their [assigned academic counselor](https://spu.edu/administration/academic-counseling/advising/counselors) in the Academic Support Center. The Undergraduate Curriculum Committee or the assigned Subcommittee will review the application and may request changes. Once the proposal has been approved, the Academic Support Center will work with the Office of the Registrar to update official student records.
* Students should retain a copy of their approved major for reference.

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| **To Be Completed By Student** |

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ SPU ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**MAJOR INFORMATION**

Title: Student-Designed Major in

*Note: Text after “Student-Designed Major in” must be 70 characters or fewer, including spaces.*

In addition to this student-designed major, please list all other majors and minors you plan to continue pursuing:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Rationale** (If the space below is not sufficient, you may provide attachments):

1. Write a paragraph describing how the student-designed major will meet your career and/or academic goals.
2. Write a paragraph describing how the unique skills, knowledge, and competencies that you will gain through the proposed major could not be gained through existing majors. If applicable, explain how an internship or independent study will allow you to integrate content and skills from different disciplines.

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| **To Be Completed By Faculty Advisor** |

Will this student-designed major achieve academic and/or career goals of applicant better than existing majors at SPU or elsewhere: Yes / No

Does SPU have adequate resources to support the proposal: Yes / No

*If not*, where will complementary courses be taken? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVALS**

Faculty Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Department Chair: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dept. to which SD Major should be assigned: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Chair Initials: \_\_\_\_\_\_­\_\_

Additional Department Chair: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Required if proposal involves more than one department)

Curriculum Committee: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| **Major Coursework** |

List all coursework in proposed major (attach additional page, if necessary):

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Course Discipline and Number** | **Course Title** | **Institution Granting Credits** | **Number of Credits** | **Complete?** |
| 1. |  |  |  |  |
| 2. |  |  |  |  |
| 3. |  |  |  |  |
| 4. |  |  |  |  |
| 5. |  |  |  |  |
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| 12. |  |  |  |  |
| 13 |  |  |  |  |
| 14 |  |  |  |  |
| 15. |  |  |  |  |

All majors must include a clearly identifiable capstone course. Please ensure your capstone is highlighted in some way above.

Describe field work or internship experience(s), if required:

Credit totals (to be completed with faculty advisor):

Total credits in major: Total upper-division credits in major:

**NOTE: The major must include at least 45 credits. NOTE: A minimum of 23 upper-division credits must be earned in a major.**

Upper-division credits in major at SPU:

**NOTE: A minimum of 15 upper-division credits in a major must be earned at SPU.**

Student’s Signature: Date:

Faculty Advisor’s Signature: Date: