

Procedures and Guidelines for Individualized Interdisciplinary Majors (IIM):

The purpose of the IIM is to provide students an opportunity to create a unique degree when their academic goals cannot be accomplished through existing programs. IIMs should not be a duplication, re-packaging, or re-naming of existing majors and minors.

1. To develop a plan for an IIM, the student will work with an advisory committee consisting of at least one faculty member from each of the disciplines represented in the IIM. The plan must be typed within the fillable IIM form (9/17), which will list the requirements for the IIM and explain the purpose of the IIM. The SMSU transcript will reflect the following as the degree title: Individualized Interdisciplinary.
2. IIM plans must be approved prior to registering for the last 36 credits needed for graduation. This timeline is important for IIM students because they should know that their degree program has been approved before investing too much time on it.
3. The plan must consist of at least 36 credits. It must contain at least 18 credits at the 300 and 400 level. The 36 credits can contain no more than 3 credits of Independent Study and no more than 3 credits of Internship. Any additional credits of either Independent Study or Internship may be included in the plan, but they must be in excess of the required 36 credits.
4. Additionally, the student is required to meet the SMSU degree requirements to earn a baccalaureate degree.
5. The student must receive approval for the IIM plan from his/her academic advisor, each member of the advisory committee, and each department involved. After the student obtains the signature of the advisors and departments involved, the student's academic advisor will submit the IIM plan to the Curriculum Committee.
6. The advisor must prepare 1 hard copy and 1 PDF copy of the completed IIM form for submission to the Curriculum Committee. If the Curriculum Committee approves the IIM plan, then the Curriculum Committee Chair will forward an approved copy of the IIM form to the Academic Dean responsible. If the Academic Dean approves the IIM plan, then the Dean will forward the approved form to the Registration Office. The Registration Office will keep an approved copy of the IIM form and enter the courses on the DARS report.
7. Any course changes after the IIM has been approved must follow the petition process.
8. If the Curriculum Committee approves five or more IIMs with essentially the same content within a period of two years, then the Curriculum Committee Chair will notify the departments involved. Instead of approving additional students for similar IIMs, the departments involved should develop a degree program with similar content and seek to have it adopted through the curriculum process.
9. Only approved majors will be listed in the catalog or published and distributed to students. Individualized Interdisciplinary majors with established content should be developed into a degree program proposal. The proposal will then follow the curriculum adoption process.

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