

# MAJORS AND MINORS

## Major Field of Study

Mills believes that studying one field in depth gives shape and purpose to a student's educational program. As soon as a major is chosen, the student is encouraged to plan a course of study for the full program to graduation. A few disciplines require a sequence of courses that begins in the first year. Many majors also require that the student select a particular emphasis within the major which will determine the exact course requirements for that major. Courses in the major must be completed with letter grades.

A major field of study most often lies within a single department, but divisional and interdivisional majors bring together related materials from several disciplines. A single-discipline major will typically require 31 to 57 semester course credits within the discipline. In some cases, related courses in other disciplines will be required and elective courses outside the major field may be suggested. A divisional or interdivisional major requires a minimum of 30 semester course credits within the combined fields of concentration. In addition, most departments plan for their seniors a capstone experience that provides a synthesis of the material in the major field. This experience might be a comprehensive examination, a senior seminar, a thesis, a performance, a project, or a combination of exercises. (See Declaring a Major. (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/academic-regulations/declaring-major-minor>))

Students may also create their own individualized major. (See Individualized Major section below.)

## Minor Field of Study

Minor programs, consisting of 15 to 20 semester course credits, are authorized in certain fields or disciplines. Courses in the minor sequence may not be duplicated in the student's major sequence. A student may not major and minor in the same discipline. Courses in the minor must be completed with letter grades. (See Declaring a Minor (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/academic-regulations/declaring-major-minor>))

## Majors and Minors

Art and Technology (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/art-technology>) *major, minor*

Art History (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/art-history>) *major, minor*

Art (Studio) (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/art-studio>) *major, minor*

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/biochemistry-molecular-biology>) *major* (BA and BS)

Biology (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/biology>) *major* (BA and BS), *minor*

Biopsychology (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/biopsychology>) *major* (BA and BS)

Book Art (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/book-art>) *minor*

Business Administration (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/business-administration>) *major, minor*

Business Economics (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/business-economics>) *major*

Chemistry (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/chemistry>) *major* (BA and BS), *minor*

Child Development (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/child-development>) *major, minor*

Chinese Language and Culture (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/chinese-language-culture>) *minor*

Communication (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/communication>) *major*

Computer Science (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/computer-science>) *major, minor*

Dance (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/dance>) *major, minor*

Data Science (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/data-science>) *major*

Economics (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/economics>) *major, minor*

Education (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/education>) *major*

English with Emphasis in Creative Writing (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/english>) *major, minor*

English with Emphasis in Literature (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/english>) *major, minor*

Environmental Science (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/environmental-science>) *major* (BA and BS)

Environmental Studies (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/environmental-studies>) *major, minor*

Ethnic Studies (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/ethnic-studies>) *major, minor*

French and Francophone Studies (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/french-francophone-studies>) *minor*

Global Humanities and Critical Thought (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/global-humanities-critical-thought>) *major*

History (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/history>) *major, minor*

History of Philosophy (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/philosophy/#text>) *minor*

Individualized Major (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/individualized-major>) *major*

International Relations (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/international-relations>) *major*

Journalism (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/journalism>) *minor*

Legal Studies (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/legal-studies/legal-studies-minor>) *minor*

Mathematics (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/mathematics>) *major* (BA and BS), *minor*

Music (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/music>) *major, minor*

Philosophy (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/philosophy>) *minor*

Political Science (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/political-science>) *major, minor*

Politics, Economics, Policy and Law (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/politics-economics-policy-law>) *major*

Psychology (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/psychology>) *major, minor*

Public Health and Health Equity (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/public-health-health-equity>) *major* (BA and BS), *minor*

Public Policy (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/public-policy>) *minor*

Queer Studies (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/queer-studies>) *minor*

Religious Studies (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/religious-studies>) *minor*

Sociology (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/sociology>) *major, minor*

Spanish and Spanish American Studies (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/spanish-spanish-american-studies>) *minor*

Theater Studies (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/theater-studies>) *major, minor*

Urban Education (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/education>) *minor*

Women, Leadership and Social Change (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/women-leadership-social-change>) *minor*

Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/womens-gender-sexuality-studies>) *major*

Women's Studies (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/womens-gender-sexuality-studies>) *minor*

## Bachelor's to Master's Accelerated Degree Programs

Mills offers nine unique programs that enable students to earn a bachelor's and a master's degree in just five years:

- BA/MAE Applied Economics (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-degree-programs/bamae-applied-economics-program>)
- BA/MBA Business Administration (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-degree-programs/bamba-accelerated-degree>)
- BA/MA Child Development & Elementary Education (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-degree-programs/bama-child-development-elementary-education>)
- BA/MA Early Childhood Education (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-degree-programs/bama-child-developmentearly-childhood>)
- BA/MA Early Childhood Special Education/Teaching Credential (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-degree-programs/bama-child-developmentearly-childhood-special-education-credential>)
- BA/MA Infant Mental Health (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-degree-programs/bama-infant-mental-health>)
- BA/MA Interdisciplinary Computer Science (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-degree-programs/ba-ma-interdisciplinary-computer-science>)
- BA/MM Management (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-degree-programs/bamm-accelerated-degree>)
- BA/MPP Public Policy (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-degree-programs/bampp-accelerated-masters-degree-program>)
- BA/MA Education/Teaching Credential (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-degree-programs/bama-teacher-education>)
- BA/Joint MPP/MBA (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-degree-programs/joint-mppmba-accelerated-degree-program>)

## Preprofessional Programs

Mills offers students in any major additional guidance in shaping their curriculum to conform to entrance requirements for professional graduate schools in:

- Medicine/Health Sciences (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/preprofessional-programs/medicine-health-sciences>)
- Pre-Law (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/preprofessional-programs/pre-law>)
- Pre-Nursing Certificate (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/preprofessional-programs/pre-nursing>)

## Individualized Major

Students who wish to design and follow a personalized program of study may create an individualized major. Individualized majors offer an alternative to traditional majors, and allow students to pursue educational goals that fall outside of existing departmental curriculum. In addition, individualized majors provide students with the opportunity to work across disciplines and to apply multiple disciplinary perspectives to an area of inquiry. Individualized majors emphasize innovation, creativity and originality and enable students to address new and evolving social, cultural, political, and scientific concerns. Students pursuing an individualized major are encouraged

to include opportunities to gain real-world experience and professional development as a part of their major, including an internship or community-engaged learning activity. Individualized majors are appropriate for highly motivated students who are able to operate outside of existing structures.

All students pursuing an individualized major complete a senior project. This capstone project is the culmination of the individualized course of study and is an opportunity to demonstrate knowledge, skills, and competencies gained in the prior course sequence. Students may participate in a senior seminar class in a related discipline with consent of the instructor, or pursue an independent study to complete this requirement. They should present a final project, presentation, or exhibition in consultation with their advisors. Senior project presentations and exhibits must be viewed and approved by individualized major advisors prior to graduation.

Some recent college majors include creative storytelling and cultural perspectives, deaf culture and child development, and critical public health studies. See examples of individualized majors (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/individualized-major/individualized-majors-examples>).