

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES: MINOR PROGRAMS

Interdisciplinary Studies gives undergraduate students the opportunity to extend and complement their work in the major by pursuing a minor—a defined course sequence that explores a specific theme, topic, or discipline. Minors are optional, and most Interdisciplinary Studies students pursue only one minor, however, students may be approved to pursue two minors on a case-by-case basis.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students enrolled in Interdisciplinary Studies will:

- Develop an awareness of interdisciplinary opportunities in professional art and design practices.
- Increase their exposure to a broad range of skills, experiences, and knowledge.
- Develop an art/design practice that is grounded in two or more disciplines, by pursuing a minor that complements studies in the major.

MINORS OFFERED:

Advertising Design
Art History
Book Arts
Community Arts Engagement (ACT Program)
Contemporary Clay
Creative Writing
Digital Media
*** NEW * Entrepreneurship * NEW ***
Graphic Design
Illustration
Interior Design
Landscape Design
Painting
Photography
Printmaking
Product Design
Sculpture/New Genres
Sustainability
Teacher Credential Preparation (ACT Program)

ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

In order to pursue a minor, students must be on track in their major and in good academic standing, with fewer than 6 credits behind and a cumulative GPA of 2.0. Not all minors are open to all majors. See each specific minor for details. Students will be allowed to register for courses on a space-available basis, which is not guaranteed, but registering early will significantly increase the chances of getting into their required courses.

Transfer students who apply for and are approved to pursue a minor upon entering the College must meet the requirements above and fulfill degree program requirements through an appropriate combination of transfer courses and courses completed at Otis.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Students should complete their Declaration of Minor form during registration advising for either the first or second semester of the sophomore year. Under limited circumstances, students may declare a minor in the first semester of the junior year. Declaration forms are available online. The Chair/Director/Coordinator of the Minor, the Director of Interdisciplinary Studies and the Registrar must approve the application.

- Meet with the Interdisciplinary Studies Director and/or Program Assistant to discuss your plans.
- Sign Academic Plan (obtained by Interdisciplinary Studies office).
- Meet with area head of your chosen minor(s) to gain their approval.
- Students receive email confirmation once their declaration form has been approved by the Registrar.

Students who wish to drop their minor must complete the online Dropping Minor form. Students who wish to change their minor or add a second minor must complete a new Declaration of Minor form following the instructions above.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Each minor requires students to complete between 15 and 18 credits, depending on the curricular requirements of their chosen minor. Minor course requirements can fulfill Studio Electives and in some cases also Creative Action and Liberal Arts and Sciences requirements. For some majors, pursuing a minor may require additional course work or degree requirements above the 120 credit BFA.

*** NEW Entrepreneurship Minor**

Students who minor in Entrepreneurship will dive deep into the world of start-ups, small businesses, and solo-preneurship within the Creative Economy. This minor will prepare students to form their own studio, office, firm or organization, develop their work (products and services), and market themselves for visibility, recognition, and success.

Program Learning Outcomes:

Students who complete the Entrepreneurship Minor will be able to:

- Use quantitative and qualitative analytical and critical thinking skills to evaluate information, solve problems, and make sound business/entrepreneurial decisions.
- Express creative and innovative entrepreneurial pursuits in visual, written and oral forms.
- Demonstrate an awareness of the legal, social, ethical and environmental impacts of various art and design business models and practices.
- Demonstrate familiarity with different leadership theories and identify their own leadership style, tendencies, and potential areas for growth and improvement.
- Participate in and reflect on professional practice training through internships and incubators.

Participating Departments

The Entrepreneurship Minor is open to all undergraduate majors.

Entrepreneurship Minor Required Courses

- ENTR300 Introduction to Entrepreneurship – 2.0 credits
- LIBS317 Issues in Entrepreneurship – 3.0 credits
- MATH137 Money Matters – 3.0 credits
- ENTR310 Entrepreneurial Internship – 2.0 credits
- LIBS318 Business Writing – 3.0 credits
- ENTR400 Launchpad – 2.0 credits

Total: 15.0 credits

Intro to Entrepreneurship

ENTR300 – 2 credits

What do you want to do and make, and how can you monetize it? Students learn and reflect on the basics of defining, planning, establishing, and sustaining a meaningful art or design practice while treating that practice as a business. Artists and Designers who have successfully launched their own businesses present best practices through a guest speaker series. Students produce visual presentations and/or portfolios that articulate their vision for future entrepreneurial pursuits.

Issues in Entrepreneurship

LIBS317 – 3 credits

What is the current climate for start-ups and small businesses? Students will research and debate a range of issues while considering how they may affect their future business pursuits. Topics may include: capitalism, economic class, new economic models, business for social good, intra-preneurship, business leadership, small business law and liability, copyrights, ethics, labor practices, global business cultures, the role of social media, and potential environmental impacts of small businesses, among others.

Money Matters

MATH137 – 3 credits

Students will learn key financial terms as well as personal and business finance management tools including but not limited to financial statement analysis, cash flow management, budget forecasting, investing, business valuation, financing options, record keeping, accounting, inventory control, mandatory income and payroll tax reporting.

Entrepreneurial Internship – Blended

ENTR310 – 2 credits

Students will intern at small businesses, start-ups, non-profits and/or artist/designer studios to experience and reflect on the day-to-day business practices of their chosen field. Ten weeks of this course will be conducted online asynchronously (not meeting at the same time) to allow for internships.

Pre-requisites: ENTR300 Introduction to Entrepreneurship, MATH137 Money Matters, and LIBS317 Issues in Entrepreneurship.

Business Writing

LIBS318 – 3 credits

This class teaches students how to write and improve their professional communications as designers and artists. From emails to elevator pitches, from project/product naming and descriptions to headlines and taglines, from proposals to presentations, students will learn to conceptualize, write, critique and revise these common forms of business writings. Students will also study social media by researching best practices.

Launchpad

ENTR400 – 2 credits

Functioning as an *Incubator* this class is team-taught by Studio faculty from a range of disciplines. Students define and develop specific projects or start-ups meant to launch their careers after graduation. Strategic Planning, Business Plan writing, Marketing and Project Management, Business Loan, Angel Investing and Venture Capital processes, among other topics will be covered.

Pre-requisite: ENT310 Entrepreneurial Internship.

Co-requisite: LIBS318 Business Writing