Dietrich College Interdisciplinary Majors

When addressing complex issues, we often rely on approaches that take advantage of a variety of relevant disciplines. The college houses the special category of “interdepartmental majors” for programs where this interdisciplinary approach is most pronounced and in which the varied disciplinary perspectives are most fully integrated. These majors are presented here separately, rather than as departmentally-based options, to reflect and underscore their sponsorship by more than one academic department and the unique features that follow from this structure.

Interdepartmental majors are administered by the academic department of the major’s faculty advisor.

The Major in Economics and Mathematical Sciences

Academic Advisor: Kathleen Conway
Office: GSIA 131
Email: kiconway@andrew.cmu.edu

The B.S. in Economics and Mathematical Sciences (http://coursecatalog.web.cmu.edu/dietrichcollegeofhumanitiesandsocialsciences/undergraduateeconomicsprogram/ #bsineconomicsandmathematicalsciencescurriculum) is a collaborative effort between the Department of Mathematical Sciences and the Undergraduate Economics Program. Combining advanced mathematics with advanced economic theory is the hallmark of this curriculum. The curriculum provides students with courses that complement and develop depth of understanding of economic theory, applied economics, and applied mathematics. This major offers an integrated curriculum, guiding students through a program of coursework that exploits and builds upon the synergies between mathematics and economics. This degree program equips students with the mathematical tools that are essential for success in Ph.D. programs in economics, mathematics, and key functional areas of business including finance, accounting, marketing, and information systems. Students pursuing this degree will be well prepared for the beginning of their research careers in academia, government, and industry. There are a limited number of student slots in this program; interested students may apply as early as their sophomore year.

The Major in Economics and Statistics

Academic Advisor: Samantha Nielsen
Faculty Advisors: Rebecca Nugent and Edward Kennedy
Executive Director, Undergraduate Economics Program: Carol Goldburg
Senior Academic Advisor and Program Manager, Undergraduate Economics Program: Kathleen Conway
Office: Baker Hall 132
Email: statadvising@stat.cmu.edu

The Major in Economics and Statistics provides an interdisciplinary course of study aimed at students with a strong interest in the empirical analysis of economic data. With joint curriculum from the Department of Statistics and Data Science and the Undergraduate Economics Program, the major provides students with a solid foundation in the theories and methods of both fields. Students in this major are trained to advance the understanding of economic issues through the analysis, synthesis and reporting of data using the advanced empirical research methods of statistics and econometrics. Graduates are well positioned for admission to competitive graduate programs, including those in statistics, economics and management, as well as for employment in positions requiring strong analytic and conceptual skills - especially those in economics, finance, education, and public policy.

All economics courses counting towards an economics degree must be completed with a grade of "C" or higher.

The requirements for the B.S. in Economics and Statistics are the following:

I. Prerequisites

**38-39 units**

1. Mathematical Foundations

   **38-39 units**

   **Calculus**

   21-120 Differential and Integral Calculus 10

   and one of the following:

   21-256 Multivariate Analysis 9

   21-259 Calculus in Three Dimensions 9

   **Note:** Passing the MSC 21-120 assessment test is an acceptable alternative to completing 21-120.

   **Note:** Taking both 21-111 and 21-112 is equivalent to 21-120. The Mathematical Foundations total is then 48-49 units. The Economics and Statistics major would then total 201-211 units.

   **Linear Algebra**

   One of the following three courses:

   21-240 Matrix Algebra with Applications 10

   21-241 Matrices and Linear Transformations 10

   21-242 Matrix Theory 10

   **Note:** 21-241 and 21-242 are intended only for students with a very strong mathematical background.

   **II. Foundations**

   **18-36 units**

   2. Economics Foundations 18 units

   73-102 Principles of Microeconomics 9

   73-103 Principles of Macroeconomics 9

   3. Statistical Foundations 9-18 units

   **Sequence 1** (for students beginning their freshman or sophomore year)

   **Beginning**

   Choose one of the following courses:

   36-200 Reasoning with Data 9

   36/70-207 Probability and Statistics for Business Applications 9

   36-220 Engineering Statistics and Quality Control 9

   36-247 Statistics for Lab Sciences 9

   *Or extra data analysis course in Statistics

   **Note:** Students who enter the program with 36-225 or 36-226 should discuss options with an advisor. Any 36-300 or 36-400 level course in Data Analysis that does not satisfy any other requirement for the Economics and Statistics Major may be counted as a Statistical Elective.

   **Intermediate**

   Choose one of the following courses:

   36-202 Statistics & Data Science Methods ** 9

   36-208 Regression Analysis 9

   36-290 Introduction to Statistical Research Methodology 9

   36-309 Experimental Design for Behavioral & Social Sciences 9

   *Or extra data analysis course in Statistics

   **Must take prior to 36-401**

   **Sequence 2** (for students beginning later in their college career)

   **Advanced**

   Choose one of the following courses:

   36-303 Sampling, Survey and Society 9

   36-311 Statistical Analysis of Networks 9

   36-315 Statistical Graphics and Visualization 9

   36-461 Special Topics: Statistical Methods in Epidemiology 9

   36-462 Special Topics: Data Mining 9

   36-463 Special Topics: Multilevel and Hierarchical Models 9

   36-464 Special Topics: Applied Multivariate Methods 9

   36-466 Special Topics: Statistical Methods in Finance 9

   36-467 Special Topics: Data over Space & Time 9

   36-490 Undergraduate Research 9

   Special Topics rotate and new ones are regularly added.
III. Disciplinary Core 126 units

1. Economics Core 45 units
   - 73-230 Intermediate Microeconomics 9
   - 73-240 Intermediate Macroeconomics 9
   - 73-270 Strategic Professional Communication for Economists 9
   - 73-265 Economics and Data Science 9
   - 73-274 Econometrics I 9
   - 73-374 Econometrics II 9

2. Statistics Core 36 units
   - 36-225 Introduction to Probability Theory *# 9
   - and one of the following two courses:
     - 36-226 Introduction to Statistical Inference * 9
     - 36-326 Mathematical Statistics (Honors)* 9
   - and both of the following two courses:
     - 36-401 Modern Regression * 9
     - 36-402 Advanced Methods for Data Analysis 9
   * in order to be a major in good standing, a grade of C or better is required in 36-225 (or equivalents), 36-226 or 36-326 and 36-401. Otherwise you will not be allowed to continue in the major.

3. Computing 9 units
   - 36-350 Statistical Computing * 9

4. Advanced Electives 36 units
   - Students must take two advanced Economics elective courses (numbered 73-300 through 73-495, excluding 73-374) and two advanced Statistics elective courses (numbered 36-303, 36-311, 36-315, or 36-46x through 36-495).
   - Students pursuing a degree in Economics and Statistics also have the option of earning a concentration area by completing a set of interconnected electives. While a concentration area is not required for this degree, this is an additional option that allows students to pursue courses that are aligned with a particular career path. The two electives that are already required for this degree could count towards your concentration area, please make sure to consult an advisor when choosing these courses.

   Total number of units for the major 191-201 units
   Total number of units for the degree 360 units

Professional Development

Students are strongly encouraged to take advantage of professional development opportunities and/or coursework. One option is 73-210 Economics Colloquium I, a fall-only course that provides information about careers in Economics, job search strategies, and research opportunities. The Department of Statistics and Data Science also offers a series of workshops offered by the Department of Mathematics.

Sample Program

The following sample program illustrates one way to satisfy the requirements of the Economics and Statistics Major. Keep in mind that the program is flexible and can support other possible schedules (see footnotes below the schedule).

Additional Major in Environmental Policy

Faculty Advisor: Professor Abigail E. Owen; aeowen@cmu.edu, Wean Hall 3709, 412-268-2953
Academic Advisor: Dr. Andrew Ramey; aramey@andrew.cmu.edu, Baker Hall 240, 412-268-7906

The additional major in Environmental Policy focuses on human-environment interactions from a multidisciplinary perspective. The curriculum draws on the expertise of faculty across several Carnegie Mellon colleges in order to provide students with the interdisciplinary background and skills necessary to understand environmental problems and the means to mitigate them. It emphasizes three general areas: (1) natural science and technology; (2) social sciences; and (3) the humanities. The flexible
curriculum features training in research methods; a set of core courses on fundamental environmental issues including energy, pollution, and biological diversity; and a project course experience geared toward policy formulation. The total units required are 121.

Note that some courses carry prerequisites and/or reserve seats for primary majors. Students interested in pursuing the additional major must meet beforehand with the Faculty Advisor and their home unit academic advisor in order to evaluate the feasibility of completing the additional major and to map out a course of study. Double counting follows guidelines set by the Dietrich College. Students are encouraged to be alert to new course offerings; every effort will be made to find equivalent courses that meet student interest when done in consultation with the Faculty Advisor.

**Prerequisites (55-57 units)**

Complete ALL of the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21-111</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36-200</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>36-202</td>
<td>9</td>
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</table>

Complete THREE of the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>03-121</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>03-124 (corequisite)</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>03-125</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>09-103</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>09-105</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>09-106</td>
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</table>

Disciplinary Perspectives: Complete TWO of the following courses (18 units)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09-510</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76-319</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79-374</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>99-236</td>
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</table>

Thematic Electives: Complete TWO of the following courses (18 units)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tr>
<td>12-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>19-101</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>19-424</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>60-203</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>76-395</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>79-283</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>79-315</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>79-336</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>79-372</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>79-394</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>80-348</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88-223</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>88-302</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>88-412</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-765 (Environment)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-798 (Environmental Policy)</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-808 (Energy Policy)</td>
<td>6</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

(90-xxx Heinz College courses open only to seniors)

Research and Analytical Methods: Complete TWO of the following courses (18 units)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>36-309 Experimental Design for Behavioral &amp; Social Sciences</td>
<td>9</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**The Major in Ethics, History, and Public Policy**

Alex John London, Director
Office: Baker Hall 150A
Email: ajlondon@andrew.cmu.edu
http://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/ehpp/

The B.A./B.S. in Ethics, History, and Public Policy is an interdepartmental major offered jointly by the Departments of History and Philosophy. It prepares students for leadership positions by providing them with a rigorous, interdisciplinary humanistic and social-scientific education. It also serves as an excellent springboard for graduate study in a wide variety of disciplines such as law, public policy, ethics, and advocacy. The program focuses equally on the historical understanding of how modern-day problems have evolved, and the importance of developing clear criteria for ethical decision-making. The capstone project course provides students with the opportunity to engage with real-world public policy challenges using the methods, theories, and knowledge that they have gained through the major. Offered jointly by the departments of History and Philosophy, the B.A./B.S. in EHPP encourages specialization, internship experiences, and research in a wide range of policy areas.

**Curriculum**

Students graduating with a primary major in Ethics, History, and Public Policy may elect to receive either a Bachelor of Arts or a Bachelor of Science Degree (additional requirements apply; see below). Basic requirements include 120 units encompassing 9 units in Economics, 36 units in History, 36 units in Philosophy, 27 units of elective courses, and a 12-unit senior capstone course. This program may also be taken as an additional (e.g., second) major. All courses toward the major must be taken for a letter grade, and 79-200 and 79-300 must be passed with a grade of "C" or better. Students can double count any course for the major with another major or minor, with the exception of Social and Political History, for which a student can double count a maximum of two courses.

I. Economics Requirement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>73-102 Principles of Microeconomics</td>
<td>9</td>
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II. History Core

Choose one 9-unit course from each category below:

**Policy History (9 units)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>79-300 History of American Public Policy</td>
<td>9</td>
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</table>

**U.S. History (9 units)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>79-240 Development of American Culture</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79-249 20th &amp; 21st Century U.S. History</td>
<td>9</td>
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</table>

**Non-U.S. History (9 units)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>79-202 Flesh and Spirit: Early Modern Europe, 1400-1750</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>79-203 Social and Political Change in 20th Century Central and Eastern Europe</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>79-205 20th &amp; 21st Century Europe</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79-207 Development of European Culture</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>79-222 Between Revolutions: The Development of Modern Latin America</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>79-223 Mexico: From the Aztec Empire to the Drug War</td>
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<tr>
<td>79-226 African History: Earliest Times to 1780</td>
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</table>
79-227 Modern Africa: The Slave Trade to the End of Apartheid
79-229 Origins of the Arab-Israeli Conflict, 1880-1948
79-230 Arab-Israeli Conflict Since 1948
79-237 Comparative Slavery
79-261 The Last Emperors: Chinese History and Society, 1600-1900
79-262 Modern China: From the Birth of Mao ... to Now
79-264 Tibet and China: History and Propaganda
79-265 Russian History: From the First to the Last Tsar
79-266 Russian History: From Communism to Capitalism
79-307 Religion and Politics in the Middle East

Historical Methods and Approaches (9 units)
79-200 Introduction to Historical Research & Writing

III. Philosophy Core 36 units
Choose one 9-unit course from each category below. No more than 9 units at the 100 level may be counted toward this requirement.

Ethics (9 units)
80-130 Introduction to Ethics
80-330 Ethical Theory

Political Philosophy (9 units)
80-135 Introduction to Political Philosophy
80-335 Social and Political Philosophy

Foundations of Social Science (9 units)
80-221 Philosophy of Social Science
80-321 Causation, Law, and Social Policy
80-324 Philosophy of Economics

Applied Philosophy (9 units)
80-136 Social Structure, Public Policy & Ethics
80-244 Environmental Ethics
80-245 Medical Ethics
80-249 AI, Society, and Humanity
80-336 Philosophy of Law
80-348 Health, Development, and Human Rights
80-447 Global Justice

IV. Senior Capstone Project Course 12 units
79-449 EHPP Project Course
80-449 EHPP Project Course

The Ethics, History and Public Policy Project Course is required for the Ethics, History and Public Policy major and is taken in the fall semester of the senior year. In this capstone course, Ethics, History and Public Policy majors carry out a collaborative research project that examines a compelling current policy issue that can be illuminated with historical research and philosophical and policy analysis. The students develop an original research report based on both archival and contemporary policy analysis and they present their results to a client organization in the community.

V. Elective Courses 27 units
Choose any three courses from any category or categories shown below. Substitution of elective courses that cohere with a student's interest or concentration may be allowed after consultation with and approval from the Director.

Engineering and Public Policy (some courses have prerequisites; see EPP catalog listing)
19-424 Energy and the Environment

Business
70-311 Organizational Behavior
70-321 Negotiation and Conflict Resolution
70-332 Business, Society and Ethics
70-364 Business Law
70-365 International Trade and International Law
70-430 International Management

Economics (some courses have prerequisites; see Economics catalog listing)
73-352 Public Economics
73-358 Economics of the Environment and Natural Resources
73-359 Benefit-Cost Analysis
73-365 Firms, Market Structures, and Strategy
73-372 International Money and Finance
73-408 Law and Economics
73-476 American Economic History

English
76-492 Rhetoric of Public Policy

History
Courses from the EHPP History Core (above) may be taken as electives only if they are not being used to fulfill the core requirement. Double counting is not permitted.
79-217 The War in Vietnam
79-221 Development and Democracy in Latin America
79-231 American Foreign Policy: 1945-Present
79-233 The United States and the Middle East since 1945
79-242 African American History: Reconstruction to the Present
79-250 Running for President: Campaigns & Elections in History of American Presidency
79-267 The Soviet Union in World War II: Military, Political, and Social History
79-288 Bananas, Baseball, and Borders: Latin America and the United States
79-298 Mobile Phones & Social Media in Development & Human Rights: A Critical Appraisal
79-299 From Newton to the Nuclear Bomb: History of Science, 1750-1950
79-301 History of Surveillance: From the Plantation to Edward Snowden
79-302 Killer Robots: The Ethics, Law, and Politics of Lethal Autonomous Weapons System
79-303 Pittsburgh and the Transformation of Modern Urban America
79-305 Moneyball Nation: Data in American Life
79-310 Modern U. S. Business History: 1870 to the Present
79-315 Thirsty Planet: The Politics of Water in Global Perspective
79-320 Women, Politics, and Protest
79-322 Stalin and the Great Terror
79-325 U. S. Gay and Lesbian History
79-331 Body Politics: Women and Health in America
79-335 Drug Use and Drug Policy
79-336 Oil & Water: Middle East Perspectives
79-338 History of Education in America
79-339 Juvenile Delinquency & Film: From Soul of Youth (1920) to West Side Story (1961)
79-340 Juvenile Delinquency & Film: From "Juvenile Court" (1973) to "The Wire"(2002-08)
79-342 Introduction to Science and Technology Studies
79-343 Education, Democracy, and Civil Rights
79-349 The Holocaust in Historical Perspective
79-370 Disasters in American History (2):Epidemics & Fires
79-371 African American Urban History
79-374 Greening the Red, White, & Blue: Critical Issues in American Environmental History
79-381 Energy and Empire: How Fossil Fuels Changed the World

Philosophy
Courses from the EHPP Philosophy Core (above) may be taken as electives only if they are not being used to fulfill the core requirement. Double counting is not permitted.
80-256 Modern Moral Philosophy
The Major in Linguistics

The major in Linguistics reflects the multidisciplinary character of the field and of the Linguistics faculty here at Carnegie Mellon, offering a program which provides students with the fundamental tools of linguistic analysis while maintaining a focus on the human context in which language is learned and used. The major is available as either a primary major or an additional major. It is an ideal choice for students with a general interest in their own or other languages, and combines well thematically with studies in any of the departments represented in the major.

Curriculum

The Linguistics major requires a total of 12 courses, which includes 2 semesters of language study. In addition, primary majors in Linguistics are required to write a Senior Thesis in their final year. At least three courses (not including specific language courses) must be at the 300-level or higher. All courses counted towards the major must be taken for a letter grade and passed with a grade of "C" or above. Students may double count any course for the major simultaneously with another major or minor.

Introductory course

80-180 Nature of Language 9

Fundamental Skills

Take one course from each of the following core subject areas:

Sounds

80-282 Phonetics and Phonology I 9

Structure

80-280 Linguistic Analysis 9
80-285 Natural Language Syntax 9

Meaning

80-381 Meaning in Language 9
80-383 Language in Use 9
76-385 Introduction to Discourse Analysis 9 or 76-484 Discourse Analysis 9

Breadth

Take one course from each of the following breadth subject areas:

Area 1: Language Learning and Language Cognition
76-420 The Cognition of Reading and Writing: Introduction to a Social/Cognitive Process 9
80-281 Language and Thought 9
82-280 Learning About Language Learning 9
82-383 Second Language Acquisition: Theories and Research 9
82-388 Understanding Second Language Fluency 9
82-585 Topics in Second Language Acquisition 9
85-354 Infant Language Development 9
85-421 Language and Thought 9

Area 2: Discourse, Society and Culture
76-385 Introduction to Discourse Analysis 9 or 76-484 Discourse Analysis 9
76-386 Language & Culture 9
80-283  It Matters How You Say It  9
82-273  Introduction to Japanese Language and Culture  9
82-283  Language Diversity & Cultural Identity  9
82-333  Introduction to Chinese Language and Culture  Var.
80-383  Language in Use  9
82-388  Understanding Second Language Fluency  9

Electives
Take four additional electives. These can be additional courses from the Fundamental Skills courses or Breadth courses listed above, or any other course which is approved by the Director as a linguistics elective. Listed below are the additional electives taught on a regular basis. Additional appropriate courses are offered irregularly or on a one-off basis. The Director will provide students with a list of possible electives each semester, and will assist students in selecting electives which are consistent with their goals and interests.

76-378  Literacy: Educational Theory and Community Practice  9
76-451  Language and Globalization  9
80-284  Invented Languages  9
80-286  Words and Word Formation: Introduction to Morphology  9
80-287  Historical and Comparative Linguistics  9
80-380  Philosophy of Language  9
80-382  Phonetics and Phonology II  9
80-384  Linguistics of Turkic Languages  9
80-385  Linguistics of Germanic Languages  9
82-373  Structure of the Japanese Language  9
11-411  Natural Language Processing  12
11-492  Speech Processing  12
11-716  Graduate Seminar on Dialog Processing  6
11-721  Grammars and Lexicons  12
11-722  Grammar Formalisms  12
11-761  Language and Statistics  12
11-762  Language and Statistics II  12

Language Requirement
Students must successfully complete two semesters of consecutive language courses. (Note that students may not 'test out' of this requirement. However, language courses taken at other institutions or as part of a study abroad program will typically substitute for a semester of language study.)

Senior Thesis [primary majors only]
Primary majors must complete a senior thesis (a workload equivalent to a 12-unit course) during their senior year. Topics must be approved by an advisor, who will work with the student and guide the thesis project. Students are responsible for identifying their topic and securing their thesis advisor. Students should work with the director of the major to begin the process of identifying their thesis topic and advisor during the fall of their senior year at the latest. Students will be required to submit a written proposal of their thesis project, signed by their thesis faculty advisor, before the end of the second week of classes in which the thesis is being completed.

Note
- All 11-xxx courses have significant Computer Science prerequisites. Interested students should check with the course instructor before registering.

The Major in Psychology and Biological Sciences
This unified major is intended to reflect the interdisciplinary nature of our current research in the fields of psychology and biology, as well as the national trend in some professions to seek individuals broadly trained in both the social and natural sciences. Students entering from the Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences will earn a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Biological Sciences. Students entering from the Mellon College of Sciences receive a Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences and Psychology. Students entering from the Science and Humanities Scholars (SHS) program can complete the SHS educational core and choose either departmental order for their diploma.

Pre-Major Requirements
The unified major specifies particular pre-major requirements in the areas of mathematical sciences and statistics, natural science, and computational reasoning. Particular courses are specified in these areas because they are prerequisites for courses required in the major and therefore they are the most efficient way to complete the general education requirements for either Dietrich College or SHS. All other general education categories can be filled in any way that satisfies the requirements of the student’s college or of the SHS program.

The major in Psychology and Biological Sciences is offered only as a B.S. degree. Full curriculum requirements can be viewed under the Department of Psychology (http://coursescatalog.web.cmu.edu/dietrichcollegeofhumanitiesandsocialsciences/departmentofpsychology/#psybiotext) section of the Catalog.

Student-Defined Major Program
Joseph E. Devine, Director; Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies
Office: Baker Hall 154F
Email: jdx@andrew.cmu.edu
www.hss.cmu.edu/studentdefinedmajor.html

For Dietrich College students whose educational goals cannot be as adequately served by the curricula of existing majors, the college offers the opportunity to self-define a major. The procedure for establishing such a major centers on a written proposal, submitted to the Dietrich College Dean’s Office. This proposal consists of two parts:

Major Description and Rationale
A description of the components of the proposed program of study; a presentation of the objectives of the program of study, how it represents a coherent and (given available faculty, courses, and other resources) viable course of study, and the reason(s) why these objectives cannot be accomplished within one or more of the college’s existing majors.

Curriculum
Presentation of a complete outline of all courses that will comprise the requirements for the major. These courses should be categorized in two ways: first, according to that component of the major program to which each belongs (e.g., mathematical prerequisites; research methods; theoretical perspectives; etc.); and second, a semester-by-semester outline that indicates when each course is to be taken (or, for any already taken, when taken and grade received). In addition to courses taken at Carnegie Mellon, the major’s curriculum may include courses taken (or to be taken) at other schools, related projects or internships, or programs of study abroad. The minimum requirements for graduation is, as with all majors in the college, 360 units of credit and completion of the Dietrich College general education program.

Proposals and curricula are evaluated for clarity of focus, coherence and depth in related areas, and viability. Proposals should generally be developed no later than the sophomore year, and approved majors begin the program generation no earlier than the junior year.

The student-defined option is also possible to propose as an additional major or minor. These options extend to undergraduates from all Carnegie Mellon colleges.