

Student-Initiated Interdepartmental Major (SIIM)

30-42 credit hours required.

Contact Person: The SIIM is administered by the Interdepartmental Programs Committee. Faculty membership varies from year to year. Consult the Dean of Arts and Sciences in Dunn 106, 315-267-2231.

Admission

Program proposals must be developed by students in consultation with the Chair of the Interdepartmental Programs Committee and their faculty advisors. The faculty advisors are responsible for developing the plan of study with the student and then for supervising the student's progress through the study plan.

SIIM programs should be approved by the end of the sophomore year. Therefore, it is recommended that the plan of study be initiated during the fall semester of the sophomore year. Proposals will be accepted for review during fall semester until November 15 and during spring semester until April 15. *SIIM proposals will not be accepted from students who have completed ninety (90) or more credit hours.*

The SIIM proposal will incorporate an outline of the proposed area of study, a list of courses that the student intends to pursue and a written statement justifying the plan of study. The minimal academic requirements for a SIIM proposal are as follows:

Required

1. Each major must include a minimum of 30 credit hours but cannot exceed a maximum of 42 credit hours.
2. At least 75 percent of the SIIM program must carry liberal arts credit.
3. A minimum of 15 credit hours of upper-division (300 and 400 level) courses must be chosen from at least two departments within the major.
4. Each major must include a seminar or specially directed tutorial study which reflects the student's interdepartmental interests. Such course is to be included in the 30-42 credit hours of the major.
5. All courses in the major program must be completed with a grade of 2.0 or better.

Cognate Requirements

All collateral requirements for the major must be specified and these requirements cannot exceed 16 credit hours. All collateral courses must be completed with a grade of 2.0 or better.

Special Notes

1. Admission to the SIIM requires:
 - a. Completion of the SIIM Proposal Form, submitted to the contact person.
 - b. Additional documentation, including a current transcript.
 - c. Approval of the proposed plan of study by the Committee, based upon the plan's quality and the student's ability to carry it out.
2. The proposed plan of study must contain:
 - a. A detailed outline describing the anticipated interdisciplinary area of study.
 - b. A list of all courses involved, including prerequisites and cognate requirements (if relevant).
 - c. A written statement justifying the plan of study.
 - d. Evidence that the student has consulted with faculty from all departments involved.
 - e. Evidence of support from a faculty adviser who will supervise the student's progress.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

SUNY Potsdam is one of 12 University Colleges in the SUNY system offering graduate degree programs of study. Please refer to the Graduate Catalog for admissions deadlines. The three schools making up SUNY Potsdam offer the following programs:

School of Arts and Sciences

The School of Arts and Sciences offers two Master of Arts programs: English and Communication, and Mathematics.

The M.A. in English and Communication prepares students for teaching or professional careers. Applicants should have earned a bachelor's degree with a major in English, Communication, or Writing. Outstanding applicants who hold degrees in other areas may be admitted, but they should be aware that additional coursework might be required. They must submit three letters of recommendation (including at least two from undergraduate professors of English) and official transcripts of all college-level courses. A minimum GPA of 3.0 in the most recent 60 semester hours of undergraduate study is required.

The M.A. in Mathematics is designed to develop students' abilities to work independently and to enable them to obtain a basic knowledge of algebra, real and complex variables and topology. The program prepares students for both postgraduate study and careers in the field of mathematics. Admission requirements include a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college, three letters of recommendation (two of which must be from members of the mathematics department from whom the applicant has taken courses) and a minimum GPA of 3.0 in all undergraduate coursework in mathematics.

There is also a mathematics honors program, which allows students to achieve a combined B.A./M.A. within a four-year time period. Students enter this program on the recommendation of the mathematics faculty.

School of Education and Professional Studies

Two master's degree programs are offered in the School of Education and Professional Studies for students who have completed a baccalaureate degree: a Master of Science in Education and a Master of Science in Teaching.

The M.S. in Education leads to professional teacher certification at the early childhood and childhood level. M.S. in Education programs leading to initial certification are also available in literacy, special education, and information and communications technology.

The M.S.T. degree offers a graduate program leading to initial teacher certification in childhood or adolescence education to students with liberal arts backgrounds, but who have no undergraduate teacher education coursework or experience.

Graduates of the master's degree programs are also required to complete three years of successful teaching experience at an appropriate grade level to be eligible for professional certification.

The Crane School of Music

The Crane School of Music offers programs leading to the Master of Music in music education, performance and composition. These programs are designed to meet students' interests, needs and requirements