

Committee Interdisciplinary Major (CIM)

Interested in This Major?

Contact your Letters & Science Advisor:

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What is a CIM?

If your academic and career goals do not match one of our traditional majors, the Committee Interdisciplinary Major (CIM) may be the right choice for you.

The options for a CIM major are limited only by your imagination to design a program that meets your needs and fulfills the academic requirements of the College. CIM majors range from the very specific to broader conceptual majors built around a central premise.

Some examples of narrowly-defined CIMs might include the study of a historical document like the Declaration of Independence or the Constitution; the study of a specific form of communication such as blogging and its implications for language development; or the study of foreign relations between the U.S. and another nation. Broader CIM majors can cover topics such as the role of pets in American culture, ethics in business, grass roots community development, or the communication of scientific information to a non-technical audience.

What are the CIM Requirements?

The Committee Interdisciplinary Major requires a minimum of 30 credits, of which at least 15 must be in upper-division Letters and Science (L&S) courses numbered 300 or above taken at UWM. The CIM must include coursework from at least two different L&S departments. Up to 12 credits in the major can be from other Schools and Colleges at UWM, but these credits do not count towards the 90 L&S credits required to earn an L&S degree.

How to Declare a CIM Major

Every CIM major starts with the “Declaration of Committee Interdisciplinary Major” wherein you prepare a written statement outlining your academic goals and identifying three faculty members who will serve as your oversight committee. At least two of the faculty members must be from L&S, and one of these persons serves as committee chair and your advisor. You and the committee members work together to identify the courses that will be required for the major. A CIM major can be declared any time between the 15th and 75th credits.

Contact your Letters and Science academic advisor for more information and to begin the process. The name of your academic advisor can be found on your PAWS account.

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