Overview

Many students explore their unique and varied interests at St. Bonaventure through the Individualized Major Program (IMP). Students who have clearly defined their educational goals — but who can’t find a specific major to fulfill them — can combine different course combinations to fully develop their academic journey. They can either design their own major or pick three minors to combine into a new major.

This program offers self-motivated students with varied interests the opportunity to design an individual program of study instead of pursuing a regular departmental major.

The bachelor’s degree you receive at the end of your studies will come from the school where the majority of your classes are taken. An interested student will have, at the time of the application, at least 45 credit hours remaining to complete the proposed degree requirements.

Throughout your journey, a team of professors will surround you with support and guidance. This team is formed early on and is based on your expressed interests, creating a personalized educational experience and a unique degree. Aside from pursuing your academic interests, you will be prepared, and develop skills, for the needs of the world.

Each student who successfully applies for this program will be matched with expertise found within the university. The student will pull from various disciplines that create the degree of preference — an interdisciplinary approach to education.

To earn the individualized major degree, the student will satisfactorily complete all the approved degree and course requirements and achieve a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 and a minimum major GPA of 2.0.

Ready to find your niche? Design an individualized program of study.

Examples of Individualized Majors


Major Requirements

The degree requirements for the individualized major must include at least 120 total credit hours. IMP students are required to complete:

- at least 12 credit hours at the 300-level or above.
- an existing 300- or 400-level 3-credit course intended as preparation for their capstone to be taken in their second semester junior or first semester senior year.
- a 3-credit capstone independent study in their second semester senior year that:
  - is designed and supervised by the two major advisers
  - results in a capstone project that includes some reflection on the major experience as a whole.
  - counts toward their 12-course minimum major requirement
- all general education requirements
- all university requirements appropriate to the area of study and degree proposed (e.g. language requirement in the School of Arts & Sciences).

Learn more by contacting Dr. Anne Foerst, program director, at afoerst@sbu.edu.