

University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center Undergraduate Council

Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Certificates and Minors

Introduction

The University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center has developed a number of certificates and minors over the past few years. Minors and certificates are a concentration of specialized course work around a central theme, but with a smaller concentration than that of the major. Both certificates and minors require campus level approval, rather than approval by the Regents and CCHE. Certificates have the added advantage of being available to non-degree seeking students. Certificates can be transcribed by the Records Office if the certificate is approved through the college and campus faculty governance procedures.

The Undergraduate Council is charged with reviewing interdisciplinary certificate and minor programs that cross college boundaries. The review is passed on to the Provost in the form of a recommendation. The Undergraduate Council has established the following guidelines for their campus review of interdisciplinary, undergraduate certificate and minor programs.

Certificate and Minor Guidelines

1. The interdisciplinary certificate or minor proposal should be forwarded to the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Experiences, as Chair of the Undergraduate Council, only after being approved by each college's faculty governance procedures.
2. The interdisciplinary certificate and minor proposal should include:
 - outline of program
 - advantages of cross college course work
 - pre-requisites for entry into the certificate or minor program
 - intended student audience (specific majors, non-degree, etc.)
 - detailed outline of required and optional course work
 - verification of whether students may use certificate or minor course work toward other academic requirements (can students 'double-dip' course work?)
 - details of how interdisciplinary certificate or minor program will be administered
 - letters of support from each college involved
3. Minimum guidelines for the undergraduate interdisciplinary certificate or minor include:
 - 12 semester hours
 - 6 upper division semester hours
 - all courses taken in residence at UCDHSC (no transfer hours)
 - minimum 2.0 GPA with no individual course grade below C- (1.7)
4. The Undergraduate Council evaluation will be forwarded to the Provost in the form of a recommendation. Copies will be provided to the undergraduate colleges involved with the interdisciplinary certificate or minor program.