This is the Inter-College Program section of the 1997-1999 University of Minnesota University College Bulletin.
The Inter-College Program (ICP), founded in 1930, reflects the University’s history of commitment to individualized undergraduate education. ICP offers you the opportunity to design your own bachelor of arts or bachelor of science degree program using the educational resources of two or more colleges at the University. You may draw upon the offerings of nearly the entire University in selecting courses for a degree program, and must include coursework from at least two different colleges within the University system.

If you want to pursue fields of study from different colleges, use special learning resources in your program, and seek increased responsibility for your undergraduate education, then ICP may be the program for you.

ICP Degree Program Design

Your ICP degree program may be structured in one of the following ways:

• A cross-college program with two areas of concentration. You might develop a program that combines, for example, business and history or horticulture and French. For the B.A. degree you must complete 28 upper division credits in each of the two areas and the program’s second language requirement. For the B.S. degree you must complete 32 upper division credits in each area and 12 supporting upper division credits.

• A cross-college program with three areas of concentration. You might develop a program that combines, for example, business, speech-communication, and psychology or one in housing, child psychology, and public health. For the B.A. degree you must complete 28 upper division credits in one area and 20 in each of the other two areas as well as the program’s second language requirement. For the B.S. degree you must complete 32 upper division credits in one area, 20 in each of the other two, and 12 supporting upper division credits.

• A thematic program integrating learning around a clearly focused subject. For example, you could create a thematic program around “Aging Studies” and include courses from sociology, public health, family social science, education, and social work. A thematic program must include carefully integrated coursework from more than three departments, with no more than 20 credits in any one department. Thematic programs are appropriate only when students’ objectives are clearly focused on one topic and pursuit of that topic cannot be accomplished in a two- or three-area program. For the B.A. degree you must complete 56 upper division credits as well as the second language requirement; for the B.S. degree you must complete 76 upper division credits.

Special Learning Resources

As an ICP student you may incorporate a variety of learning experiences other than formal courses into your degree program. For example, you might consider internships, foreign study, independent study, or directed research.

Admission Process

Being admitted to ICP is challenging and takes both time and thought. It is a two-stage process that includes working first with ICP academic advisers and then with faculty advisers in your areas of concentration. You will learn to describe your goals and identify ways of achieving them. In the process, you may discover several new alternatives for your education. Our experience with other students indicates that the ICP degree-planning process may take you up to one quarter to complete. It is important for you to plan ahead and set aside enough time to complete this task. To learn more about the Inter-College Program and begin the process of becoming an ICP student, you attend a First Step meeting.

First Step Meetings

Several times each week ICP holds a small-group informational session called a First Step meeting. At this meeting an academic adviser will help you understand ICP and provide guidance for completing the application process. We also explore other alternatives with you to determine which programs at the University might best meet your educational goals.

To schedule an appointment for a First Step meeting, please call (612) 624-2004 or visit the ICP office at 107 Armory, 15 Church Street S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55455.
**Developing Your Degree Proposal and Plan**

**Meetings with Academic Advisers**
After attending a First Step meeting, you continue the admission process by working individually with an ICP academic adviser to develop a degree proposal. This proposal will include a comprehensive statement of your academic and career goals and a corresponding list of the courses and other activities you intend to use in your degree program. Through meetings with an academic adviser, you will refine your proposal and identify the best courses and special learning resources to achieve your educational goals.

**Preparing Your Statement of Academic and Career Goals**
Your first task in developing your degree plan is to prepare a statement of your personal educational goals and objectives. While your statement need not be lengthy, it must clearly describe what you want to learn and why. You will identify the specific skills, information, or knowledge that you hope to acquire and your reasons for wanting them. We also want to know about your long-range goals: Do you plan academic study beyond the baccalaureate or are you planning for a particular career?

**Preparing Your Course List**
The second part of the degree plan is the course list, which presents the learning experiences you are proposing for your degree program.

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**Admission Requirements**
To be considered for admission into the Inter-College Program, you must have

- a 2.00 grade point average (GPA) in overall coursework, in upper division coursework, and in each of your major areas of concentration, computed separately;
- completed 80 credits of college-level learning;
- completed at least 15 credits from the University of Minnesota;
- completed at least 3 upper division courses, for a minimum of 9 credits total;
- developed a degree plan that includes:
  1) a description of your academic and career goals (remember that these goals need to be intercollegiate in nature), and
  2) an outline of the courses you propose for your degree program (remember that your degree plan may not parallel or duplicate existing degree programs at the University);
- completed designated prerequisites and/or met GPA requirements with areas of concentration in Carlson School of Management, Institute of Technology, School of Public Health, Mass Communications, Speech-Communication, English, Human Ecology, and other colleges or departments that require prerequisites for use of their coursework in an ICP program; and
- obtain approval of your proposed degree plan from at least two designated faculty/departmental advisers.

**Application Deadlines**
The Inter-College Program has application deadlines for fall, winter, and spring admission. To be considered for a specific quarter, all application materials, including your faculty-approved degree plan, must be submitted to the ICP office by the application deadline for that quarter. Deadlines are mid-April for fall quarter, mid-October for winter quarter, and mid-January for spring quarter. Be sure to start the admissions process at least eight weeks before the deadline you’d like to meet. Contact the ICP office for specific deadlines.
Liberal Education Requirements

Effective for all freshmen with fewer than 39 credits enrolling from fall 1994 to summer session II 1996. Beginning fall 1996, the liberal education requirements apply to all students entering a baccalaureate degree program, regardless of prior credits.

A liberal education introduces you to the modes of inquiry and subject matter of the major branches of knowledge, including the factual information and theoretical or artistic constructs that form their foundations; the “ways of knowing”—the kinds of questions asked and how insight, knowledge, and data are acquired and used; the changes over time of their central ideas or expressive forms; and the interrelationships among them and with human society in general. To these ends, study by all undergraduate students on the Twin Cities campus is guided by a common framework.

The Diversified Core Curriculum

Physical and Biological Sciences. Comprehension of physical and biological principles; understanding of and ability to use the methods of scientific inquiry—the ways in which scientists investigate physical and biological phenomena; and appreciation of the importance of science and the value of a scientific perspective.

Requirement: A minimum of three courses totaling at least 12 credits, including one course with a laboratory or field experience in the physical sciences and one course with a laboratory or field experience in the biological sciences.

History and Social Sciences. Knowledge of how historians and social scientists describe and analyze human experiences and behavior; study of the interrelationships among individuals, institutions, structures, events, and ideas; understanding of the roles individuals play in their historical, cultural, social, economic, and political worlds.

Requirement: A minimum of three courses totaling at least 12 credits, including one course with historical perspective.

Arts and Humanities. Understanding of approaches to the human condition through works of art, literature, and philosophy; knowledge of how artists create and humanistic scholars think; ability to make aesthetic judgments.

Requirement: A minimum of three courses totaling at least 12 credits including courses in two of the following: literature, philosophical perspective, and visual or performing arts.

Mathematical Thinking. Acquisition of mathematical modes of thinking; ability to evaluate arguments, detect fallacious reasoning, and evaluate complex reasoning chains; appreciation of the breadth of applications of mathematics and its foundations.

Requirement: A minimum of one course totaling at least four credits.

The Designated Themes of Liberal Education

The designated themes of liberal education offer a dimension to liberal learning that complements the diversified core curriculum. Each of the themes focuses on an issue of compelling importance to the nation and the world, the understanding of which is informed by many disciplines and interdisciplinary fields of knowledge.

Requirement: A minimum of six courses (or five courses if one includes an approved practicum), including one course in each of the following:

- Cultural Diversity. Understanding of the roles gender, ethnicity, and race play in structuring the human experience in and developing the social and cultural fabric of the United States.
- International Perspectives. Comprehension of the ways in which you are part of a rapidly changing global environment dominated by the internationalization of most human endeavors.
- Environment. Knowledge of the interaction and interdependence of the biophysical systems of the natural environment and human social and cultural systems.
- Citizenship and Public Ethics. Reflection on and determination of a clearer sense of your present and future civic relationships and your obligations to the community.

Writing Skills

The ability to communicate effectively is a hallmark of a liberal education. To encourage refining of writing skills, the liberal education curriculum includes both writing courses and writing across the curriculum.

Requirement: Writing skills requirements are being revised. Until the new requirements are in effect, all students will complete the writing requirement specified by the college awarding their baccalaureate degree.

You may satisfy the liberal education requirements with a number of courses and credits different from those of other students because some courses serve multiple goals in the curriculum; e.g., some courses will satisfy a diversified core requirement and a designated theme requirement, and other courses will satisfy the requirements for each of two themes. Thus, you may satisfy the designated theme requirements with a smaller number of courses than is stated in the requirement. Each quarter, the Class Schedule will publish the requirements and list all courses that satisfy them. In addition, the Class Schedule will list which of these courses are offered that quarter and which are tentatively scheduled for the subsequent quarters during the academic year.

Minnesota Transfer Curriculum

If you complete the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum at any participating Minnesota college or university, you fulfill the University’s Twin Cities campus liberal education requirements. However, you will still need to complete a portion of the writing skills requirements. Contact your college advising office concerning these requirements. For more information on using transfer credits for the liberal education requirements, contact the Office of Admissions (612/625-2008).
You will develop a list of all the courses and other learning experiences you plan to complete in your ICP degree program, including appropriate courses you have already taken.

Meetings with Faculty Advisers
As part of the admission process you will need to meet with at least two ICP-designated, University faculty members knowledgeable in the areas of study you have selected for your degree program. Your ICP academic adviser will refer you to appropriate faculty advisers who will help you clarify your objectives and select the best learning activities to achieve your goals. They must approve your proposed degree plan before you are eligible to formally apply to ICP.

Completing Your ICP Degree
Once you have been admitted to ICP you may take day, evening, or correspondence courses. Your faculty advisers will advise and assist you throughout your ICP program. If necessary, they will help revise your degree plan as you move through your program and may help you design and complete independent studies and research.

ICP’s academic advisers are also available to assist you throughout your degree program. They will answer questions about revisions in your program, independent study, honors options, and completion of graduation requirements.

Career and Placement Services—It is important to plan early as you prepare for a specific career or for admission to graduate or professional schools. ICP academic advisers will refer you to appropriate career development and placement services on campus and assist you in planning for graduate or professional education.

Financial Aid—Many forms of financial assistance are available to all University students. You may qualify for grants, loans, scholarships, or work-study. For information on all sources of financial aid and to obtain the application packet, contact the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid, 210 Fraser Hall, 106 Pleasant Street S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612/625-1665). If you are employed, it is possible that your company has a tuition reimbursement program; contact your personnel or human resource development office for information on such programs.

Liberal Education
An important component of any baccalaureate degree is a foundation in liberal education. These studies provide breadth to your education and help you integrate different academic disciplines—from arts to sciences—and methods of inquiry. As an ICP student, you must complete liberal education requirements as part of your degree.

In addition to the liberal education requirements, ICP students must also complete one lower division and one upper division composition course, one course in oral communication, and have two years of college study (or equivalent) in a second language.

If you were admitted to the University before fall 1994, you will fulfill an earlier set of ICP liberal education requirements, available from the ICP office.

“ICP worked for me. I like controlling my own destiny with lots of support at the same time. I was listened to and guided, but given the freedom to make choices. I felt I had access to the best resources of the University that applied to my field.”

Marion Nelson—B.S., Youth and Minorities at Risk
ICP Honors Options

ICP offers two honors options. The ICP Honors Program provides you with the opportunity to use a number of special learning activities in completing your undergraduate education. The other option, Graduation With Distinction, is a form of recognition awarded when you graduate.

The ICP Honors Program—Graduating With Latin Honors

This program gives your degree program more depth, breadth, and recognition by providing avenues for individual expression and superior academic performance. In this program you participate in honors opportunities, complete an honors project, and achieve a minimum GPA.

Each honors level requires a minimum GPA. Cum laude requires a 3.30, magna cum laude requires a 3.50, and summa cum laude requires a 3.75. The honors GPA is based on your program’s last 90 credits and must include all upper division coursework in your areas of concentration and supporting areas. Students in the Honors Program must complete four honors opportunities, including one honors seminar; an honors project must be completed for magna and summa cum laude.

Admission to the Honors Program requires that you have completed at least 90 college credits with an overall GPA of 3.20 and have a minimum of two quarters remaining before graduation. For specific information on the Honors Program designations, requirements, and opportunities, contact the ICP office.

Graduation With Distinction

You may qualify for this option if your scholastic performance is high but you do not complete the honors program. If you graduate with a 3.60 honors GPA you will graduate “with distinction.” If you graduate with a 3.80 honors GPA you will graduate “with high distinction.” These GPAs are computed from the last 90 credits completed toward your baccalaureate degree, including all upper division credits in your areas of concentration. The appropriate level of distinction will automatically be granted at graduation.

Graduation Requirements

To earn your ICP degree, you need to satisfy the following graduation requirements:

- complete the courses and other learning activities selected for your ICP degree program;
- complete liberal education requirements for the B.A. or B.S.;
- complete 180 credits, including transfer and extension courses;
- complete 75 upper division credits for the B.A., 76 for the B.S.;
- complete 45 University of Minnesota credits that apply to the degree;
- complete a residency requirement of at least two quarters (20 credits minimum); and
- maintain at least a 2.00 GPA overall, in upper division work, and in degree program work, computed separately.

“ICP was the perfect place to organize courses from the Colleges of Natural Resources and Biological Sciences that reflect my interests in environmental consulting and natural history interpretation.”

Stan Tekeila—B.S., Natural Resources and Life Sciences