**Introduction to the Section**

Students should consult with relevant department faculty and/or advisors regarding the selection and declaration of majors, minors, and/or concentrations.

**Undergraduate Majors:**

**CATALOG COPY and ACADEMIC POLICY ON UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS**

An undergraduate major is a structured and coherent primary course of study. It allows undergraduates to develop a specialized, in-depth field of study as part of their educational experience at UIS. All undergraduates must complete the requirements for one major program to earn a baccalaureate degree at UIS.

Majors may focus on a single discipline or provide an interdisciplinary approach to a field of study. Majors are usually offered by academic departments within a college, but interdisciplinary majors may be co-sponsored by two or more departments, even if those departments are in different colleges. Typically, a major consists of a core of required courses and a set of electives from which students may choose. Majors usually consist of 30-36 credit hours. Majors are recorded on student transcripts.

**ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY ON UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS**

Within campus guidelines, departments will determine the number, type, and level of courses that constitute an undergraduate major. Descriptions of majors and major requirements will be published in the UIS Catalog. Departments housing undergraduate majors are responsible for advising students in the major.

Establishment of a new undergraduate major requires the completion of all necessary application materials and approval by all required governance bodies at the appropriate level. For the latest form and approval information, please contact the Office of Undergraduate Education at 217-206-7413 or uisuge@uis.edu.

**Undergraduate Minors:**

**CATALOG COPY and ACADEMIC POLICY ON UNDERGRADUATE MINORS**

An undergraduate academic minor is a grouping of courses that has clearly stated academic objectives. It may be located in a discipline or may combine different disciplinary perspectives focusing on a common set of questions or a theme. Minors provide basic competency in a discipline, or basic understanding of the questions or theme. Minors contain core course(s) to provide direction and unity, and they may contain a set of options or electives beyond the core to allow flexibility.
At UIS, minors usually include 15 to 24 credit hours. Students may not adopt a minor in any major they declare. Students who adopt minors must be degree-seeking undergraduates who also have a major. Minors are recorded on student transcripts.

**ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY ON UNDERGRADUATE MINORS**

Within campus guidelines, departments will determine the number, type, and level of courses that constitute an undergraduate minor. Descriptions of minors and minor requirements will be published in the UIS Catalog. Departments housing minors are responsible for advising students in the minor. Minors can only be offered by credit-generating units.

Establishment of a new undergraduate minor requires the completion of all necessary application materials and approval by all required governance bodies at the appropriate level. For the latest form and approval information, please contact the Office of Undergraduate Education at 217-206-7413 or uisuge@uis.edu.

**Undergraduate Concentrations:**

**CATALOG COPY and ACADEMIC POLICY ON UNDERGRADUATE CONCENTRATIONS**

A concentration is a grouping of courses within an undergraduate major, and constitutes a portion of the major. A concentration is distinct from a minor in that a minor broadly introduces a student to a field of study while a concentration focuses on a subfield within a discipline. Typically, a concentration is defined as a minimum of nine or more hours that a student may take as part of the degree program. Concentrations are housed only in departments with majors and are recorded on student transcripts.

**ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY ON UNDERGRADUATE CONCENTRATIONS**

Within campus guidelines, departments will determine the number, type, and level of courses that constitute a concentration within a given undergraduate major. Descriptions of concentrations will be published in the UIS Catalog.

Establishment of a new undergraduate concentration requires the completion of all necessary application materials and approval by all required governance bodies at the appropriate level. For the latest form and approval information, please contact the Office of Undergraduate Education at 217-206-7413 or uisuge@uis.edu.