Minors, Certificates, and Interdisciplinary Studies

Interdisciplinary studies are available to students through an interdisciplinary degree, such as the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies, or an extensive choice of minors or certificates that may be taken in conjunction with other majors. Since interdisciplinary studies provide skills that support employment in a rapidly changing workplace, students are encouraged to consider these options. Consult the academic advisor in your major about the impact of enrolling in a minor or certificate program.

MINORS

A minor is an approved, coherent concentration of academic study in a single discipline, involving substantially fewer hours of credit than a corresponding major. Most ASU colleges offer undergraduate minors in addition to majors; see the “ASU Minors” table, page 109.

Students in most majors may pursue one or more minors and, upon successful completion of the prescribed course work, have that accomplishment officially recognized on the ASU transcript at graduation if (1) the college/department of the minor officially certifies, through established verification procedures, that all requirements for the minor have been met and (2) the college (and, in certain colleges, the department) of the student’s major allows the official recognition of the minor.

A student wishing to pursue a specific minor should consult an academic advisor in the unit offering that minor to ensure that an appropriate set of courses is taken.

Note: Certain major and minor combinations may be deemed inappropriate either by the college or department of the major or minor. Inappropriate combinations include (but would not be limited to) ones in which an excessive number of courses in the minor are simultaneously being used to fulfill requirements of the student’s major.

CERTIFICATES

Students may pursue some certificate programs along with a major and other certificate programs independently. Graduate certificates and postbaccalaureate certificates are available to students who already hold a bachelor’s degree. For more information, see the “ASU Undergraduate Certificates” table, page 111; “ASU Postbaccalaureate Certificates” table, page 112; and “ASU Graduate Certificates” table, page 112. Graduate certificates constitute graduate work; postbaccalaureate certificates are distinct from graduate certificates and are an extension of the undergraduate curriculum.

CONCURRENT AND DUAL DEGREE

Graduate students have the opportunity to pursue more than one degree at the same time as part of an organized program. For more information, see the “Dual Degrees” table, page 534, and the Graduate Catalog.

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies. For information about the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies at ASU Main or ASU East, see “Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies,” page 114, or “Interdisciplinary Studies—B.I.S.” page 641.

Energy Studies. An opportunity for instructional and research involvement in energy matters exists through the following three curricular paths:

1. general studies, which emphasize energy as an elective beyond the scope of a chosen major (for more information, call 480/965-4548);
2. specific studies in the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, for those pursuing the Master of Architecture degree and the Master of Science degree in Building Design; and
3. specific studies in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, usually for those seeking a degree in a branch of engineering.

Environmental Studies. The Center for Environmental Studies encourages and coordinates interdisciplinary environment-related activities in the natural and social sciences within the university. The center sponsors special courses, conferences, and workshops on environmental topics. Drawing from faculty and students throughout the university, the center participates in research and community programs relating to environmental problem areas. It does not formally offer courses or a degree program. For more information, see “Center for Environmental Studies,” page 37.

Film Studies. The Film Studies Program exists not only to provide information and experience but also to serve as a means of creative expression for the student and as a useful subject and tool in teaching. The program is not designed to produce professional filmmakers, but it may provide practical preparation for students desiring further film study at other institutions.

Inquiries about this program should be directed to the Film Studies coordinator at 480/965-7644.

Gerontology. The Gerontology Program brings together faculty from several disciplines to teach courses related to adult development and aging, to collaborate on gerontological research, and to participate in projects of service to older adults.
## ASU Minors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minor</th>
<th>Administered By</th>
<th>Campus</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African American Studies</td>
<td>African American Studies Program</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian Studies</td>
<td>American Indian Studies Program</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Studies</td>
<td>Department of American Studies</td>
<td>West</td>
<td>690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthropology</td>
<td>Department of Anthropology</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architectural Studies</td>
<td>School of Architecture</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art History</td>
<td>School of Art</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Languages (Chinese/Japanese)</td>
<td>Department of Languages and Literatures</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Astronomy</td>
<td>Department of Physics and Astronomy</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Department of Biology</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>354</td>
</tr>
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<td>Business¹</td>
<td>College of Business</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicana and Chicano Studies</td>
<td>Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>Hugh Downs School of Human Communication</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Studies</td>
<td>Department of Communication Studies</td>
<td>West</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computational Mathematical Sciences</td>
<td>Department of Mathematics and Statistics</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>Department of Dance</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design Studies</td>
<td>School of Design</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics for Students Planning a Career in Law</td>
<td>Department of Economics</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>367</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Department of American Studies</td>
<td>West</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English with a Concentration in Linguistics</td>
<td>Department of English</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Resources</td>
<td>Morrison School of Agribusiness and Resource Management</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>633</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic Studies</td>
<td>College of Arts and Sciences</td>
<td>West</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exercise Science/Physical Education</td>
<td>Department of Exercise Science and Physical Education</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family and Human Development</td>
<td>Department of Family and Human Development</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film and Video Studies</td>
<td>Department of Interdisciplinary Arts and Performance</td>
<td>West</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food and Nutrition Management</td>
<td>Department of Nutrition</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>652</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>Department of Languages and Literatures</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Economics</td>
<td>Department of Economics</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>367</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>Department of Geography</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geological Sciences</td>
<td>Department of Geological Sciences</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>387</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German</td>
<td>Department of Languages and Literatures</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerontology</td>
<td>Gerontology Program</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>Department of American Studies</td>
<td>West</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Nutrition</td>
<td>Department of Nutrition</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>Interdisciplinary Humanities Program</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdisciplinary Arts and Performance</td>
<td>Department of Interdisciplinary Arts and Performance</td>
<td>West</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interior Design History</td>
<td>School of Design</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>Department of Languages and Literatures</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justice Studies</td>
<td>School of Justice Studies</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape Studies</td>
<td>School of Planning and Landscape Architecture</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Sciences</td>
<td>Department of Life Sciences</td>
<td>West</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mass Communication</td>
<td>Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>497</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Department of Integrative Studies</td>
<td>West</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microbiology</td>
<td>Department of Microbiology</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>427</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>School of Music</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>308</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ This minor is for nonbusiness majors only.
² The program is in the process of transferring to the faculty of Business Administration in East College at ASU East.
A certificate at the postbaccalaureate level and an undergraduate minor are available in Gerontology. The certificate consists of 24 semester hours—12 hours of required course work and 12 hours of electives. The minor consists of 18 semester hours—six hours of required course work and 12 hours of electives. Courses related to aging are taught throughout the university by faculty who are active contributors to research, theory, and public policy and practice. In addition, gerontology provides students with opportunities to gain practical experience in working with elderly people. A practicum, held at the Veterans Administration Hospital, is available to students who have completed some gerontology course work. Gerontology also helps students find rewarding internships in community programs for older adults. For more information, see “Gerontology Certificate Program,” page 707, and “Gerontology,” page 518, or refer to the current Student Handbook in Gerontology.

Islamic Studies. The art, history, geography, and religion of the Islamic world are the subjects of several courses offered by departments in the Herberger College of Fine Arts and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. For information, call the Department of Religious Studies at 480/965-7145.

Linguistics. Linguistics concentrations are offered in master’s degree programs in the Departments of Anthropology, English, and Languages and Literatures through the Graduate College. Numerous linguistics courses are offered in these and other departments. For information, call the University Committee on Linguistics at 480/965-3168.

MILITARY OFFICER TRAINING

U.S. Air Force and U.S. Army ROTC units are active on the ASU campus. See “Department of Aerospace Studies,” page 340, and “Department of Military Science,” page 429, for more information.

Defense Activity for Nontraditional Education Support (DANTES). ASU is a participating institution with DANTES and is listed in the DANTES Directory of Inde-
pendent Study. DANTES is an executive agency of the Department of Defense that provides educational support for the voluntary education programs of all services. The primary missions of DANTES are (1) to provide nationally recognized examination and certification programs as part of the voluntary education programs of military services and (2) to facilitate the availability of high-quality independent institutions for service men and women.

**WESTERN INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION (WICHE)**

For Arizona residents who wish to attend professional schools of dentistry, occupational therapy, optometry, osteopathy, and veterinary medicine in one of the other western states, Arizona has joined with other states to create the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education. Through WICHE, qualified Arizona residents may attend schools in other western states at essentially the same expense to the students as to residents of the state in which the school is located. Students must have maintained at least average grades in their preprofessional work and must have been legal residents of Arizona for at least the last five years. Recipients are required to return to Arizona to practice or to repay a portion of the funds expended on their behalf.

For applications and more information, call 602/229-2500, or access the Web site at [www.wiche.edu](http://www.wiche.edu).

### ASU Undergraduate Certificates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certificate</th>
<th>Administered By</th>
<th>Campus</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Business English Certificate*</td>
<td>College of Extended Education</td>
<td>Extended</td>
<td>707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American Studies Certificate</td>
<td>African American Studies Program</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian Studies Certificate</td>
<td>American Indian Studies Program</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Public Policy Certificate</td>
<td>Department of Political Science</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Pacific American Studies Certificate</td>
<td>Asian Pacific American Program</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Studies Certificate</td>
<td>Center for Asian Studies</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business English Certificate*</td>
<td>College of Extended Education</td>
<td>Extended</td>
<td>707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Education Certificate</td>
<td>Department of Political Science</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classical Studies Certificate</td>
<td>Department of Languages and Literatures and Interdisciplinary Humanities Program</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Asian Studies Certificate</td>
<td>Center for Asian Studies</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English as a Second Language Certificate*</td>
<td>College of Extended Education</td>
<td>Extended</td>
<td>707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enriched College Certificate</td>
<td>College of Liberal Arts and Sciences</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics Certificate</td>
<td>Department of Philosophy</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic Studies, Certificate in</td>
<td>College of Arts and Sciences</td>
<td>West</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film and Video Studies, Certificate in</td>
<td>Department of Interdisciplinary Arts and Performance</td>
<td>West</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Certificate</td>
<td>Department of Information and Management Technology</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Physics Certificate</td>
<td>Pre-Health Professions Office</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History and Philosophy of Science Certificate</td>
<td>Department of Philosophy</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Performance Improvement Certificate*</td>
<td>College of Extended Education and the American Society of Training and Development</td>
<td>Extended</td>
<td>707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Business Studies Certificate*</td>
<td>College of Business</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Studies Certificate</td>
<td>Department of Political Science</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish Studies Certificate</td>
<td>Jewish Studies Committee</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin American Studies Certificate</td>
<td>Latin American Studies Center</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance Management Certificate*</td>
<td>College of Extended Education</td>
<td>Extended</td>
<td>707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medieval and Renaissance Studies Certificate*</td>
<td>Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multimedia Writing and Technical Communication Certificate</td>
<td>East College</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofit Management Certificate*</td>
<td>College of Extended Education and the Valley of the Sun United Way</td>
<td>Extended</td>
<td>708</td>
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<td>Nonprofit/Youth Agency Administration: American Humanities Certificate*</td>
<td>Department of Recreation Management and Tourism</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>507</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Purchasing Certificate*</td>
<td>College of Extended Education</td>
<td>Extended</td>
<td>708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Administration and Public Management Certificate</td>
<td>School of Public Affairs</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Analysis Certificate</td>
<td>College of Business</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russian and East European Studies Certificate</td>
<td>Russian and East European Studies Consortium</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>338</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* This certificate is not for academic credit.
### ASU Undergraduate Certificates (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certificate</th>
<th>Administered By</th>
<th>Campus</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scandinavian Studies Certificate</td>
<td>Department of Languages and Literatures</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Business and Entrepreneurship Certificate</td>
<td>College of Business</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast Asian Studies Certificate</td>
<td>Program for Southeast Asian Studies</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Language Court Interpreter Certificate*</td>
<td>College of Extended Education</td>
<td>Extended</td>
<td>708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symbolic Systems Certificate</td>
<td>Department of Philosophy</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Translation Certificate</td>
<td>Department of Languages and Literatures</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Studies, Certificate in</td>
<td>Women’s Studies Program</td>
<td>West</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing, Certificate in</td>
<td>Department of American Studies</td>
<td>West</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Department of English</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>369</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* This certificate is not for academic credit.

### ASU Postbaccalaureate Certificates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certificate</th>
<th>Administered By</th>
<th>Campus</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accountancy, Postbaccalaureate Certificate in*</td>
<td>Department of Accounting and Information Systems Management</td>
<td>West</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication and Human Relations, Postbaccalaureate Certificate in*</td>
<td>Department of Communication Studies</td>
<td>West</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multimedia Writing and Technical Communication, Postbaccalaureate Certificate in</td>
<td>East College</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Accountancy, Postbaccalaureate Certificate in*</td>
<td>Department of Accounting and Information Systems Management</td>
<td>West</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* For more information, see the ASU West Catalog.

### ASU Graduate Certificates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certificate</th>
<th>Administered By</th>
<th>Campus</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Geographic Information Science, Interdisciplinary Certificate in*</td>
<td>Graduate College</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerontology, Certificate in</td>
<td>College of Human Services Graduate College</td>
<td>West</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Extended</td>
<td>707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Law Certificate</td>
<td>College of Law</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medieval Studies Certificate</td>
<td>Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (ACMRS)</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museum Studies Certificate*</td>
<td>Department of Anthropology</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofit Leadership and Management Certificate</td>
<td>College of Public Programs</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Bachelor’s Artist Diploma*</td>
<td>School of Music</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Master’s Nurse Practitioner Certificate*</td>
<td>College of Nursing</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renaissance Studies Certificate*</td>
<td>ACMRS</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarly Publishing Certificate*</td>
<td>Department of History</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics, Certificate in</td>
<td>Committee on Statistics and the Graduate College</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Translation Certificate</td>
<td>Department of Languages and Literatures</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation Systems Certificate</td>
<td>Committee on Transportation Systems and the Graduate College</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>519</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* For more information, see the Graduate Catalog.