

UWSP Majors: Definitions of the Discipline

Accounting, Managerial

Definition: The Institute of Managerial Accountants (IMA) defines management accounting as the process of identification, measurement, accumulation, analysis preparation, interpretation, and communication of financial information used by management to plan, evaluate, and control within an organization to assure appropriate use of and accountability for its resources. Management Accounting also comprises the preparation of financial reports for non-management groups such as shareholders, creditors, regulatory agencies, and tax authorities.

Anthropology

Definition: Anthropology studies the evolution of the human species, the history and evolution of past human cultures, and present day cultures and languages.

Health, Exercise Science and Athletics (HESA)

Definition: Physical education is the process by which individuals obtain optimal physical, mental, social and fitness skills through the medium of human movement. Athletic training is a profession specializing in athletic health care, cooperating with physicians and other allied health personnel.

Art and Design

Definition: The studio disciplines of art include art history, ceramics, drawing, graphic design, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, 2-D design and 3-D design. This field of study incorporates both technical and conceptual approaches to art making.

Arts Management

Definition: Arts management combines skills in business, communication and the arts to promote all facets of the arts in any size community. Arts managers are responsible for financing and marketing, developing programs, managing facilities, writing grants, and managing personnel to support artists and arts agencies.

The continual growth and complexity of theaters, art centers, dance groups, and music organizations have created a demand for skilled arts administrators who can develop programs, write grants, provide technical assistance, and be responsible managers. This interdisciplinary major is a blend of artistic and managerial courses that provides you with necessary theory and practice to begin a career in arts management or gain acceptance into a graduate program.

Astronomy

Definition: Astronomy investigates the nature of celestial objects such as stars, planets and galaxies, including their magnitudes, motions, distances and periods of revolution.

Biology

Definition: Biology is the study of life. From simple, single-celled bacteria to complex, multicellular plants, animals, and fungi, biologists study how life works. Genetics, physiology, ecology, evolution, behavior, and anatomy of organisms fall within the work of the biologist as does the study of populations and communities of organisms.

Business Administration

Definition: In Business Administration you will study the principles and procedures involved in managing and operating a successful business enterprise. Courses are available in general management, finance, marketing, production, business law, international business, social responsibility, and business ethics, among others. You will use computing, mathematics, and accounting skills throughout the Business Administration program.

Athletic Training

Definition: profession specializing in athletic health care, cooperating with physicians and other allied health personnel.

Chemistry

Definition: Chemistry is an experimental science that involves the study of matter, the chemical and physical changes that matter undergoes, and the energy changes that accompany these phenomena.

Clinical Laboratory Science (CLS)

Definition: Clinical laboratory science consists of (1) medical technology for performing lab tests used in preventing, diagnosing, and monitoring diseases; (2) cytotechnology for examining tissues and fluids microscopically to distinguish cancerous from normal cells; and (3) histotechnology for preparing slides for microscopic examination using complex processing and staining techniques. Professionals in these fields study microbiology, hematology, clinical chemistry, immunology, blood bank and more.

Communication

Definition: Communication is the study of how humans use symbols to create, send, receive, and respond to messages in a variety of contexts using oral, written, visual, or mediated channels. You can prepare for a wide range of communication careers in broadcasting, new media, journalism, public relations, management, training, sales, and human services. Many other students pursue a communication major as part of personal enrichment in the humanities and liberal arts.

Communicative Disorders

Definition: Communicative disorders is the study of human communication processes with application to a variety of speech, language and hearing disorders. You acquire an academic base and clinical practicum experiences for careers in speech-language pathology and audiology. When you major in communicative disorders you have two options: (1) a major leading to educational certification, and (2) a major which does NOT lead to educational certification. No minor is available. The school's coordinator of academic programs will advise you.

Computer Information Systems

Definition: Computer Information Systems (CIS) involves the design and maintenance of information systems that enable organizations to gather, process, store, and use information for planning, control and operations. Emphasis is placed on the analysis, configuration, programming, security, and database aspects of the design and implementation of a computerized business information system.

DANCE

Definition: Dance is the study of human movement as a means of expression through the development of performance and choreography skills, separately and in relation to the other arts.

DIETETICS

Definition: Dietetics is the study of nutrition as it relates to health. When you complete an approved program in dietetics, you meet the minimum academic requirements for American Dietetic Association membership and for application to a dietetic internship program. When you complete an accredited dietetic internship and graduate, you are eligible to write the registration examination to become a registered dietitian.

Economics

Definition: Economics studies production, pricing, distribution, and consumption of goods and services. These functions of an economic system are studied in the context of a world with scarce resources which must be allocated to satisfy the expanding aspirations of the population. Prices, costs, and profits act as powerful and subtle influences on the decisions made by households, firms, and governments.

Education (teacher certification)

Early childhood education certification covers early childhood through middle childhood (approximate ages birth-8). Elementary certification covers middle childhood through early adolescence (approx ages 6-12) with an option to add-on age 13 in the minor. Secondary certification covers early adolescence through adolescence (approx ages 10-21). Check catalog for certifiable majors. K-12 certification covers early childhood through adolescence in family and consumer ed; health; music-choral, general, instrumental; physical ed; and speech and language. Certification in exceptional education (CD, ED, LD), ESL, and music is either middle childhood through early adolescence (approx ages 6-13), early adolescence through adolescence (approx ages 10-21) or early childhood through adolescence which covers a wide range of all ages in public schools.

English

Definition: English is the study of literature, language, literary theory, rhetorical theory, and culture, with the simultaneous development of effective writing skills.

Family & Consumer Education

Definition: The focus of the Family and Consumer Education major is upon helping youth and adults build strong families, address family challenges and responsibilities, and prepare for family and consumer-related careers. These programs are proactive as they address serious family concerns before, rather than after, they occur.

Foreign Languages

The Department of Foreign Languages offers courses in Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Russian, and Spanish, and Teaching English as a second language.

FORESTRY

Definition: Forestry is the science, art, and practice of creating, managing, using, and conserving forests and associated resources. Biological, quantitative, managerial, and social sciences are applied to forest management and conservation in urban and rural environments.

General Studies

Definition: General Studies is an interdisciplinary major that brings together courses from many different fields of study within the liberal arts. Through exposure to a wide variety of subjects, you will become a more complete, educated citizen of the world and will build a base of knowledge and a core of skills that serve many careers.

The General studies major has two options, Contemporary America and Exploring the World of Work. Each option requires between 6-18 credits of fundamental courses which focus on communication and other workplace skills. In addition, the Contemporary America option consists of courses in the social sciences and the humanities. In the Exploring the Contemporary World of Work option, students choose an emphasis in Business, International Studies, Language, Government or Psychology/Sociology.

Geography

Definition: Geography is the science of place and space. Geographers ask where things are located on the surface of the earth, why they are located where they are, how places differ from one another, and how people interact with the environment.

Health Promotion

Definition: The health promotion/wellness program trains professionals to facilitate behavior change, promote healthy lifestyles, and deliver quality programming.

History

Definition: The traditional history major and minor are designed for students preparing to teach and for those interested in such fields as law and library science. The department requires students to take coursework in U.S., European, and world history.

Interior Architecture

Definition: The interior architecture program provides a learning environment that encourages the development of professional designers with the ability to design quality interior environments that contribute to the well-being of individuals and groups. Two portfolio reviews are required to promote excellence in the program.

While in the program, you interact with design professionals through regional, national, and international field trips and through design critiques. You are given typical client problems and solve them through problem-based learning strategies. As you progress through the curriculum,

problems expand in complexity and involve realistic constraints, user requirements, budgets, and schedules.

When you graduate from the interior architecture program, a variety of professional opportunities are available to you such as office, residential, retail, and hospitality design and facility management. Other possibilities include product development and representation for manufacturers and design consultation.

International Studies

Definition: International studies is an interdisciplinary program designed to help you acquire expertise in the social and cultural development of various world regions, develop linguistic skills, and prepare for careers in the globalizing economy.

Mathematics and Computing

Definition: Mathematics is the study of quantity, form, arrangement and magnitude. It is the study of the measurement, properties, and relationships of quantities, using numbers and symbols.

Music

Definition: Our music programs prepare students for professional careers in a variety of areas including teaching, performance, composition, music business, music technology, music management, and other music-related occupations. The Bachelor of Music degree program offers four areas of emphasis: applied music, jazz studies, music education, and music literature. The Bachelor of Arts degree program offers a nondisciplinary music degree that incorporates studies in other disciplines for careers in many music-related professions.

Natural Science

Definition: The Natural Science major is an interdisciplinary program offered in cooperation with all the science departments. Three distinct emphases are available for the major: Earth Science, Life Science, and Physical Science.

Paper Science

Definition: The Paper Science Department at UWSP prepares individuals for technical careers in the pulp and paper industry. Students are challenged with mathematics, chemistry, physics, and engineering fundamentals while learning the science and technology associated with the manufacture of pulp and paper.

Course offerings include mass and energy balances, fluid mechanics, heat transfer, thermodynamics, wood and pulping chemistry, paper and fiber physics, and colloidal chemistry. The program leads to a bachelor of science degree.

Nursing

Definition: Through an agreement with St. Joseph's Hospital, Marshfield, UW-Eau Claire, UW-Stevens Point, and the UW Colleges, you can complete a bachelor of science in nursing degree from UW-Eau Claire. You spend the first two years at UW-Stevens Point. Following your sophomore year, you complete an eight-week summer session on the UW-Eau Claire campus. You spend the last four semesters at St. Joseph's Hospital, Marshfield. This is the clinical segment of nursing education and consists of both didactic and practical experiences.

Philosophy

Definition: *Philosophy* is the systematic study of ideas and issues fundamental to human existence, such as the nature of knowledge, reality and goodness. In addition to standard offerings in Western philosophy, the department has courses in non-Western (Asian and Native American) philosophies and was among the first departments in the country to offer a courses in environmental ethics. *Environmental Ethics* is the examination of theories addressing how it is that humans ought to interact with the non-human world. The program is designed to compliment any of the university's programs in the College of Natural Resources as well as many other university programs. *Religious Studies* focuses on the history, beliefs, and practices of the world's religions and, more generally, on the roles religion plays in human life and culture. The perspective is both global and comparative. In addition to standard offerings in religious studies, the department has courses in feminist studies in religion, mythology, and in Native American religions.

Physics

Definition: Physics is the branch of science that investigates the laws of motion and properties of matter. It is often divided into the sub-disciplines of mechanics, heat, sound, electricity, magnetism, optics, atomic, and nuclear physics.

Political Science

Definition: The Political Science major at UWSP is a liberal arts major allowing students to study the government and politics of the United States, other nations, and international relations.

Psychology

Definition: Psychology is the study of structures and processes involved in neural and mental activity, behavior, emotion, and consciousness. It also includes the study of biological and environmental influences on intellectual, personality, and social development; healthy and unhealthy mental states; and biopsychosocial influences on health status.

Public Administration and Policy Analysis

Definition: This interdisciplinary program offers students the chance to combine the study of the practical techniques of administration and policy analysis with a sophisticated and in-depth study of the political environment in which that administration and analysis take place.

Resource Management Major

Definition: All majors in the College of Natural Resources study biological and physical sciences, and take introductory courses in wildlife management, water resources, soil science and forestry. These courses are completed in the freshman and sophomore years. Following the sophomore year, you attend summer camp at the Treehaven Field Station. Here you learn field techniques in wildlife, water, soil and forestry as well as field identification of some of Wisconsin's plants and animals. With the fundamentals completed, you are ready to begin your professional studies. In Resource Management this includes selecting from one of three options: General Resource Management, Environmental Education and Interpretation, Youth Programming and Camp Management, and Land Use Planning.

Social Science

Definition: The Social Science major is an interdisciplinary program in that all courses are taken in departments in the individual social science fields: anthropology, economics, human geography, history, political science, psychology, and sociology.

Sociology

Definition: Sociology is the systematic study of human societies and social groups. Sociologists study the workings of social organizations, institutions, and cultures, as well as their influence on the social behavior of individuals.

SOIL AND WASTE RESOURCES

Definition: Soil and waste resources trains students in the inventory, scientific principles, and management of these resources. It includes soil conservation, soil mapping and classification, nutrient management in agriculture, wastewater treatment, solid waste and hazardous waste management and recycling, septic systems, and wetlands.

Theatre

Definition: Incorporating elements of all the other fine arts, dramatic art (theatre) is a study of human action and interaction designed to enlighten and/or entertain an audience through theatrical presentation.

Drama Option of Theatre Arts Major (B.A./B.S.)

Choose this option if you wish to gain general knowledge in a variety of theatre courses: acting, design, directing, theatre history, and dramatic literature, but also wish to take selected specialized courses in one theatre area that interests you.

Drama Option of Theatre Arts Major (B.F.A.)

Choose this option if you wish to pursue intensive training in either acting or design/technology in order to become a theatre professional in your chosen area of interest.

Musical Theatre Option of Theatre Arts Major (B.F.A.)

Choose this option if you are a multitalented performer and wish to pursue a professional career

in musical theatre. The program requires study in three primary areas: acting, dance, and voice, as well as courses in music theory, piano, theatre, and musical theatre history.

WATER RESOURCES

Definition: The program is ecologically integrated, incorporating courses in forestry, soils, wildlife, and general resource management. Three options are available to students who select a major in Water Resources: Fisheries and Limnology, Watershed Administration, and Watershed Hydrology Management.

Web and Digital Media Development

Definition: The Web and digital media development major uses Web and digital computer technology to create, communicate and collaborate with an emphasis on applying these techniques to the world of business and commerce. After you complete this major you will be able to develop multimedia digital presentations, CDs and Web sites. You will be comfortable with the design issues, aesthetic components, computer technology and media tools used in the creative process. You will also have an understanding of the creative, social and technological issues that you will face after graduation.

WILDLIFE

Definition: In the wildlife major you will develop problem-solving and scientific skills and understand the social influences and ecological interactions that impact on wildlife management and conservation biology.