

INDIVIDUAL MAJOR, BS

Students who wish to pursue a special intellectual problem or academic path not adequately covered by existing majors can work with advisors and faculty to create an individual path of study to meet their goals. The individual major must involve courses from several programs, must be at least as rigorous as existing majors, and must be targeted at a special intellectual problem or academic need identified by the student.

The individual major must be approved by a faculty committee and the CALS Curriculum Committee. Students are strongly encouraged to consult with an assistant dean in the CALS Office of Academic Affairs early in their undergraduate career to discuss the process, planning, and feasibility of completion.

LEARN THROUGH HANDS-ON, REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCES

Most CALS students complete independent research under the guidance of internationally recognized faculty researchers. Lab or field courses related to the special interests of the student are encouraged as part of the individual major.

BUILD COMMUNITY AND NETWORKS

With more than 20 CALS-sponsored student organizations, students can build their professional networks early and enhance their leadership skills.

CUSTOMIZE A PATH OF STUDY

Students who complete an approved individual major work closely with faculty and staff to craft a path of study unique to them. Their diploma will include the approved name of their specialized major.

MAKE A STRONG START

A number of first-year seminar courses are available to help new students understand academic programs, access student services, and develop time management and study skills.

GAIN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

All individual majors must complete a CALS International Studies course or approved study abroad experience. Students work with their advisor and the CALS study abroad office to identify appropriate programs.