

	Policy Level:	Academic Senate ▾
	Responsible Department:	Academic Affairs ▾
	Effective Date:	4/13/2026
Academic Minors		

PURPOSE:

This policy establishes the administrative framework and academic standards for the implementation of academic minors. It ensures that secondary fields of study are structured consistently to enhance a student's primary degree and provide recognized expertise in a supplemental discipline.

SCOPE:

Students

TERMS AND DEFINITIONS:

Academic Minor: A structured sequence of courses—typically totaling 12–18 credit hours—in a specific or interdisciplinary field outside of a student's primary major. A minor represents a deliberate secondary concentration designed to develop functional competency or specialized knowledge in that area.

MAIN PROVISIONS:

- I. **Eligibility:** All undergraduate students enrolled at Niagara University are eligible to pursue one or more academic minors, subject to the following conditions:
 - A. Students must meet any prerequisites or requirements specified by the department or program offering the minor.
 - B. Students must declare their intention to pursue a minor in advance of degree completion. The decision to pursue a minor should be done in consultation with a student's advisor.

PROCEDURES:

- I. **Declaration of Minor:**
Students wishing to pursue an academic minor must formally declare their intention with the Registrar's Office. This declaration is made through the appropriate request form on

myNU. A student cannot add minors to expressly prolong the completion of the primary degree.

II. Number of Minors:

Each undergraduate student may pursue up to a maximum of three academic minors concurrently. Any additional minors will require the Dean's approval.

III. Requirements:

Each academic minor will have specific requirements determined by the department offering the minor. These requirements include the following guidelines:

- A. At least six (6) credit hours of courses are unique to each declared minor.
- B. Completion of prerequisite courses, if applicable.
- C. A minimum grade of C (2.0) average in the minor.

IV. Double Counting of Courses/Transfer Credit:

Students are permitted to double-count a limited number of courses toward both their major and minor requirements. However, no more than six (6) credit hours of a 12 or 15 credit minor, or nine (9) credit hours of an 18 credit minor may be double-counted. In addition, at least half of all coursework in a minor must be taken at Niagara University.

V. Recognition:

Upon successful completion of all requirements for an academic minor, the minor will be recorded on the student's official transcript, provided that the student had officially declared the minor with the Records office. Minors are not displayed on a student's diploma/degree.

VI. Advising:

Students pursuing an academic minor are encouraged to consult regularly with both their major and minor advisors to ensure appropriate course selection and progress toward completion of all requirements. For students with more than one minor an advisor will have to monitor that the above rules are being met.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

None

REFERENCED POLICIES:

None

STATUTES AND REGULATIONS:

None

POLICY HISTORY:

- Originated: 4/13/2026

- Current Effective Date: 4/13/2026
- Next Review Date: 4/13/2029
- Revision/Renewal Log:
 - None