

## INDIVIDUALIZED MAJOR

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# Welcome to UConn!

Are you a new student – first year or transfer – who has expressed an interest in the Individualized Major (IMJR) Program already? Or, you are a new student who wants to know more about the possibilities of individualizing your major. Welcome! We want you to get to know our Program and we want to get to know you. As a start, there are a few important things that you need to know about the IMJR Program.

*First, the IMJR involves a formal admission process.* Each student must prepare a formal admission proposal; this consists of a major plan of study designed by you, the student, with the assistance of and approved by three faculty advisors, plus a two-page essay that explains the rationale for your particular individualized major. Making decisions about precisely what you want to do as an IMJR, expressing these decisions in a sound manner, and making contact with your faculty advisors typically takes a first year student at least one semester to do. In contrast, a transfer student may be ready to make a formal proposal within a few weeks of the start of the academic year.

*Second, no new UCONN students are admitted directly into this major.* Therefore, when you enter UConn you will be categorized as an undecided major. This categorization gives you a little time to explore UConn academic programs from the inside. It also means that you have an opportunity to have two advisors in your first semester. With your School or College advisor, you will review your initial course choices and major plans; this advisor will help you to make sure that you know what your most suitable options are. With an advisor in the Individualized Major Program you can discuss your ideas for an Individualized Major and how to get started on the preparation of the admissions proposal.

As Director of the Individualized Major Program, I want to encourage you to get in touch with me by email before or once you arrive on campus to let me know of your interests: you may write to me at [imjr@uconn.edu](mailto:imjr@uconn.edu). Once you have discussed your plans with me or one of my Program's advisors, and once you are confident that you wish to propose an Individualized Major plan, you may declare your intent to become an Individualized Major. Thereafter, you will be designated 'Pre-Individualized Major.' (Some students will be ready to make this declaration of intent on the day that they arrive at UConn!) As a Pre-IMJR, we hope that you'll begin to feel at home in our IMJR community of students and advisors. Formal admission to the Individualized Major Program may be approved at any point after you have accumulated 30 graduation credits, and will take effect once you have completed 45 credits. But, start your planning as early as you like!

If you are interested in the IMJR Program, make contact with us, begin to develop your IMJR proposal, and get to know the members of our IMJR community by coming into our office, attending our functions, and taking part in our student networking.

Once again, welcome!



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