DISTRIBUTED STUDIES PROGRAM

Admission to the Disciplinary and Divisional (D&D) track of the Distributed Studies major requires completion of 60 credits or more, a one-year break in the student’s academic career, and permission from the College of Arts & Sciences dean’s office. The D&D track of the Distributed Studies major is intended for students who are returning to CU Boulder to complete their degree, have previously completed a significant number of credits toward the completion of one or more arts and sciences majors, are not eligible to continue in any of those majors, and have taken a break in their academic career. Students pursuing the D&D track must complete 24 credit hours, including 12 at the upper-division level, in one of the disciplines offered by the college (e.g., chemistry, English, environmental studies or sociology) and 30 credit hours, including 15 at the upper-division level, in one of the college’s three divisions (Arts and Humanities, Natural Sciences or Social Sciences.)

An Individually Structured Major (ISM) track also is available in the Distributed Studies major. Admission to this track also requires permission from the College of Arts & Sciences dean’s office. Students pursuing the ISM track must work with a faculty member to construct a major that focuses on some aspect of the arts and sciences not adequately addressed by any other major, minor, or certificate offered by the college. Any major constructed by a student pursuing the ISM track must meet the college’s minimum major requirements of 30 credit hours and 18 upper-division credit hours in major coursework. Students pursuing the ISM track must write and defend a thesis based on original scholarly or creative work. This thesis can be completed either in a departmental honors program or by taking ARSC 4909 Senior Thesis for Individually Structured Major.

For more information about either of the tracks in the Distributed Studies major please consult with your Arts and Sciences Academic Advisor.