CoDES
COLLEGE OF DESIGN & ENGINEERING STUDIES

IDEAS LINKED* MAJOR

DRAFT 09/03/2025

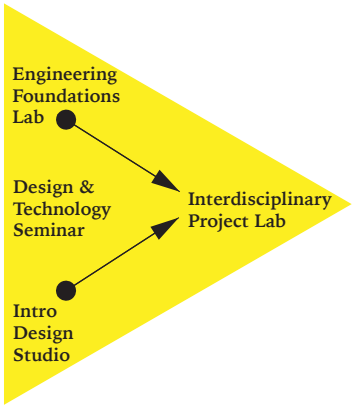
12 Courses
(4 Core, 4 Range, 4 Focus)
+
Capstone
+
Portfolio
+
Completion of Primary Major

Linked Major Tracks Include:
Biomedical Engineering
Bachelor of Engineering
Computation
Electrical Engineering
Mechanical & Materials Engineering
Object Design
Spatial Design

* The linked IDEAS major is the secondary major to a primary, companion major (e.g., art studio, biology, computer science, physics, theater, etc.). Students cannot obtain the BA degree with IDEAS as their only major.

MAJOR CORE

4 COURSES
The **Major Core** is identical for all IDEAS Linked Major Tracks.

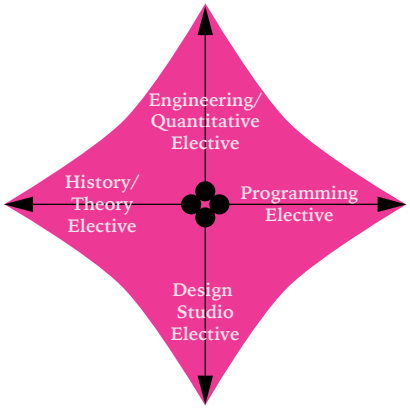


Multiple course options for 3 of the 4 requirements:
Engineering Foundations Lab:
IDEA 170 or IDEA 175
Introductory Design Studio:
ARST 220/IDEA 120, ARST 235/IDEA 234, ARST 270/IDEA160
Design & Technology Seminar:
IDEA 206, IDEA 235, IDEA 275, IDEA 311
Any 200-level STS Course,
or other Design & Technology focused seminar

The fourth course,
IDEA 292: Interdiscplinary Project Lab,
is a requirement for all IDEAS Linked Major Tracks. A student must have completed either an Engineering Foundations Lab or an Introductory Design Studio to enroll in the Interdisciplinary Project Lab.

RANGE

4 COURSES
Range expands the interdisciplinary foundation of the Core.



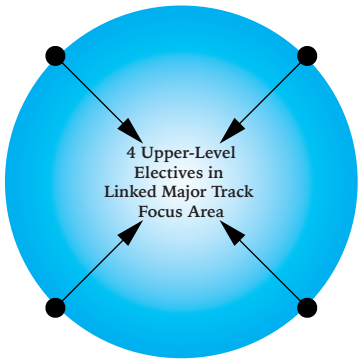
Four different requirements, each with a wide range of course options:

Engineering/Quantitative Elective
Design Studio Elective
History/Theory Elective
Programming Elective

Except where explicitly excluded by course prerequisites, the Range courses may be taken simultaneously with Core courses to increase the flexibility of student scheduling. Some of these courses may also overlap with the linked major.

FOCUS

4 COURSES
The **Focus** course set is unique to each IDEAS Linked Major Track.



These four upper-level elective courses are specific to each major track, constitute the focus area of the student's major, and must be at the 200-level or higher. Students are strongly encouraged to select from pre-approved listings of courses for their chosen track. At least two of these elective courses should be listed (or cross-listed) by the IDEAS program. Students may develop an alternate focus cluster with approval from their IDEAS advisor and program director.

CAPSTONE

Students will complete a team-based or independent original project culminating in a public presentation, exhibition, or publication. The capstone may be one to two credits, depending on scope of project. There are several ways to fulfill the capstone requirement:
1.The project may take the form accepted by the companion department as a senior project (e.g., senior thesis, senior essay, senior performance, senior exhibition, senior film thesis).
2. The student may register for and complete a senior thesis in the IDEAS major. The mentor can be any Wesleyan faculty member, but the topic must be approved by the student's IDEAS advisor.
3. The thesis material may take the form of a written publication, public presentation, or exhibition, with the form approved by the student's IDEAS advisor and the College of Design & Engineering Studies chair.

WEBSITE PORTFOLIO

Each student is required to create a Website Portfolio showcasing their work. At a minimum, a Website Portfolio should include the best work a student has produced from at least three (3) IDEAS courses. Presented using images and text, the projects included should encompass both completed and process work.
The Portfolio is also a project. The design and presentation of the Portfolio comprise a personal statement about its author, their training, interests, and ambitions. Sample student portfolios may be found on the CoDES "Student Work" page.

CoDES
COLLEGE OF DESIGN & ENGINEERING STUDIES

IDEAS MINOR

7 Courses
(3 Core, 4 Concentration)
+
Portfolio

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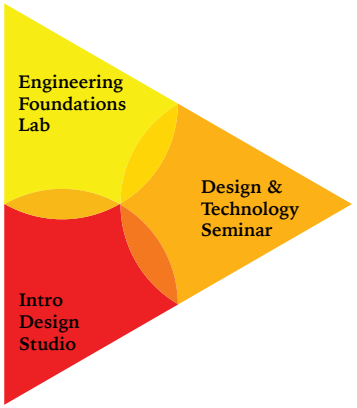
A minor in IDEAS requires seven credits. Comprised of three courses the IDEAS minor core is designed to introduce students to hands-on project-based studio, laboratory, and critical coursework in design and engineering. The remaining four elective courses come from course concentrations. Some courses offered on an irregular basis are not listed in concentrations, but may be used for electives subject to approval from the minor advisor.

MINOR CORE

3 COURSES
The **Minor Core** is identical for all IDEAS Minor Tracks.



Multiple options for each Core course requirement:

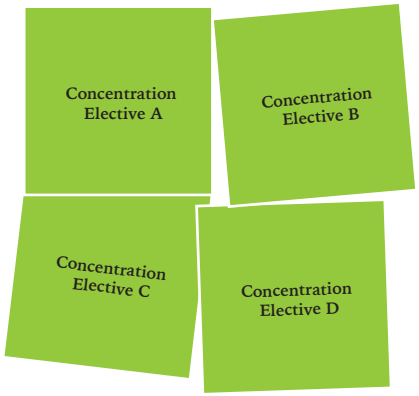
Engineering Foundations Lab:
IDEA 170 or IDEA 175

Introductory Design Studio:
ARST220/IDEA 120, ARST235/IDEA 234,
ARST270/IDEA160, IDEA 185, IDEA 190,
ARST236/IDEA 236, ARST243/IDEA243
ARST221/IDEA221, IDEA285, THEA 185

Design & Technology Seminar:
IDEA 206, IDEA 235, IDEA 275, IDEA 311
Any 200-level STS Course,
or other Design & Technology focused seminar

CONCENTRATION

4 COURSES
Each IDEAS Minor includes a **Concentration** area from a wide array of areas in Design, Engineering, Arts & Society.



Some of the Minor Concentrations include courses listed among those that will satisfy a gateway course distribution requirement.

Students will work with an advisor to help them achieve the appropriate depth of study in the concentration.

Related courses that are not offered on a regular basis or course substitutions may be considered for minor credit, subject to review by the minor advisor.

Typically, introductory (100-level) courses may not be counted toward the Concentration elective requirement.

WEBSITE PORTFOLIO

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Concentrations Include:

Applied Math
Archaeology
Arts and Design
Biological or Biochemical Concentration
Chemical Concentration
Computer Concentration
Electrical Concentration
Environmental Concentration
Geomechanics/Geosystems
Interactive Media & Game Design
Materials Science
Mechanical Concentration
Performance Design