



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Pennoni  
Honors College

# CATALOG

2022-2023

**UNDERGRADUATE**



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# The Pennoni Honors College

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## About the College

The mission of Drexel University's Pennoni Honors College (<http://www.drexel.edu/pennoni/>) is to enrich the University experience for talented and ambitious students from all majors. The College has the following units: Academics Programs (<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/academics/overview/>) (which includes The Center for Interdisciplinary Inquiry, Custom-Designed Major (<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/academics/custom-designed-major/>), The Symposium (<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/academics/the-symposium/>), Interdisciplinary Problem Solving Minor (<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/academics/interdisciplinary-minor/>) and the Honors Program (<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/academics/honors/>), Undergraduate Research & Enrichment Programs (<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/urep/overview/>) (which includes the STAR (<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/urep/undergraduate-research/STAR-scholars/>) Scholars program, SuperNova Research Fellows (<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/urep/undergraduate-research/supernova-research-fellows/>), fellowships (<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/urep/fellowships/>) and Aspire Scholars (<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/urep/enrichment-programs/aspire-scholars/>)), the Center for Civil Discourse (<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/center-for-civil-discourse/overview/>) (which includes Pennoni Panels (<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/center-for-civil-discourse/pennoni-panels/>), Wednesdays at the Kline (<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/center-for-civil-discourse/wednesdays-at-the-kline/>), The Civil Discourse ([## Custom-Designed Major](https://drexel.edu/</a></p>
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*Major: Custom-Designed Major*

*Degree Awarded: Bachelor of Science (BS)*

*Calendar Type: Quarter*

*Minimum Required Credits: 180.0*

*Co-op Options: Three Co-op (Five years); One Co-op (Four years)*

*Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) code: 24.0101*

*Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) code: 11-9199*

## About the Program

The Custom-Designed Major enables students to pursue an individualized, interdisciplinary course of study at Drexel University not readily available through an existing major, or a combination of existing majors and/or minors. The program is designed for highly motivated students whose academic curiosity and career ambitions cannot be satisfied by a traditional major. Students typically interested in pursuing a Custom-Designed Major are motivated by a particular theme, topic, issue, or problem that can be more holistically addressed by combining multiple disciplines and fields of knowledge.

The major offers students the opportunity for an early intensive research experience, incorporates cooperative education as part of its degree requirements (either four years with one co-op, or five years with three co-ops), and culminates in an original, interdisciplinary senior year project.

Each student accepted into the program will be advised by the program staff and closely mentored during their senior year by one or more Drexel faculty members with expertise in at least one of the disciplines composing the student's proposed course of study. Students may be admitted by internal or external transfer. Incoming first-year students interested in Custom-Designed Major should apply to the First Year Exploratory Studies (FYES) program; for the students entering FYES with Custom-Designed already in mind as their major, part of their time in FYES will be spent formulating their formal application to the major. Current Drexel students seeking a change of major to Custom-Designed must have final applications submitted by Week One of the summer term preceding their junior year, so that they have a minimum of 5 academic terms in the major prior to graduation. Students **do not** need to be members of the Honors Program to be eligible to apply to the program.

[pennoni/center-for-civil-discourse/the-civil-discourse/](https://drexel.edu/pennoni/center-for-civil-discourse/the-civil-discourse/)), and Dean's Teas (<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/center-for-civil-discourse/deans-teas/>); and the Marketing & Media (<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/marketing-media/overview/>) department (which includes The Smart Set (<https://www.thesmartset.com/>) online arts and culture journal, Pop, the Question (<https://www.popqpodcast.com/>) podcast, and Honor Bound (<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/marketing-media/honor-bound-magazine/>) magazine.) Students have the opportunity to apply to the Pennoni Honors Program as late as the spring term of their second year. The other programs and initiatives in the College are open to all students at the University with the appropriate interests and record of achievement.

The Pennoni Honors College was endowed by Annette and C.R. "Chuck" Pennoni, CEO of Pennoni Associates. Mr. Pennoni, a Drexel graduate, was a two-time interim president of the University. He embodies the qualities of leadership, integrity, intellectual curiosity, and commitment to Drexel and the larger world that the College seeks to imbue in its students. With the help of a gift from Greg Bentley, CEO of Bentley Systems, and his wife Caroline, Drexel University opened Bentley Hall in 2020, a combined residence, programming, seminar, and office space.

## Major

- Custom-Designed Major (p. 2)  
(within the Center for Interdisciplinary Inquiry)

## Minor

- Interdisciplinary Problem-Solving (p. 7)

## Additional Information

For more information about this program, please visit the Custom-Designed Major webpage (<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/academics/custom-designed-major/>).

For additional questions, please contact either Associate Director Dr. Katie Barak at [ksb89@drexel.edu](mailto:ksb89@drexel.edu) or Director of Academic Programs Dr. Kevin D. Egan [kde25@drexel.edu](mailto:kde25@drexel.edu).

## Admission Requirements

Applicants may apply to the Custom-Designed Major (CSDN) as incoming, first-year students, current Drexel students, and transfer students. Please visit the CSDN application webpage (<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/academics/custom-designed-major/apply/>) for the most up-to-date information about how to apply, application materials, and setting up an introductory meeting to learn more about the program with the CSDN staff. Please note: Students do not need to be members of the Honors Program in order to apply to the major.

## Degree Requirements

### Foundation Requirements

CIVC 101	Introduction to Civic Engagement	1.0
COOP 101	Career Management and Professional Development *	1.0
ENGL 101	Composition and Rhetoric I: Inquiry and Exploratory Research	3.0
or ENGL 111	English Composition I	
ENGL 102	Composition and Rhetoric II: Advanced Research and Evidence-Based Writing	3.0
or ENGL 112	English Composition II	
ENGL 103	Composition and Rhetoric III: Themes and Genres	3.0
or ENGL 113	English Composition III	
CSDN 101 [WI]	Introduction to Multi-Disciplinary Perspectives	1.0
CSDN 102	Knowledge by Design Seminar	1.0
CSDN 203	Custom-Designed Major Seminar	1.0
CSDN 210 [WI]	Methods of Interdisciplinary Inquiry	3.0
CSDN 220 [WI]	Integrative Research Methods	3.0
CSDN 304	Custom-Designed Major Proj I	3.0
CSDN 305	Custom-Designed Major Project II	3.0
CSDN 306	Custom-Designed Major Project III	3.0
UNIV X101	The Drexel Experience	1.0
Humanities electives **		9.0
Mathematics electives ***		6.0
Science electives †		8.0
Social Sciences electives ††		9.0
<b>Individualized Course Requirements †††</b>		<b>118.0</b>

Individualized course requirements make up the bulk of the student's curriculum. These courses are selected from across multiple disciplines, and they must demonstrate interdisciplinary breadth (e.g. cannot replicate preexisting major curricula) and intellectual depth (e.g. significant advanced coursework). Typically, at least three different disciplines will be represented by individualized course requirements. Built out in the student's proposed plan of study, these courses are approved by CSDN advisers, departmental representatives, and/or expert faculty during the application process. Students work with their CSDN advisers quarterly to determine updated course selections and sequencing.

**Total Credits** **180.0**

- \* Co-op cycles may vary. Students are assigned a co-op cycle (fall/winter, spring/summer, summer-only) based on their co-op program (4-year, 5-year) and major. COOP 101 registration is determined by the co-op cycle assigned and may be scheduled in a different term. Select students may be eligible to take COOP 001 in place of COOP 101.
- \*\* Any 100-level course and above in the following subjects: AFAS, ARTH, COM, ENGL, HIST, LING, PHIL, RELS, WGST, WRIT, ARBC, CHIN, FREN, GER, HBRW, ITAL, JAPN, KOR, RUSS, or SPAN
- \*\*\* Any 100-level course and above in the following subjects: MATH, STAT, or STS
- † Any 100-level course and above in the following subjects: ANAT, BIO, CHEM, CS, GEO, PHYS, ENVS, HSCI, AE, BET, CHE, CAE, CIVE, ECE, EGMT, ENGR, ENVE, INDE, MATE, MEM, MET, MHT, SYSE, ENSS, PHEV, or NFS.
- †† Any 100-level course and above in the following subjects: AFAS, ANTH, CJS, COM, ECON, GST, PSCI, PSY, SOC, or WGST
- ††† Three 300- or 400-level courses in each discipline comprising a significant component of the custom-designed curriculum. All prerequisite courses for these selected courses must also be satisfied.

## Writing-Intensive Course Requirements

In order to graduate, all students must pass three writing-intensive courses after their freshman year. Two writing-intensive courses must be in a student's major. The third can be in any discipline. Students are advised to take one writing-intensive class each year, beginning with the sophomore

year, and to avoid "clustering" these courses near the end of their matriculation. Transfer students need to meet with an academic advisor to review the number of writing-intensive courses required to graduate.

A "WI" next to a course in this catalog may indicate that this course can fulfill a writing-intensive requirement. For the most up-to-date list of writing-intensive courses being offered, students should check the Writing Intensive Course List (<http://drexel.edu/coas/academics/departments-centers/english-philosophy/university-writing-program/writing-intensive-courses/>) at the University Writing Program (<http://drexel.edu/coas/academics/departments-centers/english-philosophy/university-writing-program/>). (<http://drexel.edu/coas/academics/departments-centers/english-philosophy/university-writing-program/drexel-writing-center/>) Students scheduling their courses can also conduct a search for courses with the attribute "WI" to bring up a list of all writing-intensive courses available that term.

## Sample Plan of Study

### 4 year, one co-op in Fall/Winter

First Year				
Fall	Credits Winter	Credits Spring	Credits Summer	Credits
CSDN 101	1.0 CSDN 102	1.0 CIVC 101	1.0 VACATION	
ENGL 101	3.0 ENGL 102	3.0 ENGL 103	3.0	
UNIV 101	1.0 Humanities Elective	3.0 Individualized Requirements	6.0	
Individualized Requirements	9.0 Individualized Requirements	6.0 Math Elective	3.0	
	Math Elective	3.0 Social Science Elective	3.0	
	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>
Second Year				
Fall	Credits Winter	Credits Spring	Credits Summer	Credits
Individualized Requirements	9.0 COOP 101*	1.0 CSDN 210	3.0 Individualized Requirements	16.0
Science Elective	4.0 CSDN 203	1.0 Humanities Elective	3.0	
Social Science Elective	3.0 Humanities Elective	3.0 Individualized Requirements	3.0	
	Individualized Requirements	6.0 Social Science Elective	3.0	
	Science Elective	4.0		
	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>
Third Year				
Fall	Credits Winter	Credits Spring	Credits Summer	Credits
COOP EXPERIENCE	COOP EXPERIENCE	CSDN 220	3.0 Individualized Requirements	15.0
		Individualized Requirements	12.0	
	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>
Fourth Year				
Fall	Credits Winter	Credits Spring	Credits	Credits
CSDN 304	3.0 CSDN 305	3.0 CSDN 306	3.0	
Individualized Requirements	12.0 Individualized Requirements	12.0 Individualized Requirements	12.0	
	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	

Total Credits 180

\* Co-op cycles may vary. Students are assigned a co-op cycle (fall/winter, spring/summer, summer-only) based on their co-op program (4-year, 5-year) and major.

COOP 101 registration is determined by the co-op cycle assigned and may be scheduled in a different term. Select students may be eligible to take COOP 001 in place of COOP 101.

### 4 year, one co-op in Spring/Summer

First Year				
Fall	Credits Winter	Credits Spring	Credits Summer	Credits
CSDN 101	1.0 CSDN 102	1.0 CIVC 101	1.0 VACATION	
ENGL 101	3.0 ENGL 102	3.0 ENGL 103	3.0	
UNIV 101	1.0 Humanities Elective	3.0 Individualized Requirements	6.0	

Individualized Requirements	9.0 Individualized Requirements	6.0 Math Elective	3.0	
	Math Elective	3.0 Social Science Elective	3.0	
	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Second Year</b>				
<b>Fall</b>	<b>Credits Winter</b>	<b>Credits Spring</b>	<b>Credits Summer</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Individualized Requirements	9.0 CSDN 203	1.0 CSDN 210	3.0 COOP 101*	1.0
Science Elective	4.0 Humanities Elective	3.0 Humanities Elective	3.0 Individualized Requirements	14.0
Social Science Elective	3.0 Individualized Requirements	8.0 Individualized Requirements	3.0	
	Science Elective	4.0 Social Science Elective	3.0	
	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Third Year</b>				
<b>Fall</b>	<b>Credits Winter</b>	<b>Credits Spring</b>	<b>Credits Summer</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Individualized Requirements	15.0 CSDN 220	3.0 COOP EXPERIENCE	COOP EXPERIENCE	
	Individualized Requirements	12.0		
	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Fourth Year</b>				
<b>Fall</b>	<b>Credits Winter</b>	<b>Credits Spring</b>	<b>Credits</b>	
CSDN 304	3.0 CSDN 305	3.0 CSDN 306	3.0	
Individualized Requirements	12.0 Individualized Requirements	12.0 Individualized Requirements	12.0	
	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	

**Total Credits 180**

\* Co-op cycles may vary. Students are assigned a co-op cycle (fall/winter, spring/summer, summer-only) based on their co-op program (4-year, 5-year) and major.  
COOP 101 registration is determined by the co-op cycle assigned and may be scheduled in a different term. Select students may be eligible to take COOP 001 in place of COOP 101.

## 5 year, three co-op in Fall/Winter

<b>First Year</b>				
<b>Fall</b>	<b>Credits Winter</b>	<b>Credits Spring</b>	<b>Credits Summer</b>	<b>Credits</b>
CSDN 101	1.0 COOP 101*	1.0 CIVC 101	1.0 VACATION	
ENGL 101	3.0 CSDN 102	1.0 ENGL 103	3.0	
UNIV 101	1.0 CSDN 203	1.0 Individualized Requirements	6.0	
Individualized Requirements	8.0 ENGL 102	3.0 Math Elective	3.0	
	Individualized Requirements	6.0 Social Science Elective	3.0	
	Math Elective	3.0		
	<b>13</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Second Year</b>				
<b>Fall</b>	<b>Credits Winter</b>	<b>Credits Spring</b>	<b>Credits Summer</b>	<b>Credits</b>
COOP EXPERIENCE	COOP EXPERIENCE	Individualized Requirements	9.0 Humanities Elective	3.0
		Science Elective	4.0 Individualized Requirements	8.0
		Social Science Elective	3.0 Science Elective	4.0
	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Third Year</b>				
<b>Fall</b>	<b>Credits Winter</b>	<b>Credits Spring</b>	<b>Credits Summer</b>	<b>Credits</b>
COOP EXPERIENCE	COOP EXPERIENCE	CSDN 210	3.0 Humanities Elective	3.0
		Humanities Elective	3.0 Individualized Requirements	12.0
		Individualized Requirements	9.0	
	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>

**Fourth Year**

Fall	Credits Winter	Credits Spring	Credits Summer	Credits
COOP EXPERIENCE	COOP EXPERIENCE	CSDN 220	3.0 Individualized Requirements	12.0
		Individualized Requirements	12.0 Social Science Elective	3.0
	0	0	15	15

**Fifth Year**

Fall	Credits Winter	Credits Spring	Credits
CSDN 304	3.0 CSDN 305	3.0 CSDN 306	3.0
Individualized Requirements	12.0 Individualized Requirements	12.0 Individualized Requirements	12.0
	15	15	15

**Total Credits 180**

\* Co-op cycles may vary. Students are assigned a co-op cycle (fall/winter, spring/summer, summer-only) based on their co-op program (4-year, 5-year) and major.  
COOP 101 registration is determined by the co-op cycle assigned and may be scheduled in a different term. Select students may be eligible to take COOP 001 in place of COOP 101.

**5 year, three co-op in Spring/Summer****First Year**

Fall	Credits Winter	Credits Spring	Credits Summer	Credits
CSDN 101	1.0 COOP 101*	1.0 CIVC 101	1.0 VACATION	
ENGL 101	3.0 CSDN 102	1.0 ENGL 103	3.0	
UNIV 101	1.0 ENGL 102	3.0 Individualized Requirements	6.0	
Individualized Requirements	8.0 Individualized Requirements	6.0 Math Elective	3.0	
	Math Elective	3.0 Social Science Elective	3.0	
	13	14	16	0

**Second Year**

Fall	Credits Winter	Credits Spring	Credits Summer	Credits
Individualized Requirements	9.0 CSDN 203	1.0 COOP EXPERIENCE	COOP EXPERIENCE	
Science Elective	4.0 CSDN 210	3.0		
Social Science Elective	3.0 Individualized Requirements	8.0		
	Science Elective	4.0		
	16	16	0	0

**Third Year**

Fall	Credits Winter	Credits Spring	Credits Summer	Credits
Humanities Elective	3.0 CSDN 220	3.0 COOP EXPERIENCE	COOP EXPERIENCE	
Individualized Requirements	12.0 Humanities Elective	3.0		
	Individualized Requirements	9.0		
	15	15	0	0

**Fourth Year**

Fall	Credits Winter	Credits Spring	Credits Summer	Credits
Humanities Elective	3.0 Individualized Requirements	12.0 COOP EXPERIENCE	COOP EXPERIENCE	
Individualized Requirements	12.0 Social Science Elective	3.0		
	15	15	0	0

**Fifth Year**

Fall	Credits Winter	Credits Spring	Credits
CSDN 304	3.0 CSDN 305	3.0 CSDN 306	3.0
Individualized Requirements	12.0 Individualized Requirements	12.0 Individualized Requirements	12.0
	15	15	15

**Total Credits 180**

- \* Co-op cycles may vary. Students are assigned a co-op cycle (fall/winter, spring/summer, summer-only) based on their co-op program (4-year, 5-year) and major. COOP 101 registration is determined by the co-op cycle assigned and may be scheduled in a different term. Select students may be eligible to take COOP 001 in place of COOP 101.

## Co-op and Career Services

Students in the program have the option of two co-op cycles: One is a five-year program with three co-op cycles (5COP), and the second option is a four-year program with one co-op cycle (4COP). Students will meet with their career services adviser during their time in the program to closely match career objectives with curriculum design and co-op/research opportunities.

## Minor in Interdisciplinary Problem Solving

### About the Minor

The 21st century will be defined by the complexity and interconnected nature of human endeavors. The challenges of this interconnected world are vast and they will require problem-solvers who are both specialized and capable of working across many fields of knowledge. The Interdisciplinary Problem Solving minor provides students across the University the opportunity to develop applied problem-solving skills to meet these challenges. The focus of the minor is to help students integrate information, methods of inquiry, research skills, and experiential learning across multiple fields of knowledge. Students will be encouraged to draw from their major field of study while also exploring other fields related to addressing complex, real-world problems. The minor will also encourage experimentation and synthesis while students engage with models of interdisciplinary research.

### Admission Requirements

The Interdisciplinary Problem Solving minor is open to all University students that meet the criteria for acceptance. Students **do not** need to be a member of the Honors program to take part in the minor. Symposium courses are open to all Drexel students. Because of the nature of the minor, success is dependent upon students showing self-discipline and being highly motivated and self-reliant. All applications for the minor will be submitted to the director of the minor.

The following are the requirements that students must meet to be considered:

- Required essay: Student statement of interest and desired goals
- Required recommendation form: A member of the Drexel community (i.e. faculty, staff, advisor, etc.) must complete a recommendation form on the applicant's behalf. Strong recommendations speak to the applicant's collaboration skills, collegiality, initiative and resourcefulness, and their ability to work independently. Students will be provided the link to the recommendation form after the introductory meeting.

### Program Requirements

#### Required Courses

CSDN 210 [WI]	Methods of Interdisciplinary Inquiry	3.0
CSDN 220 [WI]	Integrative Research Methods	3.0
HNRS 302	The Symposium (Take two times)	6.0

#### Electives \*

12.0

Students choose 12 credits of electives; suggested courses include the following:

BIO 264	Ethnobotany
BMES 101	Introduction to BMES Design I: Defining Medical Problems
BMES 102	Introduction to BMES Design II: Evaluating Design Solutions
BMES 124	Biomedical Engineering Freshman Seminar I
BUSN 103	Advanced First Year Business Seminar
CAEE 202	Introduction to Civil, Architectural & Environmental Engineering
CIVE 240 [WI]	Engineering Economic Analysis
COM 111	Principles of Communication
COM 220	Qualitative Research Methods
COM 317 [WI]	Environmental Communication
ENVS 260	Environmental Science and Society
INFO 101	Introduction to Computing and Security Technology
INFO 102	Introduction to Information Systems
INFO 103	Introduction to Data Science
INTR 310	Sustainability: History, Theory and Critic
MGMT 260	Introduction to Entrepreneurship
MGMT 364	Technology Management
MIS 200	Management Information Systems



PROD 215	Design Thinking in Product Design
PSY 352	Psychology of Sustainability
SOC 341	Global Environmental Movements
<b>Total Credits</b>	
<b>24.0</b>	

\* Other courses may be substituted with the approval of the minor director.

## Writing-Intensive Course Requirements

In order to graduate, all students must pass three writing-intensive courses after their freshman year. Two writing-intensive courses must be in a student's major. The third can be in any discipline. Students are advised to take one writing-intensive class each year, beginning with the sophomore year, and to avoid "clustering" these courses near the end of their matriculation. Transfer students need to meet with an academic advisor to review the number of writing-intensive courses required to graduate.

A "WI" next to a course in this catalog may indicate that this course can fulfill a writing-intensive requirement. For the most up-to-date list of writing-intensive courses being offered, students should check the Writing Intensive Course List (<http://drexel.edu/coas/academics/departments-centers/english-philosophy/university-writing-program/writing-intensive-courses/>) at the University Writing Program (<http://drexel.edu/coas/academics/departments-centers/english-philosophy/university-writing-program/>). (<http://drexel.edu/coas/academics/departments-centers/english-philosophy/university-writing-program/drexel-writing-center/>) Students scheduling their courses can also conduct a search for courses with the attribute "WI" to bring up a list of all writing-intensive courses available that term.

## Additional Information

Please contact Dr. Katie Barak at [ksb89@drexel.edu](mailto:ksb89@drexel.edu) with questions concerning the minor. For more information, please visit the Interdisciplinary Problem Solving minor webpage (<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/academics/interdisciplinary-minor/>).

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