The Academic Minor

Many departments have designed academic minors for the convenience of undergraduate students.

A minor is a structured group of courses that leads to considerable knowledge and understanding of a subject, although with less depth than a major. Some employers consider minors desirable, and the corresponding major requirements at the University may stipulate a minor. Some students choose to complement their major program with a minor in a related field or even in an entirely different field of interest. Students interested in pursuing an academic minor should contact their college dean’s office and the department responsible for the minor program for guidance and advising.

Please note that undergraduate students can only complete a minor in addition to and as a complement to a major. The University does not award stand-alone minors.

Minor in Cognitive Science

The undergraduate minor in Cognitive Science is aimed to provide undergraduates with an introduction to cognitive science as a theory of the mind as an intelligent (information-processing) system. Our objectives are to ensure that each student (a) be able to articulate, at least in broad terms, some of the assumptions that have been thought to unify the various subfields within the domain of cognitive science; (b) explore more than one discipline’s approach to matters pertaining to cognitive science; and (c) explore in some detail at least one of the five main disciplines contributing to cognitive science (biology, computer science, linguistics, philosophy, and psychology). CGS 500 (Cognitive Science in Theory and Practice) will be run with the aim in mind of getting students to satisfy (a); and distribution requirements aim to put students in a position to satisfy (b) and (c).

To receive an undergraduate minor in Cognitive Science, the student must successfully complete 18 credit hours to be distributed as follows:

1. CGS 500 Cognitive Science in Theory and Practice ............................................. 3

2. Fifteen credits from among the following:
   * ANT 332 Human Evolution .............................................................. 3
   * BIO 375 Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology ................................ 3
   * BIO 535 Comparative Neurobiology and Behavior ....................... 3
   * BIO 550 Advanced Physiology ......................................................... 3
   * BIO 556 Communication Biology ...................................................... 3
   * COM 350 Language and Communication ......................................... 3
   * CS 375 Logic and Theory of Computing (may not be combined with PHI 520) 3
   * CS 463G Introduction to Artificial Intelligence ................................. 3
   * CS 521 Computational Sciences ........................................................ 3
   * CS 536 Situated Computing ............................................................... 3
   * CS 575 Models of Computation (may not be combined with PHI 520) 3
   * LIN 210 History of the English Language ...................................... 3
   * LIN 211 Introduction to the Study of Language ................................ 3
   * LIN 212 Introduction to Linguistics II ................................................. 3
   * LIN 509 Formal Semantics ................................................................. 3
   * LIN 512 Analysis of English Syntax .................................................. 3
   * LIN 513 Teaching English as a Second Language ......................... 3
   * LIN 515 Phonological Analysis .......................................................... 3
   * LIN 516 Grammatical Typology ......................................................... 3
   * LIN 517 Special Topics in Linguistics (Subtitle required) ..................... 3
   * LIN 519 Historical Linguistics .......................................................... 3
   * PHI 320 Symbolic Logic I ................................................................. 3
   * PHI 361 Biology and Society (Subtitle required) .............................. 3
   * PHI 520 Symbolic Logic II (may not be combined with CS 375, 575, or 675) 3
   * PHI 560 Philosophy of Scientific Method ......................................... 3
   * PHI 565 Philosophy of Language ...................................................... 3
   * PHI 575 Philosophy of Mind ............................................................. 3
   * PSY 223 Developmental Psychology ................................................ 3
   * PSY 311 Learning and Cognition ...................................................... 3
   * PSY 312 Brain and Behavior ............................................................ 3
   * PSY 427 Cognitive Processes .......................................................... 4
   * PSY 456 Behavioral Neuroscience .................................................... 4
   * PSY 552 Evolutionary Psychology .................................................... 4
   * PSY 564 Advanced Topics in Cognitive Psychology (Subtitle required) 3
   * PSY 566 Advanced Topics in Social Psychology (Subtitle required) 3

Of the fifteen credit hours of courses from this list, (1) at least six credit hours must be in the same core discipline, where core disciplines are biology, computer science, linguistics, philosophy, and psychology; and (2) no more than six credit hours from any single discipline will count towards satisfaction of the requirement.

*Only by approval of the Director of Cognitive Science. The main criterion for approval will be the extent to which the course, as taught during the semester for which the student seeks cognitive science credit, contains a sufficient amount of materials relevant to cognitive science. The Director will make this determination by consultation with relevant faculty from the department teaching the course (including the instructor of the course), in conjunction with the criteria for course inclusion outlined on the Cognitive Science Web page.

For more information, contact: Camille Harmon, camille.harmon@uky.edu; 859-257-3966.

http://idp.as.uky.edu/cognitive-science