A Minor in Design  
School of Design

**Important Dates**
- Transcripts, personal statement and application due by 1st Monday in February
- Portfolio or Design Project Review 1st Monday in March
- Student notification Last Monday in March

**Program Description**
The minor program provides an overview of the field of Design. It is intended to enable students from other majors to understand Design well enough so they can interact effectively with professional designers. Entry into the program and course registration is contingent upon the student’s ability to demonstrate an acceptable level of design skills and aptitude, as well as space availability in the program. Students must receive approval and course counseling for a minor in Design from the School of Design Student Advisor before beginning the sequence of required and elective courses. Through this advising system, a curriculum sequence will be chosen to meet the student’s specific needs and fit within the School of Design’s current course capacities. Students will receive written notification of acceptance into or rejection from the Design minor program by the end of March. The reasons for acceptance or rejection are held in the strictest confidence and are not available to the applicants.

**Application requirements**
1. Completed application form, which includes permission from your home department advisor.
2. One to two page personal statement of why you want to minor in Design and how this minor will benefit you in the future. For example: describe your design background, interests, abilities, and desired course of study in Design. Include the relationship of Design to your major area of study.
3. Your academic transcript(s). You may print out an unofficial copy of your transcript from your SIO.
4. A Portfolio Review. For those who do not have a Portfolio, the Design Project may be substituted. The Design Project may be downloaded at [http://design.cmu.edu/files/designproject_090821.pdf](http://design.cmu.edu/files/designproject_090821.pdf) and completed prior to the review. The Portfolio or Project may be dropped off at the main Design Office on or before the review date listed above.

**Evaluation Criteria**
1. Your demonstrated design abilities in your Portfolio, or in the Design Project review.
2. Your personal statement.
3. Your academic transcripts.

**Portfolio Guidelines**
Work may be submitted in its original form, online with a provided URL, or on a CD/DVD in pdf format (not in it’s native application).
1. Include 15-20 examples of your best work from a variety of media. Any medium is acceptable, but variety is important.
2. Include your name and a brief description of each piece.
3. Include a sketchbook if you have one. The sketchbook can count only as one piece.

**Courses and Scheduling**
You need 54 units in Design courses to complete a minor. There are four 9 unit required courses in the Design minor track (for a total of 36 units).

- **Both of these:**
  - 51-262 CDF: Design for Interaction for Communications (9 units)
  - 51-264 IDF: Design for Interaction for Products (9 units)

- **Two of these:**
  - 51-171 Placing (9 units)
  - 51-172 Systems (9 units)
  - 51-173 Human Experience in Design (9 units)
  - 51-205 How People Work (9 units)

- **Two Design Electives:**
  - 51-xxx (9 units)
  - 51-xxx (9 units)

The balance of coursework (18 units of Design Electives) is drawn from Design courses that are scheduled in consultation with the Design Advisor. You must have Design Advisor approval before registering for these courses.

**Registration**
A limited number of spaces are held for minors. It is the student’s responsibility to come to the Design office on his or her designated registration day to request courses. After Registration Week, the reserved spaces will be given to other students.
A Minor in Design

Application form (please type or print)

Student Information

Name ___________________________ Major ___________________________ Graduation Date ___________________________

Street address ___________________________ City ___________________________ State ___________________________ Zip ___________________________

Andrew i.d. ___________________________ Student Signature ___________________________ Date ___________________________

Please indicate if you would like your portfolio and documentation returned. YES _____ NO _____

Advisor approval (Home department)

This student is not on academic probation, and I would recommend him/her as a candidate for a minor in Design.

Advisor Signature ___________________________ Date ___________________________ Phone Number ___________________________

Personal Statement

Describe your design background, interests, abilities and desired course of study in Design. Include the relationship of Design to your major area of study. Attach additional sheets if needed.