Some of our strongest students find that no one traditional major or double major fully meets what they want to study. The mission of the Self-Designed Major is to provide an avenue by which Lake Forest College students can achieve a level of competence similar to that of students in any of our regularly-offered undergraduate majors, in an academic area of their own design. Working with a faculty advisor, students accepted into the Self-Designed Major can pursue their own course of study deeply, culminating in a senior thesis, creative project, or research project.

REQUIREMENTS:
The Self-Designed Major allows students to develop academic majors of their own, whose requirements they themselves will set, and must meet, in order to complete the major. The main requirement of all Self-Designed Major students is that they culminate their studies and meet the senior studies requirement with a senior thesis or a research project—a substantial piece of independent work.

QUALIFICATIONS:
Because the Self-Designed Major requires initiative, responsibility, and a substantial independent essay or creative work, students should consider carefully their interests, talents, and work ethics before applying to the program. They should consult with their advisors, their friends, their parents, and a member of the Self-Designed Major Committee before applying to the program.

The Self-Designed Major is compatible with a student’s pursuit of a second major, and can be an avenue for studying one of the College’s interdisciplinary minors (such as Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies, Cinema Studies, Legal Studies, etc.) in greater depth than the minor will allow.

EXAMPLES OF SOME RECENT SELF-DESIGN MAJORS:
- Film and Television Studies
- International Hospitality and Experience Management
- Arts Administration
- Marketing and Entrepreneurship
- Print and Digital Publishing
- Immigration and Human Rights
- Social Innovation
- Digital Marketing
- Sustainable Urban Development
- Linguistics
- Performance Studies
- International Human Rights

PARIS BURTON ’19
Majors: Theater and Self-Designed Arts Administration
Minor: Entrepreneurship and Innovation
Internship: Lookingglass Theatre Company

Read about Paris’s story at lakeforest.edu/burton
CHICAGO: offers unmatched opportunities to get hands-on experience in a number of disciplines.

The courses listed below are only examples; each self-designed major is different:

**Film and Television Studies:**
- COMM 175: INTRO TO FILM STUDIES
- COMM 212: VISUAL RHETORIC
- AFAM 258: SPIKE LEE AND BLACK AESTHETICS
- MUSC 266: MUSIC IN FILM
- CHIN 333: CHINESE CINEMA
- PHIL 301: ROMANTIC COMEDIES AND THE PHILOSOPHY OF LOVE
- FREN 334: EXPLORING FRENCH LIT THRU FILM
- ASIA 245: FILM AND RELIGION
- COMM 376: QUEER CINEMA
- SENIOR RESEARCH PROJECT: “EVALUATING THE STAR WARS FRANCHISE AS A CULTURAL PHENOMENON”

**Legal Studies:**
- PHIL 156: LOGIC & STYLES OF ARGUMENTS
- POLS 260: INTRO TO LEGAL STUDIES
- PHIL 240: PHILOSOPHY OF LAW ECON
- ECON 345: ECONOMICS AND LAW
- POLS 261: AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONAL LAW
- POLS 348: INTERNATIONAL LAW
- POLS 365: CIVIL LIBERTIES
- COMM 253: ARGUMENTATION AND ADVOCACY
- ES 361: ENVIRONMENTAL LAW
- COMM 387: RHETORIC OF LAW
- SENIOR RESEARCH PROJECT: “SPORTS LAW AND AGENCY”

Learn about our accomplished faculty, requirements for the major, and more at lakeforest.edu/academics/selfdesign

**JONAH HERSCU ’15**

**Majors:** Self-Designed Coaching: Personal Identity, Sports Psychology, and Leadership  
**Graduate Study:** Master’s in Sports Science, United States Sports Academy  
**Current Job:** Manager of Advance Scouting and Player Development Associate, Los Angeles Lakers

Read about Jonah’s story at lakeforest.edu/herscu