The senior project provides you with the opportunity to integrate what you have learned from the courses in your IDIM program. The project should be both creative and scholarly; it should demonstrate your ability to formulate an original interdisciplinary project and to complete it in a way that shows a level of skills and understanding appropriate for a senior who has been engaged in a sustained program of study on a single theme. The particular form the project takes will vary depending on the substance of your major program, the advice of your primary advisor, and your specific learning goals. Here are some forms the senior project can take:

- an original research project using, for example, methods such as surveys or interviews
- a critical review of the scholarly literature on some aspect of the major field
- a work of art, film, or fiction, or some other demonstration of artistic development, supplemented by an analytic written commentary
- a paper based on an internship or community service project with a business or a non-profit organization.

Whatever form the senior project takes, it provides an excellent opportunity for you to work closely with faculty advisers in the process of planning the project and in carrying it out.

The senior project must be completed in one of your last semesters of registration. The process of planning the senior project, however, should begin earlier. As you are taking the courses in your major, you should think about the kind of senior project that might emerge to bring the separate parts of your studies together to create a coherent interdisciplinary experience.

How to Complete your IDIM Senior Project:

1. Develop your project with your primary adviser once your IDIM program has been approved.

2. Write a proposal before the semester in which you plan to complete the project.

The IDIM senior project proposal explains what your project is about, how you plan to carry it out, and what you hope to learn by doing it. Your proposal should be two to three pages long. Your most important audience is your faculty advisers. They will approve your proposed project, or recommend or require changes, based on this written proposal. Your faculty advisers will want to know:

- what questions you want to answer or problems you want to address
- how you plan to address them, i.e., what form your project will take
- what methods you will use, e.g., statistical analysis, archival research, textual analysis, video production
- what materials you will use (a bibliography will often answer this question)
- what courses and experiences have prepared you to undertake this project
- Explain how this project represents a culmination of your major
3. Bring your proposal to your primary faculty adviser and two faculty readers for review and approval and have them sign Senior Project Proposal forms then return those forms to the IDP office. The Senior Project Proposal forms are available from the IDP office.

4. Register for at least two credits of Directed Study with your primary faculty adviser for the senior project to be earned during the semester in which you plan to complete the project. Grading for the project must be on the A-F system.

5. Complete your project and have your primary adviser and 2 readers sign Senior Project Final Evaluation Forms. Bring those signed forms and a copy of your paper to 30 Johnston. Once we have all three forms and you are registered for your final classes, we will send a final clearance for your IDIM to your academic advising office. The Senior Project Final Evaluation Forms are also available from the IDP office.

**If you are in the University Honors Program and your senior project is your honors project, you are also responsible for having your faculty advisers sign your Graduation With Honors form.**

Questions or Problems…
Your IDIM adviser will be happy to assist you at any point in the senior project process. Come to the IDIM Office in 30 Johnston Hall, phone 612/624-8006 or e-mail idp@umn.edu.