

DIGITAL STUDIES UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE

Introduction

The Digital Studies Certificate equips students with both **technical skills** and **conceptual frameworks** to be effective and responsible users of digital technology. Students will gain a range of marketable technical skills such as web design, media production, and data analysis. They will also study how digital technologies and platforms shape modern society, covering topics such as artificial intelligence, consumer privacy, and algorithmic bias.

Students who successfully complete the Digital Studies Certificate will be able to:

- Analyze the relationships between digital technologies and their cultural, social, political, and ethical contexts
- Use digital technology to communicate messages to a variety of audiences
- Use digital technology to solve problems in a range of disciplines and situations
- Showcase a range of technical skills to potential employers or graduate schools

Program Delivery

- This is a hybrid program, with courses offered both **on-campus** and **online**.

Eligibility

- CU Denver students in any college or discipline can enroll in the program at any point in their undergraduate studies.
- Courses are "stackable": courses taken for your major can also go towards the certificate.

Declaring the Certificate

Students interested in completing this certificate should complete this form: CLAS Undergraduate Certificate Intent to Declare Form (https://ucdenver.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2hNYIHqVx0Ta0Dk/), which requests that the certificate be added to your student record. Once added, you will be able to run a certificate degree audit. The certificate degree audit should be used in collaboration with the Certificate Advisor to ensure successful completion of the requirements.

Students should then work with Cameron Blevins (cameron.blevins@ucdenver.edu) – the certificate advisor, to ensure completion of all certificate requirements.

Completing This Certificate

Students must also complete the CLAS Undergraduate Certificate Completion Verification Form, (https://ucdenver.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eyPLZl6vVh0wG8K/) before graduation, in order to confirm completion of their certificate. The certificate advisor will confirm that

your certificate has been successfully completed, and will work with campus partners to apply the certificate to your transcript.

Students must fill out the Certificate Completion Form before the deadlines below, to ensure the certificate is applied to your transcript correctly. If you are a non-degree seeking student, please fill out this form in the term in which you intend to complete your certificate.

Spring semester – **April 1**

Summer semester – **July 1**

Fall semester – **November 1**

These program requirements are subject to periodic revision by the academic department, and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences reserves the right to make exceptions and substitutions as judged necessary in individual cases. Therefore, the College strongly urges students to consult regularly with their Digital Studies advisor to confirm the best plans of study before finalizing them.

General Requirements

Students must satisfy all requirements as outlined below and by the department offering the certificate.

- Click here (<http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/>) for information about Academic Policies

Certificate Requirements

1. Students must complete a minimum of 12 credits of required courses chosen from the approved courses in each cluster: one course (three credits) from each of the three clusters (for a total of nine credits), plus the remaining three credits from any one of the three clusters.
2. Students must complete a minimum of six upper division (3000-level and above) credits, taken from the approved courses below.
3. Students must earn a minimum grade of B (3.0) in all courses that apply to the certificate and must achieve a minimum cumulative certificate GPA of 3.0. Courses taken using P+/P/F or S/U grading cannot apply to certificate requirements.
4. Students must complete all credits applied to the certificate with CU Denver faculty.

Certificate Restriction, Allowances and Recommendations

1. The certificate will be awarded when a student graduates with the bachelor's degree.
2. Co-curricular requirement: Students must attend at least three Career Center sessions, which can include events, workshops, or one-on-one appointments.

Digital Studies Certificate Course Clusters

- **Theory and Analysis:** Courses in this cluster focus on theorizing, explaining, and describing the relationships between digital, media, and communication technologies and society. They enable students to critically assess and analyze digital media and information, such as understanding the biases in seemingly neutral Google

search results or examining how people use Twitter to build social movements

- **Digital Media Production:** Courses in this cluster focus on developing hands-on skills in the use of digital, media, and communication technologies. They provide opportunities for students to develop their skills with a variety of digital tools, such as digital photography, mapping, and social media management.
- **Integration:** Courses in this cluster bring together both understanding and using digital, media, and communication technologies.

Other courses may apply to each cluster with the approval of the Director of Digital Initiatives certificate advisor.

Code	Title	Hours
Complete one course (three credits) from each of the three clusters (for a total of nine credits), plus three elective credits from any one of the three clusters.		
<i>Courses must come from at least two different subject codes.</i>		
<i>Complete one of the following Theory and Analysis cluster courses:</i>		3
ANTH 2400	Global Storytelling Cultures	
BUSN 6610/ ISMG 6180	Information Systems Strategy	
COMM 3650	Media and Society	
COMM/WGST 4610	Communication, Media, and Sex	
COMM 4660/5660	Queer Media Studies	
COMM 4760	New Media and Society	
ENGL 2060	Introduction to Writing & Digital Studies	
ENGR 3400	Technology and Culture	
ENTP 6022	Course ENTP 6022 Not Found	
FINE 1004	Video Games, Story and Society	
GEOG 2080	The Power of Maps: Introduction to Geospatial Sciences	
INTE 2000	Digital Teaching and Learning	
INTE 4320/5320	Games and Learning	
ISMG 3000	Technology In Business	
MUSC 3700	Music and Entertainment Business in the Digital Age	
PHIL 4920/5920/ HUMN/SSCI 5920	Philosophy of Media and Technology	
SOCY 1011	From Killer Apps to Killer Bots: Technology and Social Change	
<i>Complete one of the following Digital Media Production cluster courses:</i>		3
COMM 2081	New Media Production and Management	
COMM 3072	Media Writing Skills	
ENGL 3084	Digital Writing and Storytelling	
ENGL 3154	Technical Writing	
ENGL 4701	Multimedia in the Community	
FINE 1810	Digital 3D Foundations	
FINE 1820	Animation Foundations	
FINE 2155	Introduction to Digital Photography	

FINE 2405	Introduction to Digital Design	
FINE 2406	Introduction to Digital Art & Imaging	
FINE 3400	Designing for Web and Mobile Apps	
FINE 3450	Digital Painting	
GEOG 4080/5080	Introduction to GIS	
GEOG 4081/5081	Cartography	
INTE 4340/5340	Learning with Digital Stories	
INTE 4660/5660	Developing Self-Paced Online Modules	
INTE 4680/5680	Producing Media for Learning	
IWKS 2300/5350	Fundamentals of Computational Innovation	
MUSC 4820	Digital Music Techniques	
<i>Complete one of the following Integration cluster courses:</i>		3
COMM 2051	Introduction to Strategic Communication	
COMM 3660	Social Media for Social Change	
COMM 4558/5558	Digital Health Narratives	
COMM 4665	Principles of Advertising	
ENGL 4190/5190	Advanced Topics in Writing, Rhetoric, & Linguistics (topic must be pre-approved by director)	
ENGL 5165	Technologies of Writing	
HIST 3260/5260	Introduction to Digital Studies	
HIST 4261/5261	Working With Data	
INTE 4711/5711	Creative Designs for Instructional Materials	
ISMG 2050	Business Problem Solving Tools	
IWKS 2100	Human-Centered Design, Innovation and Prototyping	
IWKS 3180/5180	Inworks: Choose Your Own Adventure: Experiences in Design, Innovation and Prototyping	
IWKS 3200/5200	Data Science for Innovators	
IWKS 3700/5700	Innovation and Society	
<i>Complete one additional course from any one of the three course clusters.</i>		3
Total Hours		12

To learn more about the Student Learning Outcomes for this program, please visit our website (<https://clas.ucdenver.edu/digital-studies-certificates/undergraduate-certificate/>).