



Resolution Number:	F-15-01	Sponsored By:	Vice-President for Educational Affairs Maria Beelen
Introduced On:	October 15 th , 2015		
Voted On:	October 22 nd , 2015		
Result:	Passed		
Vote Count:	Unanimous		

A RESOLUTION TO: Support the creation of a new Digital Studies minor, housed under Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies.

Recognizing, the new minor in Digital Studies would enable students to evaluate social and political consequences of the flow of data in our lives, gain insight through information literacy, learn how computational and visualization tools are used, and apply these concepts in technologically rich environments.

Recognizing, the creation of a new Digital Studies minor would benefit students by ensuring that all students have the opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills to enter their chosen career fields prepared to address the needs of the 21st century.

Recognizing, the skills of digital technology and the ethical knowledge regarding the use of this technology are growing in demand, as our culture continues to embrace the use of digital technology in the professional realm.

Recognizing, there are several skills that students can gain from these studies, which include (but are not limited to) writing for mediums accessible to all electronic devices, creating graphic depictions of information, communicating with data analysis colleagues, analyzing government and private agencies use of data. These skills absolutely will be demanded in all fields (education, business, non-profit organization, entrepreneurship, health care and related fields, public service, and more).

Recognizing, this minor, as currently envisioned, requires students to complete 21-22 credits total. Students will complete an introductory learning experience, interdisciplinary core course(s), be exposed to digital production and data management tools that they will use throughout the rest of the curriculum, and learn to foster a critical stance toward culture and technology. A capstone component of three credits will give students advanced understanding of Digital Studies as an interdisciplinary field and help students to integrate the knowledge and skills they develop throughout their electives.

Recognizing, The electives--accounting for 12-13 credits--are drawn from across the university and are split into two modules titled “Digital Tools and Production” and “Digital Culture.” Students will choose two courses from each of these modules. With the addition of this minor there will creation of new courses, some of which could possibly include but are not limited to two Digital Studies introductory courses, Data Visualization, Ethics of Access, Social Media in Culture, and Gaming Culture.

Whereas, the addition of a Digital Studies minor places Grand Valley at the front of an emerging field that only a few other universities in the country offer.

Let It Be Resolved, that the Grand Valley State University Student Senate is in support of the addition of a digital studies minor in the Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies.