Frequently Asked Questions about the Sustainable Water Interdisciplinary Minor

Who should register for the SWIM?
The SWIM is open to all undergraduate students, regardless of their major. By taking advantage of the outstanding water expertise available at Colorado State University, students can familiarize themselves with the many dimensions of Colorado’s water management system. In this way students can better prepare themselves for careers in water management or graduate study in a water-related area.

How do I sign up for the SWIM?
To sign up for the minor you need to meet with the CSU Water Center’s SWIM Advisor, Julie Kallenberger. Office hours are by appointment only. Please contact Julie by email at julie.kallenberger@colostate.edu to schedule a meeting.

To add the minor you will have to complete an Undergraduate Change of Major, Second Major, Minor, or Concentration form. Forms are available from the CSU Registrar’s Office or by contacting Julie. You are responsible for submitting the completed form to the Registrar’s Office (located in Centennial Hall). Once the Registrar’s Office has approved your form, the minor will appear on your Degree Audit Report (DARS).

How many credits are required to complete the SWIM?
The SWIM requires you complete 21 credits, including a minimum of 12 upper-division (300-400-level) courses.

Elective courses range from biology and ecology to chemistry and physics. Students interested in the social sciences can enroll in electives focused on sustainability, economics, policy, and governance. The SWIM also offers courses on climate change, water pollution, engineering, and marine biology as part of its elective requirements.

I have taken all the courses and my DARS report says that I do not have my Upper Division Elective. Is there a problem?
The computer system that the University uses for tracking your requirements is unable to determine the correct course to move to the Upper Division Elective. As a result, the Upper Division Elective requires a form to be handed into the Registrar identifying which class is to be the elective. At the beginning of your last semester you need to stop by to sign your Graduation Contract for the minor and at that time we complete the form for the Upper Division Elective.

If I take a class that counts towards another minor or my major can I use this class for the SWIM?
Yes – absolutely. If the course satisfies more than one requirement this does not affect the minor at all.

Who should I contact if I have additional questions about the SWIM?
For additional information or questions about the SWIM, please contact the CSU Water Center’s SWIM Advisor, Julie Kallenberger. Julie can be reached by email at julie.kallenberger@colostate.edu or by phone at 970.491.5124.