

Project Name:	Digital Studies (DS) Initiative
MIU Round:	Round 2
Sponsor(s):	College of Letters & Science, School of Education, School of Human Ecology
Coordinator(s):	Rob Howard (DS Director), Kristin Eschenfelder (DS Assessment Chair), Jon McKenzie and Steven Hillyard (DS Executive Committee)
Partner(s):	Departments of Art, English, Communication Arts, Library and Information Studies
Report Date:	Year 1, July 2011

Project Specific Goal and Measures

Project Impact Measure(s)	Increase the ability of UW-Madison students to hone their skills in the use and assessment of digital technologies. Create an undergraduate Certificate in Digital Studies and implement the curriculum needed to support the certificate requirements. The DS Committee is creating an assessment of baseline literacy skills to be fielded in Fall 2011.
Project Impact Data Source(s)	DS Initiative committee.
Baseline Measure(s)	The DS Initiative did not formally exist before MIU funding. 2010-11 course offering and course enrollments and faculty rosters can serve as a baseline. The DS Committee is creating an assessment of baseline literacy skills to be fielded in Fall 2011. The DS Committee will also define program level learning outcomes and ways to measure progress towards these in summer 2011 for implementation when the new DS courses and certificate is available.

General MIU Goals and Measures (applicable to project)

A	Increased access in bottleneck areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art 107 (new course) will provide a much needed introductory-level digital media class to undergraduates in the BFA and BS Art majors. • MIU funding is allowing Communication Arts 346 to be taught regularly (and by a faculty member). • SLIS: The new course (LIS 341) will give students from all majors an opportunity to learn information management theories and skills that are usually only available to Business or Computer Science majors.
---	--------------------------------------	--

Digital Studies Initiative, Page 2

C	Increased capacity for high-impact practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Art 107 will be a hands-on studio class of no more than 20 students.• Comm Arts will expand its honors course array.• English: will expand its seminar course array.• SLIS: will offer a course as part of a FIG.
D	Increased student learning and teaching excellence	To be reported in Year 2 report.
E	More tenured, tenure-track faculty teaching undergraduate courses	All new MIU faculty hires will teach undergraduate courses.
F	Decreased achievement gaps	Because the DS Initiative courses are new (and have yet to be offered) there is no known achievement gap. The DS Initiative has worked with the PEOPLE program and at SOAR to ensure that minority students know about the DS offering and feel welcome to participate.
G	Attention to diversity in new hires	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Art: Solicited applications from a diverse group of professional and academic associations and a wide range of contacts through other institutions and organizations. Included a preference statements for applicants with experience working with diverse populations.• Communication Arts: Send position postings to point people for the divisions, caucuses, and interest groups of national scholarly organizations in the disciplines of interest including caucuses for minority groups, GLBT, and women. Targeted emails were sent to prominent faculty members working at leading institutions in Media and Cultural Studies and/or Digital Media studies. Postings were also announced in the CHE and many other listserves.• English: Solicited applications from relevant professional organizations, contacts at various institutions, as well as a host of minority and diversity-targeted forums and listserves.• Library and Information Studies: Posted notices in a variety of paper and internet locations, some of which are focused on under-represented groups in the LIS field. Emailed posting to diverse faculty in LIS and faculty who do research on diversity.

Progress Reports

Year 1

- Established Digital Studies (DS) Administrative Structure.
 - Formalize space and planning design for the Media Studio computer lab in the College Library.
 - Formalized new courses and plans for assessment of learning outcomes. New courses include: Art 107 (Introduction to Digital Forms), English 236 (Bascom Seminar – Reading and Writing in Electronic Environments), English 307 (topic: Rhetoric, Mashed Up), Communication Arts 200 (Introduction to Digital Communications), Communication Arts 522 (Digitally Documenting Everyday Discourse), SLIS 341 (Building Digital Infrastructures for Culture and Science).
 - Conducted four successful new faculty searches.
 - Designed and completed new DS website (digitalstudies.wisc.edu)
 - Designed curriculum and started the approval process for a Certificate in Digital Studies.
 - Established relationships with the academic advisors in minority-service programs.
-