# New Minor Announcement Template

Please use this template to create a new minor announcement for your department or center website. Each paragraph should be brief, with 2-3 sentences. The final draft should be reviewed by the minor’s program lead or undergraduate curriculum lead, as well as the department chair or center director. MarComm’s [editorial team](https://ascintranet.osu.edu/marcomm/project-inquiry-form) can review the final document for adherence to university brand style and general editorial notes (select Content Review in the linked form).

**Important note: This announcement should only be released when the new minor is available to students. Announcing early can mean missing out on students who are excited about the minor, but don’t return to it when it’s time to declare.**

## Headline

What is the new minor? Is there something unique about it that should be called out in the headline?

Ohio State introduces new minor in underwater basketweaving

## Lede

This should cover the most important aspects of the new minor: what is it? Which department houses it? When are students able to declare the minor? This is also a good opportunity to link to the minor’s page on the department website.

The Ohio State University is adding a first of its kind undergraduate minor to its academic catalog. Underwater basketweaving was recently approved as an official minor in the Department of Swimming, allowing students to declare it beginning in the spring of 2025.

## Supporting paragraph

This is an opportunity to introduce the minor in more detail: what are some specific program details, and how will students benefit from these program aspects? What’s the larger impact of having this minor, or what gap is it filling in the department, college or university?

Underwater basketweaving joins freediving and synchronized swimming minors in the Department of Swimming, rounding out a set of practical offerings that enhance many of the majors available in the College of Arts and Sciences. The minor will require successful completion of 15 credit hours, which includes 10 hours of theoretical classes and five hours of applied practice. Students can also participate in a final basket exhibition, held at Ohio State’s Hopkins Art Gallery, at the end of their senior year.

## Quote

This should come from someone directly involved with the creation of the minor: a professor, a department chair or center director. Are they excited about the new program? What do they look forward to next? This is also an opportunity to call out hands-on learning opportunities that are part of the minor, or specific industry/workforce connections that will be part of the student experience.

“The demand for underwater basketweaving training has never been greater. Students have been asking for a program like this for years, but until now the only options in our department were the basketweaving specialization within a more general major in artistic swimming,” said Department of Swimming Chair [Lia](https://anthropology.osu.edu/people/mcgraw.43) Thomas. “This dedicated minor provides superb training – including practical work in our state-of-the-art aquatic studio – for a variety of artistic or athletic careers.”

## Background information (1-2 paragraphs)

This is an opportunity to talk about additional aspects of the new minor, or about the majors this minor would complement well. If the minor isn’t the right choice for someone, is there a certificate program or specialization within a major they can join instead?

In addition to offering relevant knowledge for art majors and athletic training majors, the underwater basketweaving minor pairs well with sculpture specializations in the Department of Art. However, the minor is open to students in any Ohio State college and major with an interest in underwater basketweaving.

## Second quote (optional)

This is a chance for other department leaders or students to add their thoughts, or to add a second quote from your primary representative. Is there a student who is excited about adding or declaring this major? Another professor or staff member who can add a new point of view? Someone from Career Success or the community who can talk about a built-in work experience opportunity that’s part of the major?

“We really want this program to be an opportunity for all students to expand their horizons and learn more about underwater basketweaving as a cultural practice as well as an art form,” said Associate Professor Ariel Disney, who teaches Underwater Basketweaving 101. “It’s been an essential part of my journey as an artist, and I look forward to sharing it with our students, and to learning from them as well.”

## Footer (optional)

Much of this information should already be linked above, but if there is a specific major page or contact person you want to call out, this is a good place for a summary sentence.

For more information about the underwater basketweaving minor or other programs in the Department of Swimming, visit swimming.osu.edu/minors or contact the department at swimming@osu.edu.