



Administrative Procedure

Chapter 4 – Instructional Services

AP 4025.2 – PHILOSOPHY AND CRITERIA FOR BACCALAUREATE DEGREES AND GENERAL EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science (BS) Degrees

The Bachelor of Science degree is intended for students interested in high-level career technical education.

The following is required for all BS Degrees:

1. A combination of lower division and upper division coursework totaling a minimum of 120 semester units (180 quarter units) that are applicable to a baccalaureate degree as defined within this procedure.
2. Completion of the CSU General Education Breadth or Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum pattern.
3. Completion of a minimum of 45 semester units (67.5 quarter units) of upper division courses, including a minimum of nine semester units (13.5 quarter units) of upper division general education.
4. An identified major that includes a minimum of 18 semester units (27 quarter units) of lower division courses and 36 semester units (54 quarter units) of upper division courses.

Lower Division Coursework

Lower division courses shall be consistent with the requirements for the associate degree applicable credit courses outlined in the California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 5, Section 55062. These courses include the following:

1. All lower division courses accepted toward a baccalaureate degree granted by the California State University (CSU) or University of California (UC) or designed to be offered for transfer.
2. Credit courses that apply to the major or area of emphasis in career technical fields that would typically be applicable to an associate degree.

Lower Division General Education

1. Students shall complete CSU General Education Breadth (CSU GE) or the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) general education pattern.
2. Students who have earned a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution, but who have not completed CSU GE Breadth or IGETC, must fulfill any missing requirements.

Lower Division Major Coursework

Students shall complete at least 18 units of identified lower division coursework in the baccalaureate degree major. A “major” is defined as a single field of study or related fields, as listed in the community college’s Taxonomy of Programs.

Upper Division Coursework

Upper division courses apply knowledge obtained at the lower division level with demonstrated additional critical thinking through writing, oral communication, or computation. Upper division coursework may also encompass research elements, workforce training, apprenticeships, internships, required practicums or capstone projects. Upper division courses typically have one or more lower or upper division prerequisites. Courses that have been designated as upper division are only intended to be applicable to baccalaureate degrees. Upper division requirements include the following:

1. A minimum of 40 semester units (67.5 quarter units) of upper division coursework, including a minimum of nine semester units (14 quarter units) of upper division general education courses.
2. At least nine semester units (14 quarter units) of upper division general education courses from at least two disciplines outside of the major, one of which must have an emphasis in written communication, oral communication or computation. These upper division general education courses may be developed in any discipline, but the courses should relate to the required coursework for baccalaureate students. Upper division general education courses are intended only for baccalaureate students and should not be open to students who are not enrolled in the baccalaureate program.
3. All courses designated as an upper division major requirement must be completed with a grade of C or better.

Program Recency

Program recency may be established to require major courses to be completed no less than 36 months prior to the date of awarding the degree. Program recency shall:

1. Be established by discipline faculty only if it has been determined a significant lapse of time will have an impact on a student’s ability to successfully fulfill the degree’s goals and objectives;
2. Be stated in the official degree program report; and
3. Be required of all students in the program.

Reference: California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Sections 55061; 55062, 55070, 55072, 51022, 55130, 55600 et seq.
Education Code: Section 70901, 70902, 78106
WASC/ACCJC Accreditation Standard II.A.

Approved by the Chancellor: September 22, 2023

Supersedes: New Procedure