Title 5. Education
Division 5. Board of Trustees of the California State Universities
Chapter 1. California State University
Subchapter 2. Educational Program
Article 5. General Requirements for Graduation

§ 40405.1. California State University General Education - Breadth Requirements.

(a) Each recipient of the bachelor's degree completing the California State University General Education-Breadth Requirements pursuant to this subdivision (a) shall have completed a program which includes a minimum of 48 semester units or 72 quarter units of which 9 semester units or 12 quarter units shall be upper division level and shall be taken no sooner than the term in which the candidate achieves upper division status. At least 9 of the 48 semester units or 12 of the 72 quarter units shall be earned at the campus granting the degree. The 48 semester units or 72 quarter units shall be distributed as follows:

(1) A minimum of 9 semester units or 12 quarter units in communication in the English language, to include both oral communication and written communication, and in critical thinking, to include consideration of common fallacies in reasoning.

(2) A minimum of 12 semester units or 18 quarter units to include inquiry into the physical universe and its life forms, with some immediate participation in laboratory activity, and into mathematical concepts and quantitative reasoning and their applications.

(3) A minimum of 12 semester units or 18 quarter units among the arts, literature, philosophy and foreign languages.

(4) A minimum of 12 semester units or 18 quarter units dealing with human social, political, and economic institutions and behavior and their historical background.

(5) A minimum of 3 semester units or 4 quarter units in study designed to equip human beings for lifelong understanding and development of themselves as integrated physiological, social, and psychological entities.

The specification of numbers of units implies the right of discretion on each campus to adjust reasonably the proportions among the categories in order that the conjunction of campus courses, credit unit configurations and these requirements will not unduly exceed any of the prescribed semester or quarter unit minima. However, the total number of units in General Education-Breadth accepted for the bachelor's degree under the provisions of this subdivision (a) should not be less than 48 semester units or 72 quarter units unless the Chancellor grants an exception.

(b) The president or an officially authorized representative of a college which is accredited in a manner stated in Section 40601 (d) (1) may certify the extent to which the requirements of subdivision (a) of this section have been met up to a maximum of 39 semester units (or 58 quarter units). Such certification shall be in terms of explicit objectives and procedures issued by the Chancellor.
(c) In the case of a baccalaureate degree being pursued by a post-baccalaureate student, the requirements of this section shall be satisfied if:

(1) The student has previously earned a baccalaureate or higher degree from an institution accredited by a regional accrediting association; or

(2) The student has completed equivalent academic preparation, as determined by the appropriate campus authority.

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§ 40405.4. Procedures for Implementing Programs to Meet General Education Requirements.

(a) The Chancellor shall establish procedures to implement the objectives and requirements of Section 40405.1-40405.3, including provision for exceptions in individual cases of demonstrable hardship, and including periodic review of the extent to which the objectives and requirement are being met.

(b) The Chancellor may grant exceptions to the requirements of subdivision (a) of Section 40405.1 for high unit professional degree major programs on a program-by-program basis.

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§ 40500. Bachelor of Arts Degree: Required Curriculum.

To be eligible for the Bachelor of Arts degree, the candidate shall have completed the following requirements:

(a) General Education-Breadth Requirements. The courses in General Education-Breadth Requirements shall be distributed in the manner prescribed in Sections 40405-40405.4.

(b) Major 24 semester units (36 quarter units). There shall be one major with a minimum of 24 semester units (36 quarter units). At least 12 semester units (18 quarter units) in the major shall be upper division courses or their equivalent. The maximum number of units shall be determined by the campus.

(c) Additional Units. Units to complete the total required for the degree may be used as electives or to meet other requirements.

(d) Total. For candidates electing, pursuant to Section 40401, to meet graduation requirements established prior to the 2000-01 academic year, the total semester units required for the Bachelor of Arts Degree, of which at least 40 (60 quarter units) shall be in the upper division credit, shall be 124 semester units (186 quarter units). For candidates for the Bachelor of Arts degree who are meeting graduation requirements established during or after the 2000-01 and through the 2013-14 academic years, a minimum of 120 semester units (180 quarter units) shall be required, including at least 40 semester units (60 quarter units) in upper-division courses or their equivalent. For candidates for the Bachelor of Arts degree who are meeting graduation requirements established during or after the 2014-15 academic year, no fewer and no more than 120 semester units shall be required, including at least 40 semester units in upper-division courses or their equivalent, unless the Chancellor grants an exception.

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§ 40501. Bachelor of Science Degree: Required Curriculum.

To be eligible for the Bachelor of Science degree, the candidate shall have completed the following requirements:

(a) General Education-Breadth Requirements. The courses in General Education-Breadth Requirements shall be distributed in the manner prescribed in Sections 40405-40405.4.

(b) Major 36 semester units.

There shall be one major with a minimum of 36 semester units. At least 18 semester units in this major shall be upper division courses or their equivalent. The maximum number of units shall be determined by the campus.

(c) Total. For candidates electing, pursuant to Section 40401, to meet graduation requirements established prior to the 2000-01 academic year, the total semester units required for the Bachelor of Science degree shall be 124 to 132 semester units, as determined by each campus, except that 140 semester units may be required in engineering. For candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree who are meeting graduation requirements established during or after the 2000-01 and through the 2013-14 academic years, a minimum of 120 semester units shall be required.

The number of semester units for each curriculum shall be determined by each campus. For candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree who are meeting graduation requirements established during or after the 2014-15 academic year, no fewer and no more than 120 semester units shall be required, unless the Chancellor grants an exception.

To be eligible for the Bachelor of Architecture degree, the candidate shall have completed the following requirements:

(a) General Education-Breadth Requirements. The courses in General Education-Breadth Requirements shall be distributed in the manner prescribed in Sections 40405-40405.4.

(b) Major 45 semester units.

The major shall consist of a minimum of 45 semester units. At least 27 semester units in the major shall be in upper division courses or their equivalent. The maximum number of units shall be determined by each campus.

(c) Total. For candidates electing, pursuant to Section 40401, to meet graduation requirements established prior to the 2000-01 academic year, the total semester units required for the Bachelor of Architecture degree shall be 165 to 175 semester units. For candidates for the Bachelor of Architecture degree who are meeting graduation requirements established during or after from the 2000-01 and through the 2013-14 academic years, a minimum of 120 semester units shall be required. For candidates for the Bachelor of Architecture degree who are meeting graduation requirements established during or after the 2014-15 academic year, no fewer than 120 semester units and no more than 150 semester units shall be required, unless the Chancellor grants an exception. The total number of units required for the Bachelor of Architecture degree shall be distributed over a ten-semester period or equivalent.

To be eligible for either the Bachelor of Music degree or the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, the candidate shall have completed the following requirements:

(a) General Education-Breadth Requirements. The courses in General Education-Breadth Requirements shall be distributed in the manner prescribed in Sections 40405-40405.4.

(b) Major -70 semester units. The major shall consist of a maximum of 70 semester units with at least one-fourth of these units devoted to theory and content as distinguished from studio, production, and performance.

(c) Total. For candidates electing, pursuant to Section 40401, to meet graduation requirements established prior to the 2000-01 academic year, the total semester units required for the Bachelor of Music degree and the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree shall be 132 semester units. For candidates for the Bachelor of Music degree and the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree who are meeting graduation requirements established during or after from the 2000-01 and through the 2013-14 academic years, a minimum of 120 semester units shall be required. For candidates for the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree or Bachelor of Music degree who are meeting graduation requirements established during or after the 2014-15 academic year, no fewer than 120 semester units and no more than 132 semester units shall be required, unless the Chancellor grants an exception.

To be eligible for the Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree, the candidate shall have completed the following requirements:

(a) General Education-Breadth Requirements. The courses in General Education-Breadth Requirements shall be distributed in the manner prescribed in Sections 40405-40405.4.

(b) Major. 45 semester units.

The major shall consist of a minimum of 45 semester units, exclusive of those courses used to meet the General Education-Breadth Requirements. At least 27 units in the major shall be in upper division courses or their equivalent. The maximum number of units shall be determined by each campus, not exceed 150 semester units.

(c) Total. For candidates electing, pursuant to Section 40401, to meet graduation requirements established prior to the 2000-01 academic year, the total semester units required for the Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree shall be 155 to 165 semester units. For candidates for the Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree who are meeting graduation requirements established during or after from the 2000-01 and through the 2013-14 academic years, a minimum of 120 semester units shall be required. For candidates for the Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree who are meeting graduation requirements established during or after the 2014-15 academic year, no fewer than 120 semester units and no more than 150 semester units shall be required, unless the Chancellor grants an exception. The total number of units required for the Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree shall be distributed over a ten-semester period or equivalent.

Each campus shall establish and maintain a monitoring system to ensure that justification is provided for all program requirements that extend the baccalaureate unit requirement beyond 120 semester units. As of the fall term of the 2014-15 academic year, no baccalaureate degree programs shall extend the unit requirement beyond 120 semester units, with the exception of the Bachelor of Architecture, Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Fine Arts, and Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degrees. The Chancellor may authorize exceptions to system or campus requirements for degree programs. In fulfillment of this regulation, the Chancellor may require adjustments to program requirements in order to achieve the 120 semester unit maximum. In fulfillment of this regulation, the Chancellor after consultation with discipline faculty and other appropriate individuals may require adjustments to program requirements in order to achieve the 120-unit maximum.