The Path to Graduation

✔ Requirements
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Requirements
To be eligible for a bachelor’s degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara, students must meet the general university requirements and the appropriate college and major requirements described in the UCSB General Catalog and the publications of their college. Students must also comply with university regulations governing registration, scholarship, examinations, and student conduct.

University Requirements
❑ Entry Level Writing Requirement (formerly Subject A)
❑ American History and Institutions
  • 1 course or exam
❑ A minimum of 180 quarter units. Consult the UCSB General Catalog for unit variances.
  • L&S students 180/184
  • Engineering students 180/units vary by major
  - Refer to the individual majors section in the College of Engineering chapter of the UCSB General Catalog
❑ Maximum of 6 units of Exercise Sport Studies courses (ES 1-), or equivalent (formerly known as Physical Activities, PA 1-)
❑ Academic Residence
  • 3 regular terms in the university
  • 35 of final 45 units at UCSB (35 of final 90 units for UC EAP or UCDC students)
  • 27 upper-division units at UCSB
  • 20 upper-division units in the major at UCSB (18 upper-division units for students admitted prior to fall 1999) (L&S students only)
❑ Minimum GPA within UC
  • 2.0 overall
  • 2.0 overall major
  • 2.0 upper-division major

College Requirements
❑ 60 upper division units (L&S students only)
❑ No more than 1/3 P/NP units at UCSB (L&S and Engineering students only)
❑ General Education Program
  • Consult the UCSB General Catalog for details.

Major and Preparation for the Major
❑ Consult the UCSB General Catalog for details.

Minor
❑ Consult the UCSB General Catalog for details.

Rules and Regulations

Course Completion Deadline
All work must be completed by the last day of the UCSB term in which the student plans to graduate. This includes “Incomplete” grades, “In-Progress” courses, Education Abroad Program, and transfer work from other institutions including work completed at a summer session. The student must verify that the official published ending date of the term at another school is before or equal to the last day of UCSB’s term. Students are encouraged to consult their college regarding transfer work. Extension, concurrent enrollment, and substitution of transfer work for particular requirements require an approved petition. Official transcripts for work completed at other institutions (including UC Extension) must be sent to:

  Office of the Registrar,
  UCSB, Santa Barbara, Ca. 93106-2015.

“I” Grade
An I grade on the student’s record at the time of graduation in a course not necessary for the fulfillment of degree requirements may be removed only up to the end of the fifth week of the term following the date of graduation. If not removed by the deadline, it will remain an I grade permanently. An I grade requested in a course which is necessary for graduation will result in the student failing to graduate.

Withdrawal of Candidacy
If students wish to remove their name from the degree list during the term, a formal “Withdrawal of Candidacy” must be made using GOLD no later than the fifth week of the term following candidacy. A student’s name will also be removed from the list by the Office of the Registrar if there are deficiencies in graduation requirements. It is the student’s responsibility to re-declare candidacy for graduation within the first two weeks of the term during which she or he plans to complete degree requirements.

Education Abroad Program (EAP)
Because there is usually a delay in processing grades for courses completed abroad, students participating in the Education Abroad Program are asked to postpone declaring candidacy to graduate at least one quarter beyond the final academic term abroad. (e.g., EAP students who expect to complete degree requirements with spring work are encouraged to declare candidacy for the following fall quarter.)
Progress Check

Progress checks are an evaluation of academic work completed toward meeting degree requirements.

The Office of the Registrar strongly advises that students in either the College of Engineering or the College of Letters and Science run a Progress Check audit at least two terms before graduation. Progress Check audits can be run from the Academic History option available in GOLD (my.ucsb.edu). College of Creative Studies students with questions concerning academic requirements should contact their college office.

- Progress toward meeting major requirements are not included in the progress check. Students are advised to consult their major department.
- Students in the College of Creative Studies will be contacted by their college office when they have 20 units remaining to graduate.

Declaration of Candidacy

Students must declare candidacy for graduation using GOLD no later than the first two weeks of the term during which they plan to graduate. The deadline is published in the Schedule of Classes. Late declarations will not be accepted. Please note, declaring candidacy for graduation is a separate process from participating in commencement. See below for more information on commencement. Students planning to graduate during the summer must declare their candidacy by the second week of spring quarter if they wish to have their name printed in the commencement program. Anticipated degree dates appearing on registration or other materials are projections only. Students are considered official degree candidates only after they have declared their candidacy in the manner described above. Once the declaration is recorded, a final degree evaluation is performed using the criteria outlined above and detailed in the UCSB General Catalog.

Degree Evaluation

Any deficiencies noted on the degree evaluation which may be removed without additional course work must be cleared as soon as possible by the student. Please consult your major department or college for assistance. After quarterly grades have been processed, degree candidates will be notified of successful completion of degree requirements or remaining deficiencies. A deadline will be assigned for the closing of all matters at which time the student’s name will be removed, without exception, from the current quarter’s candidacy list unless all deficiencies have been cleared and requirements are met. It is the student’s responsibility to re-declare candidacy for graduation within the first two weeks of the term during which she or he plans to complete degree requirements.

Commencement

Although there are four possible dates of graduation each year (December, March, June, and summer), commencement ceremonies are held annually, in June. Consult the UCSB General Catalog (online at www.catalog.ucsb.edu) for details. Seniors who have at least 164 units completed are eligible to participate in a commencement ceremony and must make a reservation using GOLD, adhering to the deadlines published in the Schedule of Classes. Please note: making a commencement reservation and declaring candidacy for graduation are two separate processes. See above for more information on declarations of candidacy.

Diploma

Diplomas are mailed approximately three to four months after the date of degree to the diploma address noted when declaring candidacy. A $7.00 fee paid by the student covers first class mailing charges. The charge is assessed to the student’s active BARC account at the time of declaring for graduation. Effective May 1, 2013 the fee for first-class diploma mailing will be $19.00.

Where to Find Answers

Your College Office
For questions regarding:
- University requirements
- General Education requirements
- Major requirements (Engineering & Creative Studies students only)
- Progress Checks (See chart above)
- Transfer Work

Your Department
For questions regarding:
- Major Requirements (Engineering and Creative Studies students should contact their College office)
- Minor Requirements

Office of the Registrar
For questions regarding:
- Degree Checks
- Senior Progress Checks (Engineering and Creative Studies students should contact their College office)
- Declarations of Candidacy for Graduation
- Withdrawals of Candidacy

Office of Student Life
For questions regarding:
- Commencement

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