

2. Cumulative GPA for total California State University, Fresno units

3. GPA for that semester only

A minimum of a *C* average (2.0 GPA) for units in the major, all California State University, Fresno units, and total units is required for a baccalaureate degree. (See *Grade Symbols and Grade Points, Degree Requirements*.) Master's degree students have a higher minimum GPA requirement. (See *Graduate Studies — Advancement to Candidacy, Grade Requirements*.)

**Major.** Set of required courses from one or more departments designed to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and experiences necessary to pursue a specific career and/or advanced study. A student must earn a 2.0 grade point average in all courses required for the major, except "additional requirements," in order to graduate. Some majors are subject to more stringent grading requirements. (Minimum Title 5 requirements: *B.A.* — 24 units of which 12 must be upper division exclusive of General Education; *B.S.* — 36 units of which 18 must be upper division exclusive of General Education.)

**Minor.** In addition to academic majors, the university offers a number of minors. A minor is a formal set of courses in a designated subject area distinct from a student's major. The intent of a minor is to provide a condensed and cohesive academic experience, in addition to a major. Minors consist of a minimum of 12 semester units, at least 6 of which must be upper-division residence units. Minors must be completed with a minimum GPA of 2.0. Minors offered by academic departments and programs are listed on page 88 of this catalog. Detailed descriptions are found in the listings of the particular departments and programs. Courses in the minor may not also count toward a student's major except as Additional Requirements to that major. However, courses fulfilling requirements for a minor usually may be counted toward General Education. Refer to the description of the specific minor for exceptions.

A student may earn one or more minors provided that the requirements above are met for each and that at least 12 units in each of the two minors are distinct and include at least 6 upper-division units in residence.

**Option.** Set of required courses within a major in addition to the major core

courses that emphasizes one important aspect of that school, department, or program.

**Prerequisite Requirements.** Prerequisite courses must be completed prior to enrollment in the listed course; corequisite courses must be completed prior to or concurrently with the listed course. Students who do not meet these requirements may be disenrolled by the instructor or by the university.

**Recommended Courses.** Courses that the department faculty believe would be beneficial for a student to take but are not mandated or required as part of the major.

**Units.** A credit or semester unit represents one hour of class work per week for one semester. It is assumed that two hours of preparation are required for each hour in class. Three hours of laboratory per week are the equivalent of one unit. In a limited number of courses two hours of laboratory per week are the equivalent of one unit. Also, two hours of activity or studio (art, dance, music, physical education) are normally equivalent to one unit of credit. One quarter unit of credit is equivalent to two-thirds of a semester unit.

Units attempted and units earned are terms that appear on the student's transcript and evaluation. Units attempted is the column used for GPA calculation. The units earned column is used to determine units completed toward the total unit requirement for the degree.

## Choice of Catalog

**Election of Regulations.** An undergraduate student or postbaccalaureate student pursuing a second bachelor's degree or second major must fulfill degree requirements from one catalog, not the most favorable requirements from two or more catalogs. As long as a student maintains "continuous attendance,"\* he or she may elect, for purposes of fulfilling graduation requirements, one of the following:

1. The catalog in effect at the time a student enters a California community college or a campus of the California State University system.
2. The catalog in effect at the time a student enters California State University, Fresno.
3. The catalog in effect at the time the student applies to graduate from California State University, Fresno.

Continuous attendance is defined as being officially enrolled at least one semester or two quarters during a calendar year. Students must demonstrate progress toward fulfillment of degree requirements to maintain registration eligibility as a continuing student. Students who enroll and withdraw from courses for two or more consecutive semesters may not be eligible for registration as a continuing student.

Once a student establishes catalog rights in the CSU or California Community College system, he or she may attend any accredited college or university for no more than two years and maintain catalog rights. A planned educational leave maintains a student's continuous attendance status. (See *Planned Educational Leave of Absence*.)

Any break in attendance of one calendar year or longer ends a student's continuous attendance status. This results in the loss of catalog rights to all catalog choices prior to the break in attendance. It should be noted that enrollment in Open University, extension, and correspondence courses does not establish catalog rights nor contribute toward continuous attendance to maintain catalog rights. A loss of catalog rights could result in one or more additional semesters to meet new catalog requirements especially in the major and/or General Education. Once a student graduates, however, all rights to the original catalog are terminated.

Graduate (master's) students fulfill requirements based on an approved advancement to candidacy petition. These requirements are based on departmental and university requirements as published in the current catalog at the time of advancement. Continuous enrollment is likewise defined differently for master's students. (See *Graduate Studies*.)

## Transcript Evaluation

Undergraduate transfer students are generally evaluated under the degree requirements listed in the *General Catalog* at the time they enter California State University, Fresno.

During the first semester of enrollment, transfer students should receive a copy of a computerized evaluation (DARS Report) detailing how prior coursework has transferred into the university and indicating remaining degree requirements. It is

\*A student may not begin "continuous attendance" while still enrolled in high school.