

The maximum number of units for a B.A. or B.S. Special Major shall not exceed 144 total earned units.

A student requesting a Special Major must meet with an Advisor in the University Advising Center to review criteria and obtain application forms. On these forms the student must: 1) Prepare a statement giving reasons for desiring a Special Major in terms of academic and professional goals and why these goals cannot be met through a standard major; 2) Develop a specific list of courses which would lead to the academic and professional goals stated above; 3) Secure the signed approval from the University Advising Center, as well as from the Special Major Advisor and department chairmen in the areas from which the Special Major courses are drawn. The student must submit the foregoing material to the University Advising Center and the Dean of Undergraduate Studies for final approval. Any changes to an approved Special Major must be processed through the University Advising Center and forwarded accordingly for approval.

B.S. Program Requirements: At least 25 units of the B.S. Special Major must be from campus colleges offering a broad range of instructional programs in science- or technology-based disciplines. These colleges include the following: Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Craig School of Business, Engineering, Health and Human Services, Science and Mathematics, and Social Sciences. Coursework must be taken in at least two different subject areas or fields of study, with no less than 9 units each from a minimum of two areas.

Residence Requirements

The residence requirement for the baccalaureate degree specifies that 30 units shall be earned in residence at the campus granting the degree. Twenty-four of these units shall be earned in upper-division courses, 12 of the units shall be in the major, and 9 units shall be in General Education. The residence requirement for graduate students is 21 units.

Extension credit and credit by evaluation, including credit by examination, may not be used to fulfill the above described requirements.

Specific Course/Skill Requirements

English Requirement. English 10, Composition, or its equivalent is a university graduation requirement that should be completed before the end of the fourth semester of university attendance. (A grade of C is the minimum acceptable grade to satisfy this requirement.) The English Placement Test does not substitute for English 10. Search English Placement Test for test scores prerequisite to enrollment in English 10.

U.S. History and Government Requirements. Undergraduate and second baccalaureate degree candidates must demonstrate competence with respect to the Constitution of the United States, American history, and in the principles of state and local government of California in order to graduate. This may be done by passing examinations or by completing History 11 or 12 and Political Science 2. (In cases in which students have completed the federal government requirement at another institution, Political Science 102 [1 unit] will fulfill the California government requirement.) (Search History Department -- American History Requirement , Political Science Department -- United States Constitution Requirement, and General Education.)

Upper-Division Writing Skills (UDWS) Requirement. All undergraduate and second baccalaureate degree candidates must demonstrate competency in writing skills at the upper-division (junior-senior) level as a requirement for graduation. After completing 60 units and English Composition (ENGL 5A, 5B or 10) or its equivalent with a C or better, students may meet this requirement in one of two ways:

1. **either**
2. Pass the Upper-Division Writing Examination (UDWE) composed of two essays. Students are permitted to take the examination a maximum of two times. Upon successful completion of the UDWE, undergraduate students may request 1 unit of credit (ENGL 100W), which will be posted to their transcripts the semester following the date the UDWE was passed. Call the Bulldog Testing Office, **559.278.4137**.
3. **or**
4. Obtain a CR or letter grade of C or better in an approved upper-division writing course at this university. Approved writing courses can be identified in the catalog by the letter W (e.g., ENGL 160W, BA 105W).

It is imperative that the UDWS requirement be met within two semesters after completing 60 units. The UDWS requirement cannot be fulfilled by a class or test taken outside of The California State University system and cannot be satisfied at a CSU campus at which the student has not matriculated.

Passing the UDWE does not exempt students from taking a W course if it is required in their major, e.g., PLANT 110W. Graduate students should consult Graduate Studies regarding the graduate-level writing proficiency requirement.

Unit Limitations

The following unit limitations apply to all bachelor's degrees: