

to meet minimum degree requirements. The minimum total unit requirement for a special major is 120 units. The minimum requirement for the special major is an approved program of 45 units, at least 30 units of which must be upper-division work. Units applied to General Education requirements may not be counted. Also, a maximum of 6 independent study units may be included in the special major program. Any exception to this limit must be approved in writing by the Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs upon written recommendation by the special major adviser prior to registration for the additional units.

Students requesting a special major must obtain application forms from the Office of Advising Services. On these forms students must do the following:

1. prepare a statement giving their 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, in their opinions, lead to the stated academic and professional goals
3. secure the signed approval from the Office of Advising Services, as well as from the special major adviser and department chair in the areas from which the special major courses are drawn

Students must submit the foregoing material to the Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs for final approval. All established campus requirements and procedures for awarding bachelor's degrees will apply, including residence units, the upper-division writing requirement and number of acceptable transfer units.

**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 1, 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 1. Search English Placement Test for test scores prerequisite to enrollment in English 1.

**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 or 101. (In cases in which students have completed the federal government requirement, 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**

Pass the Upper-Division Writing Examination (UDWE) composed of two essays. This examination is given five times each year, including once before the beginning of each semester. 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. For details, call Testing Services, **559. 278.2457**.

**or**

2. Obtain a C, 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 and Class Schedule by the letter W (e.g., ENGL 160W, BA 105W).