

Electives. Courses/units a student selects to complete the total unit requirement for the baccalaureate degree.

Grade Point Average (GPA). The grade point average is a measure of academic scholarship and performance which is computed by dividing units registered into grade points earned. Three separate GPAs are computed on the student's grade report each semester:

1. Cumulative GPA for all baccalaureate or postbaccalaureate units, as appropriate
2. Cumulative GPA for total CSU Fresno units
3. GPA for that semester only

A minimum of a **C** average (2.0 GPA) for units in the major, all CSU 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. (Minimum Title 5 requirements: *B.A. degree* — 24 units of which 12 must be upper division exclusive of General Education; *B.S. degree* — 36 units of which 18 must be upper division exclusive of General Education.)

Minor. Set of required courses from one or more departments or programs but less comprehensive than the major. Courses fulfilling requirements for a minor usually may be counted toward General Education. Refer to the description of the specific minor for exceptions. Courses in a major cannot be applied toward a minor unless designated as "additional requirements."

A minor may be earned only at the time a student earns the first baccalaureate degree.

Option. Set of required courses within a major in addition to the major core courses that emphasizes one impor-

tant aspect of that school, department, or program.

Prerequisite Requirements. 1) Course or courses that must be completed before a higher level course may be taken, sometimes allowed by the instructor to be taken concurrently. 2) Courses outside the major department that must be completed before admission to the major.

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

Choice of Catalog

Election of Regulations. An undergraduate student 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 begins attending a California public community college or California State University campus.
2. The catalog in effect at the time a student begins attending CSU Fresno.
3. The catalog in effect at the time the student graduates from CSU Fresno.

Continuous attendance is defined as being officially enrolled at least one semester or two quarters during a calendar year regardless of the number of units completed. Also, a student is considered to have been in attendance even if he or she registered and totally withdrew from school during that semester/quarter as long as the official transcript so indicates. 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 breaks a student's continuous attendance status which results in the loss of catalog rights to all catalog choices prior to the break in attendance. It should be noted that enrollment in Summer Session, Open University, and 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 CSU Fresno unless eligible for the 1980-81 or earlier catalog. Transfer students with a declared major entering with 40 or more semester units should

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