

Second Graduate Degree

Students planning to engage in study toward a second graduate degree must obtain prior approval from the graduate dean. Students may not earn a second graduate degree in the same field. Coursework used to satisfy the requirements of one degree may not be used to satisfy the requirements of the second degree.

Double Major Objectives

Those graduate/postbaccalaureate students pursuing more than one objective (i.e., two graduate degrees) must notify the Division of Graduate Studies so that appropriate student standing may be noted with departments concerned.

Certificate of Advanced Study

A Certificate of Advanced Study may be earned in a limited number of approved, nondegree programs. Such programs provide useful coursework and professional experiences that emphasize the acquisition of advanced technical skills of a practical, applied nature. For a current list of such programs, consult the Division of Graduate Studies, 559.278.2448. Applicants to a Certificate of Advanced Study program must meet the specific admission requirements of the individual program and the university. These include admission to postbaccalaureate standing and the submission of relevant test scores, if required.

A Proposed Program for the Certificate of Advanced Study form must be on file in the Division of Graduate Studies office immediately following completion of the first semester/term of certificate coursework. The submission of the proposed program is important because it gives a student permission to proceed toward qualifying for the advanced certificate, and approval of the program is required for a student to remain in good standing. Proposed program forms are available in the Division of Graduate Studies Office, Frank W. Thomas Building, Room 130, or on the website at www.fresnostate.edu/academics/gradstudies, under the "Forms" link.

With prior approval, those pursuing study toward a graduate degree may also pursue study toward a Certificate of Advanced Study. Double-counting of units on the certificate and on the graduate program, though limited, is possible. Those whose sole objective is the earning of the Certificate of Advanced Study are ineligible to receive graduate assistantships, fellowships, and other awards designed for those pursuing a graduate degree. The Application for the Award of the Certificate of Advanced Study form must be on file in the Division of Graduate Studies within the first two weeks of the term in which all courses and requirements are expected to be completed. The applications for the awarding of the certificate are available in the Division of Graduate Studies, Frank W. Thomas Building, Room 130, or on the website at www.fresnostate.edu/academics/gradstudies, under the "Forms" link. Upon clearance of the advanced certificate, a notation that the certificate has been awarded will be posted to the student's official transcript.

For more detailed information regarding advanced certificate program eligibility, course guidelines/limitations, required grades, etc., contact the Division of Graduate Studies or the appropriate certificate program coordinator for the Guidelines for the Certificate of Advanced Study (CAS) form.

Prohibition Against Double Counting of Coursework

No units used to fulfill the requirements of one degree may be used to fulfill the requirements of another degree. For example, 100-series courses used toward a bachelor's degree may not be subsequently used toward a graduate degree.

Repetition of Courses

A postbaccalaureate student pursuing a graduate degree or certificate of advanced study may repeat a course for academic credit (subject to limitations in some degree curricula) regardless of what grade was originally earned in the course. However, such a student is not eligible to petition for grade substitution. All coursework taken is considered in the calculation of the student's postbaccalaureate cumulative grade point average.

International Student Admissions

The Division of Graduate Studies seeks to bring students from all parts of the world to the campus. Since English is the language of instruction at the university, students should be prepared to write their theses, projects, examinations, and/or seminar papers in English. Applicants whose native language is not English must have acquired competence in the English language prior to enrolling in a graduate program or prerequisite courses in order to avoid any delay or difficulty in pursuing their studies.

Graduate English Competency

Graduate and Postbaccalaureate English Requirement. All graduate and postbaccalaureate applicants, regardless of citizenship, whose native language is not English and whose preparatory education was principally in a language other than English must demonstrate competence in English. Applicants who do not possess a bachelor's or graduate degree from a postsecondary institution where English is the principal language of instruction must pass the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing (IELTS). Such applicants must receive a minimum score of 213 on the TOEFL, or minimum score of 80 on the iBT TOEFL, or a minimum of 6.5 overall band score on the IELTS. Some graduate programs