

6. Departmental recommendation for advancement to candidacy on a petition form available in the Office of the School of Graduate Studies. In making this recommendation, the department takes into account professional and personal standards as well as scholastic achievement as revealed by grades and performance on examinations. The student is responsible for ensuring that the adviser has sufficient information other than grades and scores on which to make this recommendation. On this petition form the student, in consultation with his adviser, lists the coherent set of courses which, when approved, will constitute his degree program.
7. Completion at CSU, Fresno, of at least 9 units of the proposed program with a 3.0 average on all completed work appearing on the program.
8. Submission to the Office of the Dean, School of Graduate Studies, of the properly signed petition for advancement to candidacy.

#### PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The program requirements for the master of arts and master of science degrees assume substantial undergraduate preparation in the field. See school and department statements in this catalog or in the *Graduate Bulletin* for particulars. A student lacking this preparation will find it necessary to exceed the minimum requirements indicated below. (Consult departments for MBA, MSW, and MCRP minima.)

The approved degree program for the master's degree is a coherent pattern of (1) specific requirements for the program as listed in the *Graduate Bulletin* and (2) additional courses selected to meet the student's particular needs. It consists of at least 30 units completed after the bachelor's degree and within five years just preceding the granting of the master's degree. Only graduate courses (200 series) and such upper division courses (100 series) as are recommended by the schools or departments and approved by the Graduate Council are acceptable on the unit requirement. Other courses are counted in calculating the student's study load, but cannot be counted toward the unit requirement for the master's degree. The total approved program must include the following:

1. At least 21 units of the program must be CSU, Fresno, residence credit.
2. Transfer credit may be used toward a master's degree only if the institution offering the work would use it on a comparable master's degree program and if it is judged by appropriate university authorities to be particularly relevant to the individual student's program. Extension credit is not regularly used on master's degree programs. In the event that the extension course is offered under conditions similar to those for a course normally usable on a master's program, a student may request special permission to use such an extension course on his program. Student teaching credit is not ordinarily used on master's degree programs. In unusual circumstances, if student teaching is demonstrably appropriate to a program, up to 3 units of such work may be approved by the Graduate Council. Credit by examination may be used to fulfill prerequisites, but may not apply toward the 30 units.
3. With approval of the departmental graduate adviser, post-baccalaureate credit allowed for work taken in the semester or summer in which the baccalaureate degree is granted may be applied toward a master's degree, if it meets master's degree criteria in all respects. See *Post-Baccalaureate Credit*.
4. At least 15 units must be in courses designed primarily for master's degrees (numbered in the 200 series). Most programs require more than 15 units of 200 series course work.
5. At least 9 units must be completed after advancement to candidacy. Work taken during the semester or summer of advancement may apply on this requirement.
6. Appropriate course work from a field other than the major may be required at the discretion of the major department.
7. Appropriate provision must be made for a thesis, a project, or, when permitted, an alternative to the thesis, unless the department offers "Plan B" (nonthesis), in which case provisions must be made to conform to departmental requirements. Comprehensive examinations are required in all "Plan B" programs.
8. Students having a special interest that cannot be met within the stated requirements of a given master's degree program may, with written permission of appropriate university authorities, make further program adjustments to meet their needs. Consult the Dean, School of Graduate Studies.

It is the student's responsibility to complete the specific courses listed on his approved program. Once a program has been approved by the Graduate Council, it may be changed