THE NEW OPTIONS TO MEET THE SUBJECT MATTER REQUIREMENT

AB 130 and the FAQs
Be Smart!

Research.

Fact Check. (Read analytically; consult multiple sources.),

Stay Informed. (Facts are empowering.), and...

Teach your students to do the same.
Assembly Bill 130: Some Facts

• Signed into law in July 2021

• **AB 130** is long and most of it irrelevant to us.

But ...

• According to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC), **AB 130** introduces the “Availability of **New Options** to Meet the Subject Matter and the Basic Skills Requirements.”

  (Why? See [this CTC doc](#) for context.)
The sections of AB 130 that are most relevant to us are summed up in this document published by the Commission of Teacher Credentialing (CTC).
Prior to July 2021, to meet the Subject Matter Requirement, you would be required to either receive a passing score on CSET or complete a Commission-approved subject matter waiver program.

Now, AB 130 expands the available options to allow candidates “verify subject matter competence” also by the following method:
Key Changes:

(Provision 3d): Complete a degree major from a **regionally-accredited college or university**. For Multiple Subject credentials, the major must be in **liberal studies or an interdisciplinary major** that includes coursework in the **content areas identified in subdivision (b) of California Education Code section 44282**.
What general “content areas” are identified in subdivision (b) of California Code Section 44282?

1. Language Studies
2. Literature
3. Mathematics
4. Science
5. Social studies
6. History
7. The Arts
8. Physical Education
9. Human Development
So, what does this mean (again)?

If your degree is from an accredited university and

a) it is called “Liberal Studies,” or
b) it is an “interdisciplinary major that includes coursework in”:
   1. Language Studies
   2. Literature
   3. Mathematics
   4. Science
   5. Social studies
   6. History
   7. The Arts
   8. Physical Education
   9. Human Development,

then according to the law and the CTC guidelines, you have met the subject matter requirements to enter a credential program.
How do we know?

• Reading critically and analytically. I learned this during my undergrad education.

• Consulting multiple sources. I learned this one as an undergraduate student, too. These are some of the sources I used for this topic:
  - CTC documents, including “Coded Correspondences,” the CTC website, CTC webinar on AB 130, CTC accompanying PowerPoint slides, and correspondence with Dr. Erin Skubal, Director of Certification Division at CTC.
  - Meeting with Dr. Shireen Pavri, Assistant Vice Chancellor (of CSUs).
  - Meeting with Dr. April Bullock, Chair of Liberal Studies, CSU Fullerton
  - California Code of Education
  - Studying websites of various universities, e.g., CSU Northridge
Does the new BA in Liberal Studies comply with the content areas specified by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC)?

**YES! Absolutely!**
Why?

Because the new CSUSB BA in Liberal Studies is precisely the type of “interdisciplinary degree” stated in AB 130 and as quoted by the CTC. In this program, you will find required coursework in every one of these areas, although they are organized differently, i.e., under four board categories: Arts and Humanities, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Social Sciences and Child Development, and Program Requirements as this chart shows.
AND...

Also, because the degree is “in Liberal Studies” (see provision 3d on the first page).

As of now, even more recently, two new degrees have been proposed by the CTC to be added to the list of acceptable degrees:

1) **Liberal Arts** and

2) **Elementary Education**. See this CTC Coded Correspondence document from April 3, 2023 (scroll down to Item (c) on pg. 4).
Thank you for attending! Questions?