

Program Design for Q2S and Beyond

Rong Chen, AVP of Academic Programs

Kim Costino, Q2S Director

Francisca Beer, Dean of Graduate Studies

Tom Provenzano, Chair of University Curriculum Committee

Program Components: Definitions and Units

Degree Program

Definition: A collection of courses that focuses on a particular discipline, field of study, or profession, leading to a degree such as Bachelor of Arts or Master of Science. An undergraduate degree program is composed of General Education, a major, and possibly free electives. A graduate degree is composed only of a major.

Units: For an undergraduate degree, the total degree unit requirement (including GE) is 120 units, both minimum and maximum. Exceptions are made for degrees whose disciplinary norms are known nationally as larger than 120 units, e.g. Bachelor of Architecture and Bachelor of Music. Degrees beyond the maximum require CO approval.

For a graduate program, the minimum unit requirement is 30 units. There is no maximum. Of the total units of a program, at least 70% must be coursework designed as “graduate”: 5000 and above.

Major

Definition: For an undergraduate degree, a major is the part of the degree that focuses on the discipline, beyond General Education, although it may include coursework in General Education. For a graduate degree, a major includes all coursework in the degree.

Units: Thirty-six minimum for Bachelor of Arts, 24 of which must be upper division; 39 minimum for Bachelor of Science, 27 of which must be upper division; 30 units minimum for Master of Art and Master of Science.

Core

Definition: The term that refers to the part of a degree program shared by all concentrations.

Units: The core of a degree program must be greater than 50% of the major.

Concentration

Definition: The term that refers to a component of a degree program. *Concentration* represents the second level in the organization of a major. A major is not required to have concentrations but can have as many concentrations as needed.

Units: A concentration must be less than 50% of the major. The different concentrations do not have to have the same number of units.

Focus

Definition: The term that refers to a subcomponent of a concentration. *Focus* represents the third level of organization of a major. Given CSU EO 1071, very few majors are expected to have this level of organization.

Units: No restriction except for the need to comply with EO 1071.

Option: A term that will be used to refer to different culminating experience pathways in a graduate program (e.g. The Comprehensive Exam Option; the Project/Thesis Option). However, this term should be avoided as far as possible to keep the catalog simple for students.

Minor

Definition: A minor is a collection of courses in a discipline that offers a less extensive study than a major.

Units: 18 minimum, 6 of which must be upper-division.

Credential program

Definition: A credential program is a collection of courses that leads to eligibility to apply for a credential in the field of education. In terms of level, it is between an undergraduate degree and a graduate degree.

Units: Various (Determined by California Commission for Teacher Credentialing).

Certificate

Definition: A certificate is a program that is usually professional in nature. It is often designed as a pathway towards professional enhancement or employment.

Units: Minimum 18.

Key Considerations in Program Design

California Senate Bill 1440 (SB 1440)

The CSU faculty and CCC faculty have agreed on Transfer Model Curriculum (TMCs) in most subject areas housed in the CSU. SB 1440 requires that a CSU subject area must include at least one concentration that is “similar” to its TMC. Take Computer Science, for instance. There are currently four degrees in that area at CSUSB, with 7 concentrations. We need only to make one of these seven concentrations compliant. Students entering that concentration (in the Associate Degree Transfer “ADT” program) are guaranteed to graduate within 60 units. This law eclipses LDTP (Lower-Division Transfer Patterns) between the CSU and the CCC.

SB 1440 has the following implications for program design:

- 1) Students in an ADT from a CCC have not taken the CSU upper-division GE coursework. The degree program must save space for these nine units.

- 2) Although most if not all of these students have taken coursework for the CSU American History and Government (AHG) requirement, AHG is not part of the articulation certification. Therefore, the program should leave space for these six units.
- 3) Further, the Q2S Steering Committee recommends that a Bachelor's program leave six units of space for free electives.

Note that compliance with SB 1440 is not part of the curriculum approval process, as *the curriculum committees cannot be expected to know every TMC*. The responsibility for complying with the law rests with the department. It is strongly advised that the department build at least one concentration to be “similar” to the TMC in its subject area.

CSU Executive Order 1071

The core requirement of a degree program must be greater than 50% of the requirement of the degree.

- 1) A particular requirement in the core can have alternatives (a set of classes to choose from) as long as they are united by the same theme/topic or a clearly defined learning outcome of the degree program. (E.g. “Choose one of the following on *diversity*”).
- 2) The culminating experience component of a graduate program cannot, by default, be counted as a core requirement.

There are two options to make a program compliant.

Option 1: Increase the core of the program to more than 50% of the degree program.

- 1) Funding: No need to reapply; whatever funding you have been approved for should suffice for this purpose.
- 2) Curriculum: through regular CSUSB process. No need to involve the CO.

Option 2: To make one or more concentrations in the current program into stand-alone degree programs (e.g. BA in XXX, MS in YYY).

- 1) Funding: if you have applied for conversation funding for the program, you have the opportunity to apply for transformation funding by March 31, 2017.
- 2) Curriculum: a) No need to have been placed on the Academic Master Plan; b) but need to file a Request to Elevate a Concentration to A Full Degree Program with the CO.

Important Notes

- 1) The new degree program should not be too different from the concentration from which it is elevated.
- 2) The CSU requires that degree programs comply with EO 1071 by the *next program review*, which would mean that those programs that are scheduled to be reviewed in the next couple of years should work on compliance *right now*. However, since CSUSB is in the Q2S process, permission has been granted to us that we do not have to work on any quarter programs for compliance. Instead—and in return—we have promised the CSU that all programs will comply with the EO by the Fall Semester of 2020-2021.

- 3) The elevation proposal is complicated, requiring a host of information and a lot of writing. If you are planning to elevate, contact Academic Programs for assistance on the elevation proposal as soon as possible. It will save you a lot of time if you are *thinking and working* on the elevation proposal while you are building the program.
- 4) Degree programs should not overlap too much (the issue of “degree proliferation”). “How much is too much” can only be judged case by case.

Examples of Degree Programs

UNDERGRADUATE	GRADUATE
BS in ABC: 120 Units GE: 49 Units; Free Electives: 6-21 Units Major: 50-65 Units <i>Core requirements (33 units)</i> Lower division (12 units) AAA 1XXX: YYYY (3) AAA 2XXX: YYYY (3) AAA 2XXX: YYYY (3) One from the following in THEME (3): AAA 2XXX: YYYY (3) AAA 2XXX: YYYY (3) AAA 2XXX: YYYY (3) Upper division (21 units) AAA 3XXX: YYYY (3) AAA 3XXX: YYYY (3) AAA 3XXX: YYYY (3) AAA 4XXX: YYYY (3) AAA 4XXX: YYYY (3) AAA 4XXX: YYYY (3) One from the following on LEARNING OUTCOME (3): AAA 3XXX: YYYY (3) AAA 4XXX: YYYY (3) AAA 4XXX: YYYY (3) <i>TITLE Concentration (17 units)</i> LIST CLASSES HERE <i>TITLE Concentration (32 units)</i> <i>TITLE Focus (32 Units)</i> LIST CLASSES HERE. <i>TITLE Focus (21 Units)</i> LIST CLASSES HERE	MA in ABC: 30 - units <i>Core requirements (15 units)</i> AAA 4XXX: YYYY (3) AAA 5XXX: YYYY (3) AAA 6XXX: YYYY (3) One of the following in THEME (3): AAA 5XXX: YYYY (3) AAA 6XXX: YYYY (3) AAA 6XXX: YYYY (3) One of the following on LEARNING OUTCOME (3): AAA 5XXX: YYYY (3) AAA 6XXX: YYYY (3) AAA 6XXX: YYYY (3) <i>TITLE Concentration (12 units)</i> AAA 5XXX: YYYY (3) AAA 6XXX: YYYY (3) AAA 6XXX: YYYY (3) One of the following in THEME (3) AAA 6XXX: YYYY (3) AAA 6XXX: YYYY (3) AAA 6XXX: YYYY (3) <i>TITLE Concentration (12 units)</i> LIST CLASSES HERE <i>Cumulating Experience</i> Thesis/Project Option: AAA 6XXX: Thesis (3) Comp. Exam Option (3) AAA 6XXX: Comp. Preparation (3) AAA 6XXX: Comp. Exam (0)

Proposals That Require CO Approval

- Now degree programs
- Elevation to degree
- Adding a concentration
- Changing program titles
- Self-support degree programs and concentrations