

## Chapter 13—Obtaining A Degree at SUU

Table 13.1 lists the types of degrees and certificates offered at Southern Utah University. Chapter 15, Summary of Programs and Courses, lists the degrees, majors, minors, certificates, and transfer programs offered at Southern Utah University, arranged by the program of study in which the degree, major, minor, certificate, or transfer program is available.

| Table 13.1<br>Types of Degrees and Certificates Offered at SUU   |   |  |                                       |
|--|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| MAcc   | Master of Accountancy                                       | BA   | Bachelor of Arts                      |
| MBA  | Master of Business Administration                           | BIS  | Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies |
| MEd  | Master of Education   | BS   | Bachelor of Science                   |
| MFA  | Master of Fine Arts   | AA   | Associate of Arts                     |
| MSW  | Master of Social Work<br>(University of Utah degree at SUU) | AS   | Associate of Science                  |
| MPC  | Master of Arts in Professional Communication<br>(Proposed)  | AAS  | Associate of Applied Science          |
| <b>MASTER'S DEGREES</b><br>Degree requirements for master's programs are administered through sponsoring colleges. Details on the programs are available by contacting the deans of the sponsoring schools or colleges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Master of Accountancy: School of Business</li> <li>▪ Master of Business Administration: School of Business</li> <li>▪ Master of Education with specialties in Education Administration Supervisory License, Gifted and Talented Education, Instructional Technology, Physical Science, Reading, Social Science: College of Education</li> <li>▪ Master of Fine Arts in Arts Administration: College of Performing and Visual Arts</li> <li>▪ Master of Social Work: In cooperation with the University of Utah</li> <li>▪ Master of Arts in Professional Communication (pending): College of Humanities and Social Sciences</li> </ul> |   | <b>BACHELOR'S DEGREES</b><br>Common requirements for all bachelor's degrees include the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A minimum of 120 semester credit hours in courses numbered 1000 or higher.</li> <li>2. Of the minimum total hours, 40 semester hours must be in upper-division courses (3000 or above)</li> <li>3. Minimum GPA requirements for course work in the major and a minimum GPA of 2.0 overall in work taken at SUU as well as a combined SUU and transfer GPA.</li> <li>4. Completion of SUU general education, major and/or minor course work.</li> <li>5. Of the total hours required for graduation, at least 30 must be earned in courses taken in residence at SUU.</li> <li>6. Completion of specific requirements for one of the bachelor's degrees offered by the university:</li> <li>7. A major and minor, a composite major or dual major are required.</li> </ol> |                                       |

Undergraduate degrees available at SUU fall into one of two categories: associate degrees and baccalaureate degrees (also known as bachelor degrees). Depending on the major you choose, you will receive one of the degrees offered by SUU. For instance, if you major in biology, you will receive a bachelor of science degree. If you major in English, you will receive a bachelor of arts degree. If your degree is in information technology you will receive an associate of applied science degree.

Traditionally, obtaining a baccalaureate degree has required four years or more of full-time study, while obtaining an associate degree has usually required two or more years of full-time study.

This chapter defines the minimum credit requirements for each degree available at SUU, as well as general policies applying to all degrees. After reading this chapter, you should turn to Chapter 17 "Academic Departments and Courses," where you will find additional requirements you must meet in order to obtain a degree. These additional requirements (known as major requirements) are specified by the department or interdisciplinary program responsible for the degree you wish to obtain. From time to time, as your academic work progresses, review this chapter and other relevant sections of the catalog to verify that you are making satisfactory progress toward your academic goals and that you are meeting all the requirements for the degree you seek.

In addition to the information contained in this catalog, you can receive information and assistance from your academic advisor. Use this opportunity to consult your advisor about your academic goals and your plans for achieving them. If you have selected a

major, you will work with an advisor in the academic College/School responsible for your major. If you have not selected a major, you will work with an advisor from the Student Success Center.

### Academic and Career Advising

Academic and career advising are the processes by which students receive help in forming their educational and career goals and planning ways to achieve them. Based on students' individual circumstances, personal development and skills, advisors provide information and support and foster a sense of responsibility in students to achieve their own goals. Academic advising includes:

- . ongoing contact with an informed and supportive representative of the campus community
- . degree planning, including introduction to and explanation of academic requirements, policies and procedures
- . exploration of necessary skills
- . referral to campus resources

SUU encourages you to seek academic advising whenever you have questions about academic planning.

### Bachelor of Arts

This degree must include a foreign language or ASL (American Sign Language) requirement which may be met by one of the following:

1. A minimum of 16 semester credit hours in one foreign language.

2. Documentation of language proficiency through an examination administered by the language and literature department or through an examination by a recognized testing agency.
3. Students for whom English is a second language may meet the BA foreign language requirement by verifying their proficiency in their (non-English) native language in cooperation with the language and literature department and verifying their proficiency in English as a second language by either passing an ESL exit test or passing the ESL special examination.
4. Documentation of a minimum proficiency level in American Sign Language through an examination administered by any accredited institution of higher education. The signer must produce and maintain American Sign Language with continuity and precision.

### **Bachelor of Science**

This degree must include successful completion of 12 credit hours in mathematics or laboratory science that emphasize scientific inquiry through either experimental, analytical or statistical methods. It may include the completion of Math 1010 (Math 1010 will not count toward a general education requirement). Electives, GE, or required courses in the major or minor may satisfy this requirement. The additional science/math courses requirement for the BS degree can be met by successfully completing courses in agriculture, astronomy, biology, chemistry, computer science and information systems, geology, mathematics, physics, nutrition and food science, and kinesiology (PE 3060).

### **Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies Degree**

This degree serves students in an individualized academic program across diverse fields of study. Graduates from this degree program cannot be approved for state certification as a teacher. The Interdisciplinary Studies Degree was designed to allow students to develop, with directed faculty assistance and appropriate administrative approval, a composite major which is interdisciplinary and which is not currently an approved major at SUU. While this program offering is intended to be somewhat flexible, no request will be approved unless the student candidate and faculty advisor have jointly planned and organized the proposed composite major which constitutes the Interdisciplinary Studies Degree.

For this reason, a Proposed Program Outline must be submitted by the student, with faculty advisor approval, to the head of the department in which most of his/her courses are to be taken for his/her approval. This Proposed Program Outline should be submitted as early as possible in the student's undergraduate career and must include all courses which are to constitute the composite interdisciplinary major (44 to 67 credits as outlined below).

If the Proposed Program Outline is approved, the student will submit a formal application to the department chair for the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies Degree by outlining all proposed coursework (composite major, general education, and elective classes) on a Graduation Worksheet form obtained from the Registrar's Office. This formal application must be approved by the department chair and the dean. It should be submitted as soon as possible in the student's career; however, the requirement that at least 20 upper division credit hours of the proposed composite major must be "directed study approved by faculty advisor, department head and dean" mandates that the formal application be approved at least two semesters in advance of baccalaureate program completion.

The degree's general guidelines are as follows:

1. Courses may be drawn from all existing University courses which fill bachelor's degree requirements.
2. The composite major of the program must be interdisciplinary in nature and not, therefore, a major traditionally taken in an academic department or currently approved at SUU.

3. The selection of the faculty advisor by the student is subject to mutual agreement, except that the advisor must be in the subject-matter discipline and department in which most of the composite major courses are located. Such an assignment also determines the department chair and dean for approval purposes.
4. For record-keeping purposes, the student is coded into the respective department and College whose department chair and dean approve the proposed interdisciplinary program. This coding does not imply, however, that the student or the program is covered by all of the regulations of the department for its traditional majors.
5. Interdisciplinary Studies students are governed by the University's general requirements for graduation:
  - (a) Completion of an interdisciplinary composite major of 44 to 67 credits (no minor is required for Interdisciplinary Studies major);
  6. Of the 44 to 67 credits required for the composite major:
    - (a) At least 20 of the credits required for the composite major must be upper division credits which are to be completed at SUU after the formal application for an interdisciplinary Studies Degree program has been approved by the department chair and the dean;
    - (b) Only classes with grades of "C-" or higher will be counted within the composite major;
    - (c) No courses with pass/fail grading may be used for the composite major, unless approved at the time the formal application is submitted;
    - (d) No more than 40 hours from any single department can be counted toward the composite major;
    - (e) Two options exist for the 44 to 67 credit hours in the composite major:
      - (1) The student must take at least 17 credit hours in each of two different disciplines at SUU, (the total of the two disciplines equaling 44 or more credits).
      - OR
      - (2) The student must take at least, respectively, 17, 10, and 7 credit hours from at least three different disciplines at SUU (the total of the three disciplines equaling 44 or more credit hours).

### **Majors for the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies Degree**

Agricultural Science and Industries

*Degrees in Interdisciplinary Studies may be generated in other disciplines. Contact appropriate Dean for information.*

### **Requirements for a Second Bachelor's Degree**

Students seeking a second Bachelor's Degree must complete a minimum of 30 credit hours earned after the first degree is completed and awarded, and must meet department major requirements in which the degree is sought, including residency. That is: completion of at least 20 upper division credits at SUU. In addition, at least 50 percent of the credit hours required for the second major must be completed at SUU.

### **Declaring a Major**

It is required that a student declare a major by the time the student has completed 45 semester credit hours.

### **Academic Major**

All baccalaureate degrees must be awarded with a major. Minimum requirements are 30 credit hours in the major. Major requirements are listed under department headings which should be consulted for detailed guidelines. Students seeking an emphasis within a degree will be required to complete all coursework appropriate to the emphasis, as directed by the department head. Composite majors require a minimum of 43 credit hours. A student seeking a dual major will be required to meet all the course work requirements and meet the total cumulative number of hours in terms of upper division, total number of hours for residency, total number of hours for graduation, and possess a minimum of 60 credit hours in the dual major.

### Academic Minor

Many degree-granting programs authorized by the University offer a formal minor. A minimum of 16 credits is required. Minor requirements are listed under department headings which should be consulted for detailed guidelines.

Effective  
July 1,  
2005

### Associate of Arts/Associate of Science Degree in General Studies

SUU offers an Associate of Arts (AA) and an Associate of Science (AS) degree in general studies.

Candidates for either degree must:

1. Complete a minimum of 60 credit hours (a minimum 20 credit hours of which must be completed in residence).
2. Achieve at least a 2.0 grade point average.
3. Complete all SUU general education requirements.

In addition;

For AA degree: complete a SUU foreign language course 1020 with a grade "C" or higher or comparable transfer credit or completion of any SUU foreign language course at a level beyond the first year with a grade "C" or higher.

For AS degree: complete of an additional three-hour course in mathematics or approved science discipline as described in the University's catalog.

Students seeking this degree option will be advised in the Student Success Center.

### Associate of Applied Science Degrees and Certificate Programs

SUU offers the Associate of Applied Science (AAS) and Associate of Pre-Engineering (APE) Degrees and certificates of achievement to students completing specific programs. The AAS requires 64 credit hours for completion, and the APE requires 65 credit hours for completion.

Through the department of integrated engineering and technology, SUU offers eight areas of occupational training accredited through standards of the Utah Board of Vocational Education.

### Requirements for an Associate of Applied Science Degree

Candidates for an AAS degree must:

1. Complete a minimum of 64 credit hours.
2. Complete course requirements as outlined by the program degree. An overall GPA of 2.0 ("C") is required. Refer to specific programs for GPA requirements in the field of study.
3. Complete a minimum of 20-21 credit hours in general education as follows:
  - A minimum of one course in each of the following core categories, Literacy (English), Quantitative Literacy (Mathematics) Information Literacy, Computer Literacy, and Student Success.
  - Three courses representing three of six remaining general education categories (fine arts, interdisciplinary, humanities, social and behavioral sciences, life science, and physical science)
  - Students should check the department AAS requirements to determine if specific general education classes are recommended (English 1010 will satisfy the English requirement for an AAS degree)

### Requirements for an Associate of Pre-Engineering Degree

Candidates for an APE degree must:

1. Complete a minimum of 65 credit hours.
2. Complete course requirements in one of the eight engineering areas. A grade of "C" or better must be earned in each required course.
3. Complete 17 credit hours of general education. See page 180 for specific requirements.

### Requirements for a Certificate of Achievement

Candidates for a certificate of achievement must earn a minimum number of credit hours as specified under the particular program listing in the academic department offering that award.

### Upper-Division Work

Of the minimum total hours, 40 semester hours must be in upper-division courses. (Southern Utah University upper-division courses are numbered 3000 and above.) Credit from a two-year college will not count toward upper-division hours.

### Residency Hour Requirement

Of the total hours required for graduation, at least 30 must be earned in courses taken in residence at SUU. In addition, 20 of the last 30 hours must be earned in residence at SUU.

### Special Recognition of Academic Achievement

Faculty places a high value on the academic accomplishments of its students. The University's academic reputation and its stature in the community of universities are tied inextricably to the scholastic achievements of its students. The university's rich and extensive resources provide a foundation of support for the realization of this goal. The university's scholarly and dedicated faculty strive to challenge students' intellectual development and their achievement of excellence.

The University community believes that student efforts in the attainment of high levels of scholarship deserve appropriate recognition. The university community officially acknowledges their achievement throughout the academic year.

### Deans List

The Deans List is a roster of undergraduate students who have received very high grades during a particular semester of full-time enrollment. To be included in the Dean's List you must meet both of the following criteria:

- You must complete 15 or more credit hours in a given semester, excluding classes graded Pass/Fail.
- For that semester, you must attain a semester grade-point average (GPA) of 3.6 or higher.

The Office of Marketing and Public Relations will submit Dean's List names to the hometown newspapers of the students. There is no Deans' List during the summer term.

### Academic Honors Convocation

Each college/school holds a recognition evening during the spring. This is a well-planned event that provides time and positive recognition for those academic achievement awards honoring the students, parents, family members and friends.

### Graduation Exercises

Candidates for graduation need to process the necessary paperwork through the Registrar's Office and pay the graduation fees through the Cashier's Office by December 1<sup>st</sup>. Make appropriate clearance for outstanding transfer credits/grades through the Registrar's Office by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Make appropriate clearance of outstanding charges through the Cashier's Office by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

All degree candidates are expected to attend graduation exercises. Those unable to attend must notify the Registrar prior to May 1. Caps and gowns are required for graduate's participation in commencement ceremonies and must be ordered and paid for by February 1<sup>st</sup> at the Cashier's Office. Students who are candidates for graduation during the summer term, who have 12 credit hours or less to complete their degree requirements, will be given the option of participating in the commencement exercises of the current year or of the following year.

### **Honors Program**

The Honors Program provides enrichment opportunities for exceptionally talented, creative and academically committed students. See Honors Program page 237.

### **Student/Faculty Scholarship Creativity Day**

The Annual Student/Faculty Scholarship Creativity Day is intended to encourage and promote scholarship and creativity among faculty and students. The conference honors and showcases the cooperative efforts between members of both groups to enhance academic, professional and personal growth. With this end in mind, students and faculty are given the opportunity to present their research and other examples of scholarship and creativity through various mediums. Faculty and students also attend workshops centered on the theme of promoting undergraduate scholarship and creativity.

### **Individual Study**

Any department offering a baccalaureate degree may offer Individual Study. Individual Study is a delivery mode for courses, listed in the official catalog, needed for a student's progress toward graduation. If a student needs a course for graduation and a scheduling or other conflict necessitates that the student complete the course through individual study, the student will obtain a learning contract from the appropriate department.

### **Internships**

Most departments provide internships or cooperative-education programs that provide academic credit for on-the-job experience in an area of interest or in your major. More information about internships is available from your department.

### **Service Learning**

Service-Learning provides students with a way to link community service and volunteer service to their course work. Students can become involved by enrolling in a designated service-learning course which is linked to a specific section of an already established course. In the *Class Schedule* and the *Catalog*, these service-learning courses will be designated by the college prefix followed by the number 2120 (i.e. HSS 2120, Service Learning). Through service-learning, students will receive one credit for participating in service opportunities that are intentionally designed to promote learning while helping meet human and community needs. Students may take this course two times for credit. For more information, students can contact the dean of the respective college/school in which the course is offered for registration information.

### **Letter of Completion**

Letter of Completion upon finishing general education is available from the Registrar's Office.

## How to Read a Degree-Requirements Table

One of the most important purposes of this catalog is to tell you what requirements you must meet to earn a particular degree at Southern Utah University. To learn about these requirements, you will need to read carefully two parts of this catalog:

- This chapter, "Obtaining a Degree at SUU," explains the general requirements for all undergraduate degrees.
- The section of the catalog devoted to the department or other academic unit that offers the degree you are interested in obtaining. That section explains the specific requirements for the degree. You will find the section relevant to your degree in Chapter 16.

Table 13.2 is a typical degree-requirements table. You should carefully review this table and the explanations of its elements before you begin planning how you will meet the requirements for your degree. You should consult with your advisor and with other faculty members within the department offering your major.

| Table 13.2<br>A Typical Degree-Requirements Table  |           |              |
|--|-----------|--------------|
| <b>Political Science<br/>Bachelor of Science</b>   |           |              |
| Course Number and Title  |           | Credits      |
| <b>General Education English Requirement</b>   |           |              |
| ENGL 1010  |           | ↓            |
| ENGL 2010  |           | ↓            |
| <b>General Education Quantitative Literacy</b>   |           |              |
| Math 1030  | Math 1100 | ↓            |
| Math 1040  | Math 1210 | ↓            |
| Math 1050  | Math 2040 | ↓            |
| <b>General Education Core Requirements</b>   |           | <b>17-18</b> |
| Information Literacy, Student Success, Computer Literacy, American Institutions  |           | ↑            |
|  |           | ↑            |
|  |           | ↑            |
| <b>Knowledge Areas Requirements</b>  |           |              |
| The degree requires 19 credit hours with a minimum of 3 credit hours in each knowledge area:<br>Fine Arts, Interdisciplinary, Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Life Science and Physical Science                |           | <b>19</b>    |
| <b>BA or BS Degree Requirement</b>   |           |              |
| <b>BA Degree – Foreign Language or ASL</b>   |           | <b>16</b>    |
| <b>BS Degree – Math or Laboratory Science</b>  |           | <b>12</b>    |
| <b>Major Requirements (36 credit hours minimum)</b>  |           |              |
| Political Science is a designated major. No grade below a "C" will be accepted toward credit. No more than 12 credits of lower division political science courses may be counted toward the credits requirement for major. |           |              |
| POLS 1100 American National Government   |           | 3            |
| And  |           |              |
| POLS 4990 Research Seminar in Political Science  |           | 3            |
| <b>Choose one of the following:</b>  |           |              |
| POLS 4100 Studies in American Politics   |           | 3            |
| POLS 4210 History of Political Thought I   |           | 3            |
| POLS 4220 History of Political Thought II  |           | 3            |
| Other Electives  |           |              |
| Free electives: includes completing minor, and B.A. or B.S. requirements.  |           |              |
| <b>Total Credits (BS degree)</b>   |           |              |

The English requirement and ACT scores are described on page -103-



The General Education Core Requirements are described in detail on page -103-



Knowledge Area Requirements are explained on page -102-



The BS degree includes successful completion of 12 credit hours in mathematics or science. These hours may be completed as part of GE, the major, minor or electives. (page -96-)



The Quantitative Literacy Requirements and ACT scores are explained on page -103-



The BA degree includes successful completion of 16 credit hours in one foreign language or ASL requirement. These hours may be completed as part of GE, the major, minor or electives. (page -96-)



Core requirements are followed by the additional specific courses required for the major, grouped by course prefix. Usually, each box will contain either a group of required courses or a list of courses from which you must choose one or more.



You must complete at least 120 credits for any baccalaureate degree. A few majors fulfill this automatically, but for most majors additional electives are required

