

## 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 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 (University of Utah degree at SUU)	AS	Associate of Science
MA	Master of Arts in Professional Communication	AAS	Associate of Applied Science
MS	Master of Science	BFA	Bachelor of Fine Arts
MSFS	Master of Science in Forensic Science	BSN	Bachelor of Science in Nursing
<b>MASTER'S DEGREES</b> 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: College of Humanities and Social Sciences</li> <li>▪ Master of Science in Forensic Science: College of Science</li> </ul>		<b>BACHELOR'S DEGREES</b> 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 requirements.</li> <li>5. Of the total hours required for graduation, the final 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 adviser. Use this opportunity to consult your adviser about your academic

goals and your plans for achieving them. If you have selected a major, you will work with an adviser in the academic College/School responsible for your major. If you have not selected a major, you will work with an adviser 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, advisers 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/~~Bachelor of Fine 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 Fine Arts

This degree is the initial professional degree in art and design. It focuses on intensive work in art or design supported by a program of general studies. At least 65% of the degree is in the creation and study of art and design in order to develop the knowledge, skills, concepts, and sensibilities essential to the professional artist or designer. Consequently, neither the language requirement of the BA, nor the additional science/math courses for the BS are required. In any of the roles as creator, scholar, or teacher, the artist or designer must function as a practitioner who exhibits technical competence, broad knowledge of art/design and art/design history, an understanding of style and its implications, critical thinking, an insight into the role of art and design in the life of humankind, and the ability to identify and solve problems.

Admission to a BFA program is subject to portfolio review after 24 credits in ART and ARTH are taken (or in progress) as outlined in the department policies. The candidate must demonstrate visual talent, art/design sensibilities, academic capacity, and a strong sense of commitment.

The necessary components of a program leading to the professional undergraduate degree are as follows:

#### A. Studio

Studies, practice, and experiences in studio subjects are of prime importance in the preparation of students for professional careers in art and design. Students must gain functional competence with principles of visual organization, including the ability to work with visual elements in three dimensions; color theory and its applications; and drawing. Students must present work that demonstrates perceptual acuity, conceptual understanding, and technical facility at a professional entry level. They must also become familiar with the inherited achievements, current major issues, processes, and directions of the field(s).

#### B. Art/Design History

Through comprehensive courses in the history of art/design, students must learn to analyze works of art/design perceptively and to evaluate them critically. They must develop an understanding of the common elements and vocabulary of art/design and of the interaction of these elements, and be able to employ this knowledge in analysis. They must be able to place works of art/design in historical and stylistic context and have some understanding of the cultural milieu in which they were created.

#### C. General Education Requirements

Review the individual degree requirements as some of the General Education requirements are specified by the department.

### Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Science in Nursing

This degree must include successful completion of 12 credit hours in mathematics or laboratory science that emphasize scientific inquiry through 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 adviser 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 adviser 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 adviser, 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 adviser by the student is subject to mutual agreement, except that the adviser 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;

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(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 the following criteria:

1. The first baccalaureate degree must have been previously conferred by an accredited or otherwise recognized college or university. The first and second baccalaureate degree may not be awarded during the same semester or term.

2. A minimum of 30 semester hours must be earned in residence at SUU. These 30 credits represent academic work beyond the requirements for the first degree and therefore must be in courses that were not applied towards the requirements for the first degree.

3. For students whose first baccalaureate degree is also from SUU, credits earned in conjunction with but beyond the minimum credits required for the first degree may be applied toward the second baccalaureate degree. However, a minimum of 18 semester hours must be earned at SUU after the first baccalaureate degree is conferred.

4. All of the requirements of the second declared major must be fulfilled by a combination of previous course work and the required additional 30 semester hours.

5. A minor may be required for a second baccalaureate degree as specified by the major department.

6. Additionally,

a. Foreign Language Requirement: If the first degree is not a Bachelor of Arts degree and the second baccalaureate degree is to be a Bachelor of Arts, the current SUU foreign language requirement must be met by some combination of courses taken as part of the first baccalaureate degree and/or courses taken in conjunction with the second degree.

b. Science Requirement: If the first degree is not a Bachelor of Science degree and the second baccalaureate degree is to be a Bachelor of Science, the current SUU science requirement must be met by some combination of courses taken as part of the first baccalaureate degree and/or courses taken in conjunction with the second degree. The courses used to satisfy this requirement must be over and above the general education requirements for science.

7. The general education requirements associated with the second baccalaureate degree shall be considered satisfied if the first baccalaureate degree was conferred by an accredited or otherwise recognized college or university.

### **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 unduplicated 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.

### **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 (the final 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 eight hours of one foreign language, beyond the 1010 level.

For AS degree: complete of an additional three-hour course in an approved math or science discipline.

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 Requirement for Bachelor Degree

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 for Bachelor Degrees

Of the total hours required for graduation, the final 30 must be earned in courses taken 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. Additional course fees may apply.

### 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 adviser and with other faculty members within the department offering your major.

Table 13.2 A Typical Degree-Requirements Table			
<b>Political Science Bachelor of Science</b>			
<b>Course Number and Title</b>		<b>Credits</b>	
<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> Information Literacy, Student Success, Computer Literacy, American Institutions		<b>17-18</b> ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑	
<b>Knowledge Areas Requirements</b> The degree requires 19 credit hours with a minimum of 3 credit hours in each knowledge area: 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 the major.			
POLS 1100 American National Government		3	
POLS 2300 Intro to Political Thought		3	
POLS 4990 Research Seminar in Political Science		3	
<b>Choose one of the following:</b>			
POLS 2100 Intro to International Relations		3	
OR			
POLS 2200 Intro to Comparative Politics		3	
Other Electives		24	
Free electives: includes completing minor, and B.A. or B.S. requirements.		48	
<b>Total Credits (BS degree)</b>		<b>120</b>	

The English requirement and ACT scores are described on page -102-

The General Education Core Requirements are described in detail on page -102-

Knowledge Area Requirements are explained on page -101-

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 -95-)

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

The Quantitative Literacy Requirements and ACT scores are explained on page -102-

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 -94-)

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.