Course Information

This section contains the specific requirements for all graduate degrees authorized at San Diego State University by the board of trustees of the California State University. These specific requirements of departments or schools supplement and are in addition to the basic requirements for advanced degrees as stated in Part Four of this bulletin. All official master’s degree programs must be prepared in conformity with the specific requirements for the degree in question.

In addition, courses acceptable for credit toward an advanced degree are listed under major fields and areas of concentration. Each course is listed by department number, title, and units. Not all courses are offered every semester or every academic year. Ordinarily, each listed course will be offered not less than once during a two-year period. Refer to the Class Schedule for a listing of course offerings.

San Diego State University reserves the right to withdraw any course listed in the Class Schedule for which the enrollment is not sufficient to warrant the organization of a class.

Absence from Class

Instructor Initiated Drop Policy

Students who do not attend the first class session and the beginning of the second class session of a course may be dropped from that course by the instructor within the first eight class days of the semester. Students who do not meet prerequisite requirements can also be dropped within the first eight class days of the semester. Any student dropped by the instructor during this period will be notified of the action by e-mail. It is the student’s responsibility to keep a current e-mail address on file through the SDSU WebPortal at http://www.sdsu.edu/portal. To reenroll, the student must receive an add code from the instructor and reenroll in the course by 11:59 p.m. on the 10th day from the first day of classes. Summer deadlines vary by session. Consult the Class Schedule for specific dates.

NOT ALL INSTRUCTORS WILL DROP STUDENTS WHO MISS THE FIRST CLASS SESSION OR FOR LACK OF PREREQUISITES. Students are responsible for all courses on their schedules. Students who do not attend the first class session and the beginning of the second class session of a course may be dropped from that course by the instructor within the first eight class days of the semester. Students who do not meet prerequisite requirements can also be dropped within the first eight class days of the semester. Any student dropped by the instructor during this period will be notified of the action by e-mail. It is the student’s responsibility to keep a current e-mail address on file through the SDSU WebPortal at http://www.sdsu.edu/portal. To reenroll, the student must receive an add code from the instructor and reenroll in the course by 11:59 p.m. on the 10th day from the first day of classes. Summer deadlines vary by session. Consult the Class Schedule for specific dates.

Religious Observances

By the end of the second week of classes, students should notify the instructors of affected courses of planned absences for religious observances. Instructors shall reasonably accommodate students who notify them in advance of planned absences for religious observances.

Schedule Adjustment Policy

The schedule adjustment period allows you to drop a course, add a course, withdraw from the university, and change the grading basis of a course. The schedule adjustment deadline is at 11:59 p.m. on the 10th day from the first day of classes. You are not allowed to make any schedule adjustments after this deadline and are responsible for knowing the current semester’s date for this deadline, which can be found on the academic calendar and the Class Schedule registration notice. Summer deadlines vary by session. Consult the Class Schedule for specific dates.

Credit Hour or Unit

As of July 1, 2011, federal law (Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations, sections 600.2 and 600.4) requires all accredited institutions to comply with the federal definition of the credit hour. For all CSU degree programs and courses bearing academic credit, the “credit hour” is defined as “the amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates not less than:

1. One hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately 15 weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or 10 to 12 weeks for one quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time, or
2. At least an equivalent amount of work as required in paragraph (1) of this definition for other academic activities as established by the institution, including laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours.”

A credit hour is assumed to be a 50-minute period. In courses in which "seat time" does not apply, a credit hour may be measured by an equivalent amount of work, as demonstrated by student achievement.

Prerequisites for Graduate Courses

Students must satisfy course prerequisites (or their equivalent) prior to beginning the course requiring the prerequisite. Faculty have the authority to enforce prerequisites listed in the bulletin, to evaluate equivalent preparation, and to require proof that such prerequisites/preparation have been completed. Faculty may, during the first week of classes, request students without the prerequisites or equivalent preparation to take formal action to drop the course. Failure to comply will result in a failing grade.

Special Topics Courses 596 and 696

No more than 12 units of coursework numbered 596 and/or 696 may be applied to a graduate degree or advanced certificate program. Special topics courses may also not constitute more than half the units toward a degree or certificate program.

Special Prerequisites for Registration in 798 and 799A

Registration in course 798, Special Study, must be arranged through the instructor, the major adviser, and the chair of the department concerned. Forms for this purpose are available in the departmental offices.

Only those students who have been advanced to candidacy and who have an officially appointed thesis committee are permitted to register for course 799A, Thesis. The student must obtain clearance for registration in this course from the Division of Graduate Affairs. Failure to obtain this clearance may result in cancellation of enrollment.

Thesis Extension (799B)

This course is intended solely for those graduate students who have had prior registration in Thesis 799A with an assigned grade symbol of SP or RP.

Comprehensive Examination Extension (799C)

Enrollment in 799C (0 units) is intended solely for those graduate students who have completed all degree requirements except for the comprehensive examination (Plan B) option. Enrollment in 799C is not necessary if a student is enrolled in other coursework during the semester they take the comprehensive examination. Enrollment in 799C is limited to two semesters.

Special Prerequisite for Registration in 899

Registration in course 899, Doctoral Dissertation, is limited to those doctoral students who have been advanced to candidacy and who have an officially appointed dissertation committee.

Online and Hybrid Courses

Certain courses may be offered as online (distance education) or hybrid (combination online and in-person). The online and hybrid courses offered each term can be found in the Class Schedule.

Faculty Office Hours

All faculty members are required to hold regularly scheduled office hours during the week to allow for student consultation. A schedule of those hours is posted outside each faculty member’s office door.
Accreditation
San Diego State University is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, 985 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 100, Alameda CA 94501, 510-748-9001; FAX 510-748-9797, e-mail: wasc@wascsenior.org; http://www.wascweb.org. It is also approved to train veterans under the G.I. Bill.
San Diego State University’s programmatic accreditation is through membership in the following associations:

- Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (Preventive Medicine Residency Program) 515 N. State Street, Suite 2000 Chicago, IL 60654 312-755-7498
- American College of Nurse Midwives Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education 8403 Coleville Road, Suite 1550 Silver Spring, MD 20910-6374 240-485-1802, http://www.midwife.org
- California Commission on Teacher Credentialing 1900 Capitol Avenue Sacramento, CA 95811 888-921-2682, http://www.ctc.ca.gov

In addition, San Diego State University is accredited by the following agencies:
- The College of Business Administration and the School of Accountancy are accredited by AACSB International—The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business—at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Several College of Business Administration programs are registered with the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, 1425 K Street, NW, Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20005, 202-379-2200.
- The College of Engineering undergraduate programs in aerospace engineering, civil engineering, computer engineering, construction engineering, electrical engineering, environmental engineering and mechanical engineering are accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) of ABET, 111 Market Place, Suite 1050, Baltimore, MD 21202-4012, 410-347-7700.
- The School of Journalism and Media Studies programs in advertising, journalism, and public relations are accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, Stauffer-Flint Hall, 1435 Jayhawk Boulevard, Lawrence, KS 66045-7575, 785-864-3973, http://www2.ku.edu/~acejmc.
- The School of Nursing is accredited by the California Board of Registered Nursing, State of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, 400 R Street, Suite 4030, Sacramento, CA 95814, 916-322-3350.
- Concentrations in Environmental Health and Occupational Health, in the Graduate School of Public Health are accredited by the American Board for Engineering and Technology, 111 Market Place, Suite 1050, Baltimore, MD 21202, 410-347-7700.
- The undergraduate program in Athletic Training in the School of Exercise and Nutritional Sciences is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education, 2201 Double Creek Drive, Suite 5006, Round Rock, TX 78664, 512-733-9700, http://www.caate.net.
- Foods and Nutrition, the Didactic Program in Dietetics in the School of Exercise and Nutritional Sciences is approved by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND), Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60606-6995, 800-877-1600, http://www.eatright.org.
Course Abbreviations
ACCTG..........Accountancy
ARP.............Administration, Rehabilitation and Post Secondary Education
A E..............Aerospace Engineering
A S.............Aerospace Studies
AFRAS..........African Studies
AMIND..........American Indian Studies
ANTH..........Anthropology
ARAB..........Arabic
ART..........Art
ASIAN..........Asian Studies
ASTR..........Astronomy
AUD..........Audiology
BIOMI..........Bioinformatics and Medical Informatics
BIOL..........Biology
BQS..........Biomedical Quality Systems
B A.........Business Administration
CAL..........Arts and Letters
CHEM..........Chemistry
CCS..........Chicana and Chicano Studies
CFD..........Child and Family Development
CHIN..........Chinese
C P..........City Planning
CIV E..........Civil Engineering
CLASS..........Classics
COMM..........Communication
CINTS..........Comparative International Studies
C LT..........Comparative Literature
COMP..........Computational Science
COMPE..........Computer Engineering
CS..........Computer Science
CON E........Construction Engineering
CSP..........Counseling and School Psychology
CJ..........Criminal Justice
DANCE..........Dance
DPT..........Doctor of Physical Therapy
DLE..........Dual Language and English Learner Education
ECON..........Economics
ED..........Education
EDL..........Educational Leadership
E E..........Electrical Engineering
ENGR..........Engineering
ENGL..........English
ENV E..........Environmental Engineering
ENV S..........Environmental Science
EUROP..........European Studies
ENS..........Exercise and Nutritional Sciences
FILIP..........Filipino
FIN..........Finance
FRENCE..........French
GMS..........General Mathematics Studies
GEN S..........General Studies
GEOG..........Geography
GEOI..........Geological Sciences
GERMN..........German
GERO..........Gerontology
HHS..........Health and Human Services
HEBRW..........Hebrew
HIST..........History
H SEC..........Homeland Security
HONOR..........Honors Program
HTM..........Hospitality and Tourism Management
HUM..........Humanities
INT S..........Interdisciplinary Studies
I B..........International Business
ISCOR..........International Security and Conflict Resolution
ITAL..........Italian
JAPAN..........Japanese
JS..........Jewish Studies
JMS..........Journalism and Media Studies
KOR..........Korean
LATAM..........Latin American Studies
LDT..........Learning Design and Technology
LGBT..........Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies
LIB S..........Liberal Studies
LING..........Linguistics
MGT..........Management
MIS..........Management Information Systems
MKTG..........Marketing
MALAS..........Master of Liberal Arts and Sciences
MATH..........Mathematics
M S E..........Mathematics and Science Education
MTHED..........Mathematics Education
M E..........Mechanical Engineering
MIL S..........Military Science
M BIO..........Molecular Biology
MUSIC..........Music
N SCI..........Natural Science
NAV S..........Naval Science
NURS..........Nursing
NUTR..........Nutrition
OCEAN..........Oceanography
PERS..........Persian
PHIL..........Philosophy
PHYS..........Physics
POL S..........Political Science
PORT..........Portuguese
PSA..........Professional Studies and Fine Arts
PSY..........Psychology
P A..........Public Administration
P H..........Public Health
RTM..........Recreation and Tourism Management
R A..........Regulatory Affairs
REL S..........Religious Studies
RWS..........Rhetoric and Writing Studies
RUSSN..........Russian
SCI..........Science
SWORK..........Social Work
SOC..........Sociology
SPAN..........Spanish
SPED..........Special Education
SLHS..........Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences
STAT..........Statistics
SUSTN..........Sustainability
TE..........Teacher Education
TFM..........Television, Film and New Media
THEA..........Theatre
WMNST..........Women's Studies