

## **VII. BACHELOR'S DEGREE REGULATIONS**

## DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

In order to receive a bachelor's degree from UT San Antonio, a student must comply with the following minimum requirements. Each course used for degree requirements at UTSA can be applied to only one of four categories: 1) general education requirements, 2) requirements for the major, 3) requirements for support work, 4) requirements for free electives.

1. Complete a minimum of 120 semester hours of credit, of which at least 39 must be in upper-division work.
2. Complete the university-wide general education requirements. (See immediately below.)
3. Complete the major and support-work requirements and the free elective requirements for the desired degree. Free electives, as used in this catalog are any semester hours of credit accepted by UT San Antonio in transfer or awarded by UT San Antonio which, for degree purposes, are not applied to general education, major, or support-work requirements. The only restrictions placed upon courses used as free electives are:
  - 1) that a specified number of free elective credits must be at the upper-division level for some degree programs;
  - 2) that a maximum of six hours of physical activities courses can be applied to the free electives allowed for any UT San Antonio degree program; and
  - 3) that a maximum of nine hours of military science credit can be applied to the free electives allowed for any UT San Antonio degree program.
4. Meet the residence requirements.
5. Achieve an overall 2.0 grade-point average in all work attempted at UT San Antonio and a 2.0 grade-point average in all work included in the major.
6. Be in good academic standing at UT San Antonio.
7. Apply formally for the degree before the deadline in the Registrar's Office and pay the required fee.

## GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

All candidates for a bachelor's degree at The University of Texas at San Antonio must satisfy a total of 42 semester credit hours of university-wide general educational requirements incorporating the following areas:

I. Languages and Cultures	18 Semester Credit Hours
II. Sciences and Mathematics	9 Semester Credit Hours
III. Social Sciences	15 Semester Credit Hours

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Total General Education Requirements	42 Semester Credit Hours
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The requirements for each of the areas are to be selected according to the following:

I. Languages and Cultures	18 Semester Credit Hours
A. English	

ENG 1013 Freshman Composition  
 ENG 1023 Critical Reading and Writing I  
 ENG 1033 Critical Reading and Writing II

Entering students whose scores on the SAT verbal or ACT English sections indicate deficiencies in basic English skills are required to enroll in ENG 1003, Basic English. The course is offered on a credit/no-credit basis, and a student required to take ENG 1003 must receive credit for the course before being

permitted to enroll in ENG 1013. Cut-off scores are published in the Schedule of Classes for each semester and the summer session. Credit for 1003 cannot be used to satisfy any degree requirements.

**B. Other Languages and Cultures**

Entering students who have not completed two units (two years) of a single foreign language will follow Option 1. Entering students who have completed two units (two years) of a single foreign language will follow Option 2.

Option 1: 6 semester credit hours in a single foreign language equivalent to completion of UTSA's second semester (1023) in the given language, plus 3 semester credit hours from the following areas:

- foreign language
- foreign literature
- culture
- fine and applied arts
- classics and philosophy

(See Appendix B for list of Approved General Education Requirements Courses.)

Option 2: 9 semester credit hours in language and culture courses to be chosen from the following disciplines:

- Art History and Criticism (AHC)
- American Studies (AMS)
- Anthropology (ANT)
- Art (ART)
- Bicultural-Bilingual Studies (BBL)
- Comparative Studies in the Humanities (CSH)
- Classics (CLA)
- Communications (COM)
- English (ENG)
- Foreign Language (FL)
- French (FRN)
- Geography (GRG)
- German (GER)
- History (HIS)
- Humanities (HUM)
- Linguistics (LNG)
- Music (MUS)
- Philosophy (PHI)
- Political Science (POL)
- Psychology (PSY)
- Russian (RUS)
- Sociology (SOC)
- Social Sciences (SSC)
- Spanish (SPN)

(See Appendix B for list of Approved General Education Requirements Courses.)

(Courses which meet mandatory legislative requirements in History (HIS) and Political Science (POL) may not be used to fulfill the requirements for "Other Languages and Cultures".)

**II. Sciences and Mathematics**

**9 Semester Credit Hours**

Required are nine semester credit hours of Sciences and Mathematics with no more than six hours in either area. Students may fulfill the requirement by com-

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pleting coursework from the courses appearing on the list of Approved General Education Requirements Courses in Appendix B.

### Mathematics

Mathematics (MAT)  
Statistics (STA)  
Computer Science (CS)  
Systems Design (SD)

### Sciences

Allied Health Sciences (AHS)  
Applied Science (AS)  
Astronomy (AST)  
Biology (BIO)  
Chemistry (CHE)  
Applied Geology (GEO)  
Applied Physics (PHY)

### III. Social Sciences

15 Semester Credit Hours

Students are required to complete the following:

#### A. History

Required are six semester credit hours or three semester credit hours each in Texas and American History (see Appendix B for courses applicable to the General Education Requirements in History.)

#### B. Political Science

Required are three semester credit hours in United States government and three semester credit hours in Texas government (see Appendix B for courses applicable to the General Education Requirements in government.)

#### C. Other

Three semester credit hours in one of the following:

Economics (ECO)  
Education (EDU)  
Environmental Studies (ENV)

(See Appendix B for the list of Approved General Education Requirements Courses.)

## MINIMUM RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

The following minimum residence requirements at UT San Antonio are in accordance with requirements established for all institutions in The University of Texas System and are requirements for all bachelor's degrees:

1. A minimum of 30 semester hours of credit in UT San Antonio courses must be completed before a degree can be conferred.
2. Twenty-four of the last thirty semester hours must be completed in residence, with the exception that among the UT System components, a student may, with the approval of the appropriate Dean, transfer additional course work to his/her program at the degree-granting institution.
3. Of the minimum 39 upper-division hours required in all degree programs at UT San Antonio, 18 of these must be earned in UT San Antonio courses.
4. At least six hours of upper-division UT San Antonio course work in the major must be completed. Additional hours in the major sequence may be required under individual UT San Antonio degree plans.

## TRANSFER OF CREDIT

To prevent unnecessary loss of time and credit, prospective transfer students are encouraged to inform themselves as early as possible of UT San Antonio's admission policies and degree requirements in their areas of interest. Students attending community colleges should be guided as well by the core curricula designed and adopted by the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, to simplify the transfer of credit, copies of which are available through most community college counselors. Questions regarding the transferability of courses should be addressed to the UT San Antonio Admissions Office.

The Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, has approved core curricula in the following areas: Arts and Sciences (including Mathematics and Natural Sciences), Business Administration, Engineering, Art, and Criminal Justice. Although the courses taken in these core curricula at various institutions may not be precisely equivalent to courses in the UT San Antonio Undergraduate Catalog, students who have successfully completed these core curricula at other institutions are given full credit toward the appropriate degree at UT San Antonio.

Undergraduate college credits completed at other institutions are evaluated for transfer to UT San Antonio by the office of Admissions and Registrar on the basis of UT San Antonio equivalency tables and according to the following guidelines:

1. All work transferred must be from a college or university accredited by a regional accrediting association (credits completed at foreign institutions are evaluated on an individual basis).
2. Any academic course from an accredited college or university in which a passing grade has been earned is accepted for transfer credit if it meets all other criteria of this section. Only those hours which apply toward a specific baccalaureate degree program count toward minimum degree requirements.
3. The applicability of particular courses completed at other institutions toward specific course requirements for a baccalaureate degree at UT San Antonio depends upon equivalency of such courses to courses offered by UT San Antonio. Other academic courses are transferred as electives; credit for these courses count toward minimum degree requirements only if they satisfy requirements of the student's degree program. Credit is not given for duplication or repetition of courses.
4. When a course has been repeated for credit only those courses where a grade of D or F was originally earned will be used in the acceptance of credit.
5. Credits for courses such as remedial courses, orientation, life experience, high school level courses, mathematics below the college algebra level, or vocational-technical courses are not accepted for transfer credit. Where vocational-technical courses support a student's degree program, free-elective credit may be approved by the Dean of the College in which the student is majoring upon the written request of the student. No transfer credit is granted for the General Education Development Tests.
6. Credit by examination awarded at another accredited college or university is transferred as though the student had completed the course(s) or general subject area(s) at the other institution and is evaluated the same as any other course(s) at that institution. Such credit is subject to all other provisions of this section.
7. Credit earned through accredited colleges and universities for college level academic courses by extension or correspondence (including USAFI or

DANTES courses) is evaluated and accepted for transfer if equivalent to UT San Antonio courses, if applicable to the student's degree program, and if all other transfer provisions of this section are met. However, the maximum credit accepted through a combination of extension and correspondence courses is 30 hours (18-hour maximum by correspondence, including USAFI or DANTES). No more than 6 hours of correspondence credit may be applied to the major.

8. Transfer credit for junior college work may not exceed 66 semester hours. Students who have completed more than 66 acceptable semester hours may apply completed, transferable courses to specific course requirements and thereby not have to repeat the courses. The semester hours for those additional courses may not be applied toward the minimum semester hour requirements for a baccalaureate degree.

No upper-division credit may be earned at a junior college. All course requirements at UT San Antonio which are designated as upper-division may be transferred to UT San Antonio only from senior-level institutions.

For credit to be transferred as an upper-division course, the institution where credit was earned must be an accredited senior-level institution and the course must be described in the institution's catalog as being of upper-division level.

If the equivalent of a *required* upper-division UT San Antonio course is completed at an accredited institution as a lower-division course, the course need not be repeated, but another upper-division course, as approved by the student's Advisor, must be completed at UT San Antonio in substitution.

9. Transfer credit for military service training school courses is not granted by UT San Antonio. A student having taken such courses may challenge by examination those UT San Antonio courses which appear equivalent to those already completed. (See the paragraph on UT San Antonio Challenge Examinations in the Credit by Examination section of this catalog.) Credit for ROTC or military science, when awarded by another accredited college or university, will be accepted by UT San Antonio as free elective credit within the limitations of the student's degree program (normally a maximum of 9 semester hours).<sup>1</sup>
10. Credits earned for physical activities courses can be transferred, within the provisions of this section, as free elective credit subject to a maximum of 6 semester hours.
11. Credits earned in colleges and universities which are candidates for accreditation may be considered for transfer to UT San Antonio on an individual basis and as applicable to the student's degree program.

The University reserves the right to refuse recognition of credit from a non-accredited institution. Any such credit accepted in transfer must be validated by 30 semester hours of course work in residence at UT San Antonio, with a grade-point average of 2.0 or higher in that work.

An official Evaluation of Transfer Credit is supplied to each new student as soon as possible following admission. This evaluation shows the equivalency of courses completed elsewhere to courses at UT San Antonio and their applicability to the student's proposed baccalaureate degree at UT San Antonio.

<sup>1</sup>See Degree Requirements in this section of the catalog and the Army ROTC Program which contains specific information on the maximum number of hours of military science that can be counted as free electives for the various degrees available at UT San Antonio.

Students who do not receive transfer credit for specific courses should review the policies for credit by examination, or contact the Office of Admissions and Registrar.

### **CORRESPONDENCE AND EXTENSION COURSES**

The University of Texas at San Antonio does not offer correspondence or extension courses at this time. For UT San Antonio policies on transfer and credit limitations on such courses, see Transfer of Credit and Minimum Residence Requirements in this section of the catalog.

While enrolled at UT San Antonio, students normally are not permitted to transfer to UT San Antonio credit earned through correspondence or extension courses. Exceptions to this rule must be approved by the student's Advisor and Dean, and such courses can be taken only in the event that the student about to graduate cannot obtain the course in residence.

### **MULTIPLE MAJORS**

A student completing a baccalaureate degree at The University of Texas at San Antonio is not restricted in the number of majors he or she may complete for the degree. However, if a student wishes to pursue more than one major, all requirements for a single degree and major, plus the additional requirements for the other major(s) must be completed. In such cases, only one degree is awarded. It is unlikely that a student fulfilling more than one major can complete all requirements within the same number of semester credit hours required for a single major.

### **ADDITIONAL BACCALAUREATE DEGREES**

A student holding a baccalaureate degree from The University of Texas at San Antonio or from another accredited institution may receive an additional bachelor's degree in a different major from UT San Antonio. Such a student continues to be classified as an undergraduate and must:

1. Complete a minimum of 30 semester hours of credit in UT San Antonio courses (of which at least 12 must be at the upper-division level in the major field) for each baccalaureate degree sought beyond the first.
2. Complete all requirements for the additional major(s), as set forth in this catalog.
3. Complete all requirements for the additional degree(s), including grade-point average requirements, support courses, elective courses, and upper-division courses, as set forth in this catalog.

### **ENROLLMENT IN GRADUATE COURSES FOR UNDERGRADUATE CREDIT**

With approval of the student's advisor, the instructor, the Division Director and the Dean of the College in which the course is offered, and the Vice President for Academic Affairs, an exceptional undergraduate student may enroll in a graduate course and apply the credit earned to his/her undergraduate degree. An approval form is available at the Registrar's Office.

### **ENROLLMENT IN GRADUATE COURSES FOR GRADUATE CREDIT**

An undergraduate student lacking no more than 12 semester hours for graduation may enroll in a graduate course and earn graduate credit under the following conditions:

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1. All hours required for the degree must be completed in the term in which he/she is taking the additional course(s) for graduate credit.
2. Permission, on an approved form available at the Registrar's Office, must be obtained from the student's advisor, the Dean of the College in which the course(s) to be taken for credit is (are) offered, and the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The approved form must be filed with the Registrar's Office by the end of the add/drop period of the term in which the registration is being made.
3. In order to earn graduate credit, the student must graduate at the end of that term; otherwise, the course(s) is (are) regarded as undergraduate credit. If graduate credit is earned, the semester hours are not considered part of the baccalaureate degree program.
4. Students are encouraged to begin seeking appropriate authorizations prior to the registration period.

### CATALOG OF GRADUATION

Students have seven years to complete a degree program under the catalog of initial registration at UTSA. If a student drops out for one or more long semesters and returns to UTSA as a former student, he/she may choose a subsequent catalog under which to complete his/her graduation requirements, thereby beginning a new seven year time limit.

### APPLICATION FOR THE DEGREE

A degree candidate must officially apply for graduation at the Registrar's Office no later than October 1 for the Fall Semester; February 15 for the Spring Semester; July 15 for the Summer Session. The application of any student applying for graduation after the established deadlines for that semester will be processed for graduation for the following semester. Students who apply for the degree in a given term but who do not fulfill all requirements must file a new degree application (before the deadline) for the next term in which they intend to graduate. The degree application fee is required only once for the same degree.

Undergraduate students should apply for their degrees during the term in which their current enrollment yields 90 semester hours of earned credit. The degree check prepared by the Registrar's Office is not, however, prepared and issued until one semester before graduation. Students seeking information about their degree requirements prior to the preparation of the degree check should consult their academic advisor.

### GRADUATION WITH HONORS

Undergraduate students who complete degree requirements for a baccalaureate degree and who have earned an overall grade-point average of 3.50 in all academic college work attempted and have earned a grade-point average of 3.50 in all semester hours attempted at The University of Texas at San Antonio are eligible for graduation Magna Cum Laude. Those who have earned a grade-point average of 3.75 on an overall basis and at UT San Antonio are eligible for graduation Summa Cum Laude.

Candidates who have completed some portion of the requirements for the baccalaureate degree at other collegiate institutions may be graduated with honors when they meet the requirements listed above in addition to completing a minimum of 45 semester hours of credit at The University of Texas at San Antonio, excluding courses challenged by examination or taken on a Credit-No Credit basis in which only the symbol "CR" is recorded.



No degree candidate shall be eligible for graduation with honors if, at the time of graduation, disciplinary action has been taken against the student by The University.

### **GRADUATION DATES**

Degrees are conferred at the end of each semester and at the end of the summer session. Public commencement ceremonies are held only at the conclusion of the spring semester. Students who wish to participate in commencement ceremonies at the close of the spring semester and who have graduated during the previous summer or fall terms may do so. Information on the procedures to be followed is available in the Registrar's Office.

