

### 3. Degree Requirements

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### Declaring Majors and Minors

In addition to satisfying the other requirements for graduation, every undergraduate is required to complete a major program. At UCSC a student has the option of pursuing an established single or combined major, a double major, or an individually-designed major. Students also have the option to declare a minor.

#### Declaring a Major

- To apply to one or more major and/or minor programs, complete an online *Study Plan—Declaration of Major/Minor* (<http://advising.ucsc.edu/student/declaration/Declaration.pdf>).
- Fill in the general education requirements using your online degree progress report available from [my.ucsc.edu](http://my.ucsc.edu). Review this section and obtain the appropriate signature from your college.
- Contact the appropriate department to set up an advising appointment.
- Meet with your department adviser to review your study plan and obtain the signature(s) as indicated on the petition for your intended major.
- If your proposed program of study requires you to be enrolled longer than the “Expected Graduation Term” indicated in the first section, you must return with the petition to your college academic adviser for review.
- File the completed petition at the department by the Declaration of Major deadline. This must be done in order for you to enroll the following quarter in courses restricted to majors.

#### Filing a Study Plan

You must file a study plan and declare a major prior to completion of your 90 credits or before enrolling in your third year. You are strongly encouraged to file as soon as you know your major; contact the department undergraduate adviser regarding major requirements. There is extensive information available online at [advising.ucsc.edu](http://advising.ucsc.edu) to assist students in declaring majors in a timely way. For students receiving *V.A. benefits* see page 18 for more information.

You will not be allowed to enroll in classes after you have reached junior standing if your major is not declared. Junior transfer students must file a study plan and declare a major no later than the deadline during their second quarter at UCSC. If you change your major, you must obtain the approval of your college in addition to obtaining approval for a study plan from your new department. A change of major late in your career will generally not be approved unless you can complete the major within 15 total quarters.

Departments have different methods of assigning faculty advisers and different instructions for completing the study plan for their majors. Specific process and contact information, department by department is available online on the Declaration of Major pages of [advising.ucsc.edu](http://advising.ucsc.edu). Note that some majors have prerequisites. Be sure to check with the department early to find out if there are entrance requirements for declaring the major. The *UCSC General Catalog* gives the requirements for each major, so read carefully about the major you wish to declare.

When you declare a major, follow the steps outlined below and file the official Study Plan Declaration of Major/Minor with all the appropriate signatures. The major that appears on this petition is your official major. Each change of major must be accompanied by a new approved Study Plan Declaration of Major/Minor petition. The courses you apply to the requirements of your major cannot also be applied to your minor.

If you have previously declared a “pre-major” such as pre-art, you must file a petition with your department to change to the regular major after you have completed the prerequisites. You cannot graduate with a pre-major. It is important that you petition to change to the regular major prior to applying for graduation. Start early to allow sufficient time to see your college and department advisers before the filing deadline.

*Academic Senate Regulation 10.4* contains the policy on declaration and change of major.

#### Proposed Majors

A proposed major is equivalent to having an undeclared major. It is the area of interest you indicated on your admission application. A proposed major is used administratively for informational purposes. In addition to proposed majors, first-year students may choose an advising cluster. Advising clusters allow first-year students to review general areas of academic interest for all major programs. Clusters introduce students to first-year foundation course work and program requirements. *Complete cluster information* can be viewed online at [advising.ucsc.edu/clusters](http://advising.ucsc.edu/clusters). To officially declare a major, you must file a Study Plan

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Declaration of Major/Minor. The form and instructions for beginning the declaration process are available online at [advising.ucsc.edu](http://advising.ucsc.edu).

#### Senior Comprehensive Requirement

In addition to completing the course requirements for a major, each student must complete a sequence of senior seminar courses, an intensive independent project, or field study; pass a comprehensive examination; or write a senior thesis or essay. The senior comprehensive requirement is set by the department or the faculty committee supervising the major. The comprehensive examination may be written, oral, or both. The form of the examination will be determined by the faculty who administer it. For some majors the comprehensive may be completed in several hours; for others it will involve work undertaken over a longer period.

#### Combined Majors

A combined major is a course of study involving two disciplines. Combined major requirements are determined jointly by the two departments and approved by the Academic Senate. If you are interested in pursuing one of the combined majors, contact the departments.

*Academic Senate Regulation 10.4.6* contains the policy on combined majors.

#### Double Majors and Minors

To complete multiple majors and minors, you must fulfill all the requirements for all majors and minors declared, including the comprehensive requirement for each major. In general, a single thesis may *not* be used for more than one major. You may count courses for more than one major or minor, as long as each major includes 40 unique (not double-counted) credits of upper-division course work, and each minor includes 25 unique (not double-counted) credits of upper-division course work. You must obtain approval from both departments and from your college academic preceptor to declare a double major.

#### Criteria for Double Major/Minor

If you decide you want to pursue a double major/minor, you must meet the following criteria:

- Present coherent, educationally or professionally defensible goals for the proposed double major or major/minor program.
- Complete the double major or major/minor in 15 quarters, or in nine quarters for transfer students. When an extension of enrollment beyond 12 quarters is required, you must have completed relevant course work with good evaluations on average and show no signs of difficulty with critical matter.
- Be in good academic standing. In addition, multiple No Passes, Ds, Fs, or Ws in either department will constitute grounds for denial of the program, even if you are presently in good academic standing.
- File for declaration of a double major or major/minor by the second quarter of your junior year. If an extension of enrollment is necessary, you will be expected to complete requirements in a minimum of additional quarters. Junior transfer students must declare both majors by the deadline during their second quarter of enrollment at UCSC. Exceptions to this are (1) students who have transferred in with large numbers of advanced placement credits, and (2) students who have taken 20 credits some quarters. If this applies to you, please consult with your college academic adviser. See *Transfer Students* (page 7).

If you decide to complete only one of the majors, you must file a [Request for Drop of a Major/Minor](#) for the other major.

Since double majors and minors require far more upper-division course work than a single major, it is important to plan early if you decide to follow such a program. Advisers have found that many students overestimate the advantages of a two-major program, without considering that depth in one major is sacrificed for breadth in two areas. Talk to faculty and staff in the departments, your academic preceptors,

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and Career Center advisers, who will be happy to discuss the advantages and limitations of various programs with you.

As a junior, you must have completed all or nearly all lower-division course work in both departments. As in other issues involving enrollment extensions, the campus must balance its allegiance to current students with access for qualified students who are seeking admittance to a UC education. This perspective leads the colleges to require students to make choices from the range of options, such as the Education Abroad Program, double major, etc. Extensions of enrollment for double majors/minors require college approval. You must complete all degree requirements for your proposed majors/minors within 15 quarters (9 quarters for junior transfer students).

#### Minors

Completion of a minor is optional, and you may complete more than one minor. The course requirements for a minor are established by the sponsoring department or program. The minor involves substantial work in the discipline and normally requires no fewer than 25 upper-division or graduate credits. The courses required for a minor follow the same pattern as those for the corresponding major, except the number of courses required is fewer and there is no comprehensive requirement. See the section “Double Majors and Minors” for information on double-counting upper-division courses (previous page). Individual minor programs are not available. Consult the [UCSC General Catalog](#) and the department or program for specific information.

If you choose to complete a minor, file a Study Plan Declaration of Major/Minor form. You should file early because the completion of a minor does not change the expectation that you finish your undergraduate work in 12 quarters and 180 credits. Once you have declared a minor, it must be either completed or deleted by the department prior to graduating. The minor is recorded on your academic record. It does not appear on your diploma.

[Academic Senate regulation 10.4.4](#) contains the policy on minors.

#### Individual Major

If you do not find a satisfactory major within the established departments and your academic performance is strong, you might consider developing an individual major. An individual major may be part of a double major. It must be distinct from any approved major program or possible combination of major programs. Regular deadlines to declare the major apply to individual majors as well. You should be aware that forming an individual major can be very difficult since three faculty members must agree to serve on a committee to supervise the major and the major must be approved by the Committee on Educational Policy. Your college office has forms and detailed written information on declaring individual majors. You should make an appointment with your academic preceptor as soon as possible if you are considering this option.

You must be self-directed and self-motivated to complete an individual major successfully. You must assemble a committee of three regular faculty members who are knowledgeable in the areas involved, one of whom chairs the committee, to supervise your major. The chair schedules at least two meetings with you and the full committee, the first as you begin to undertake the major and the second as you near completion. You are also expected to maintain contact with each member of the committee.

Individual majors must include at least 10 courses (50 credits), of which at least eight (40 credits) must be upper-division. No more than two of the required courses may be independent study courses. Students who cannot meet their original study plan for the major must consult with the committee chair for approval of any changes. All students completing an individual major are awarded a bachelor of arts.

Groups of faculty have indicated that they are willing to assist students who want to declare individual majors in the following fields: East Asian studies, religious studies, Queer and Sexuality Studies, Russian studies, South and Southeast Asian studies, and ethnic studies. Individual majors are not limited to these programs. See the [UCSC General Catalog](#) for more information.

[Academic Senate Regulation 10.4.5](#) contains the policy on individual majors.

### Undergraduate Majors

The following is a list of current undergraduate major programs as listed in the *2008-10 General Catalog* and the codes used to identify your major. Certain programs have special prerequisites which must be met before declaration of the major. Consult the *General Catalog* and the sponsoring agency for more information.

UND	Undeclared	HAVC	History of Art and Visual Culture	B.A.	INKR	Kresge	B.A.
UNON	Non degree	ISM	Information Systems	B.S.	INMR	Merrill	B.A.
AMST	American Studies	ITST	Italian Studies	B.A.	INNI	College Nine	B.A.
ANTH	Anthropology	LANG	Language Studies	B.A.	INOA	Oakes	B.A.
APPH	Applied Physics	LALS	Latin American and Latino Studies	B.A.	INPR	Porter	B.A.
ART	Art	LGST	Legal Studies	B.A.	INST	Stevenson	B.A.
ARTH	See History of Art and Visual Culture	LING	Linguistics	B.A.	INTE	College Ten	B.A.
BENG	Bioengineering	LIT	Literature	B.A.	<b>Pre-Majors</b>		
BIOC	Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	LTCR	Literature (Creative Writing)		PRAR	Pre-Art	
BINF	Bioinformatics	LTFR	Literature (French)		PREC	Pre-Economics	
BIOL	Biology	LTGE	Literature (German)		PRFM	Pre-Film and Digital Media	
BMEC	Business Management	LTGR	Literature (Greek)		PRPS	Pre-Psychology	
CHEM	Chemistry	LTIT	Literature (Italian)		<b>Combined Majors</b>		
CLST	Classical Studies	LTSP	Literature (Spanish)		XESA	Earth Sciences/Anthropology	B.A.
CMMU	Community Studies	MABI	Marine Biology	B.S.	XEBI	Environmental Studies/Biology	B.A.
CMPE	Computer Engineering	MATH	Mathematics	B.A.	XEEA	Environmental Studies/Earth Sciences	B.A.
CMPS	Computer Science	MCDB	Molecular, Cell, and Tissue Biology	B.S.	XEEC	Environmental Studies/Economics	B.A.
CMPG	Computer Science: Computer Game Design	MUSC	Music	B.A./B.M.	XLGE	Latin American and Latino Studies/Global Economics	B.A.
EART	Earth Sciences	NEUR	Neuroscience and Behavior	B.A./B.S.	XLLT	Latin American and Latino Studies/Literature	B.A.
ECEV	Ecology and Evolution	PHIL	Philosophy	B.A.	XLPT	Latin American and Latino Studies/Politics	B.A.
ECON	Economics	PHYS	Physics	B.S.	XLSY	Latin American and Latino Studies/Sociology	B.A.
EE	Electrical Engineering	ASPH	Physics (Astrophysics)	B.S.			
ENVS	Environmental Studies	PLNT	Plant Sciences	B.S.			
FMST	Feminist Studies	POLI	Politics	B.A.			
FIDM	Film and Digital Media	PSYC	Psychology	B.A.			
GMST	German Studies	SOCI	Sociology	B.A.			
GLEC	Global Economics	THEA	Theater Arts	B.A.			
HLTH	Health Sciences	<b>Individual Majors</b>					
HIS	History	INCL	College Eight	B.A.			
		INCR	Crown	B.A.			
		INCW	Cowell	B.A.			

### Undergraduate Minors

The following is a list of undergraduate minor programs.

ANTH	Anthropology	ECON	Economics	LANG	Language Studies
AM	Applied Mathematics	EDUC	Education	LGST	Legal Studies
ARTH	See History of Art and Visual Culture (HAVC)	EE	Electrical Engineering	LING	Linguistics
ASTP	Astrophysics	FIDM	Film and Digital Media	LIT	Literature
BINF	Bioinformatics	GISE	Global Information and Social Enterprise Studies	MATH	Mathematics
BIOL	Biology	HAVC	History of Art and Visual Culture	EMUS	Electronic Music
CHEM	Chemistry	HIS	History	MUSW	Western Art Music
CLST	Classical Studies	ISTM	Information Systems and Technology Management	PHIL	Philosophy
CMPE	Computer Engineering	ITST	Italian Studies	PHYS	Physics
CMPS	Computer Science	JAZZ	Jazz	POLI	Politics
CMTE	Computer Technology	JORN	Journalism (suspended)	PSYC	Psychology
CMRH	Communication and Rhetoric (suspended)	JWST	Jewish Studies	SOCI	Sociology
EART	Earth Sciences	LALS	Latin American/Latino studies	STAT	Statistics
EAST	East Asian Studies			THEA	Theater Arts

## Proposed Majors

The following is a list of proposed majors and advising clusters that identify areas of interest.

### Advising Clusters

BUE9	Business and Economics
EDU9	Education
EVS9	Environmental Sciences
PCS9	Human Psychology, Culture, and Society
ISE9	Engineering and Computing
LLC9	Languages, Literature, and Communications
LAS9	Liberal Arts and Area Studies
LHS9	Life and Health Sciences
PSM9	Physical Sciences and Math
VPA9	Visual and Performing Arts and Media

CMP3	Proposed Computer Science (B.A.)
CMP4	Proposed Computer Science (B.S.)
CMP5	Proposed Computer Science: Computer Game Design
EAR1	Proposed Earth Sciences
ECE1	Proposed Ecology and Evolution
ECO1	Proposed Economics
EE1	Proposed Electrical Engineering
ENV1	Proposed Environmental Studies

MUS1	Proposed Music
NEU1	Proposed Neuroscience and Behavior
PHI1	Proposed Philosophy
PHY1	Proposed Physics
AST1	Proposed Physics (Astrophysics)
PLN1	Proposed Plant Sciences
POL1	Proposed Politics
PSY2	Proposed Psychology
SOC1	Proposed Sociology
THE1	Proposed Theater Arts
FMS1	Proposed Feminist Studies

### Proposed Majors

AMS1	Proposed American Studies
ANT1	Proposed Anthropology
APP1	Proposed Applied Physics
ART1	Proposed Art
ART2	See History of Art and Visual Culture (HAV1)
BEN1	Proposed Bioengineering
BIO1	Proposed Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
BIN1	Proposed Bioinformatics
BIO2	Proposed Biology (B.A.)
BIO4	Proposed Biology (B.S.)
BME1	Proposed Business Management Economics
CHE1	Proposed Chemistry
CLS1	Proposed Classical Studies
CMM1	Proposed Community Studies
CMP2	Proposed Computer Engineering

FIL1	Proposed Film and Digital Media
GMS1	Proposed German Studies
GLE1	Proposed Global Economics
HLT1	Proposed Health Sciences
HIS1	Proposed History
HAV1	Proposed History of Art and Visual Culture
ISM1	Proposed Information Systems Management
ITS1	Proposed Italian Studies
LAN1	Proposed Language Studies
LAL1	Proposed Latin American and Latino Studies
LGS1	Proposed Legal Studies
LIN1	Proposed Linguistics
LIT1	Proposed Literature
MAB1	Proposed Marine Biology
MAT1	Proposed Mathematics
MCD1	Proposed Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology

### Proposed Combined Majors

XEA1	Proposed Earth Sciences/Anthropology
XEB1	Proposed Environmental Studies/Biology
XEE1	Proposed Environmental Studies/Economics
XEE2	Proposed Environmental Studies/Earth Sciences
XLE3	Proposed Latin American and Latino Studies/Economics
XLG1	Proposed Latin American and Latino Studies/Global Economics
XLP4	Proposed Latin American and Latino Studies/Politics
XLS3	Proposed Latin American and Latino Studies/Sociology
XLL1	Proposed Latin American and Latino Studies/Literature