I. INTRODUCTION

California State University, Fullerton is authorized to award to its students a limited set of specific baccalaureate degrees. Those currently authorized include the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Fine Arts, and the Bachelor of Music. Students pursuing any of these degrees must complete all requirements for graduation, including the specified total number of units required by the university. A minimum of 120 semester units shall be required to meet graduation requirements established during or after the 2000-01 academic year, as outlined in Title 5. The campus shall establish and maintain a monitoring system to ensure that justification is provided for all program requirements that extend the baccalaureate units requirement beyond the 120 units.

A degree is awarded after the student has successfully completed the specified minimum number of total units required for the degree (120 to 140, depending on major) including:

A. The university’s general education requirements;
B. The requirements of the major selected by the student (24 to 70 units depending on the major), including an upper division writing requirement and;
C. The balance of the total number of units required for the degree, commonly referred to as free electives. These free electives may be selected in such a manner so as to (1) complete the requirements for a second major, (2) complete the requirements for a minor in a field different from the student’s major, (3) complete other requirements, and (4) allow a student to take courses of interest.

II. OPTIONS, CONCENTRATIONS AND EMPHASES

The university’s requirements for establishing a major within a department are contained in UPS 410.103. A major is a set of requirements leading to a specific degree. Similarly, there may be more than one set of requirements leading to the same major. When this occurs, the alternative sets of requirements are referred to as options, concentrations, or emphases.

Under Title 5, a Bachelor of Arts degree requires a minimum of 24 semester units for the major. Alternative requirements for a major leading to a B.A. degree where the common core - that is, the same courses or the same choice of alternative courses - is less than 12 semester units, will result in the alternative requirement being called an option within the major. If the common core is at least 12 but less than 24 semester units, the alternative requirement will be referred to as a concentration. An alternative requirement where the amount of common core is 24 semester units or more will be referred to as an emphasis.
Under Title 5, a Bachelor of Science degree requires a minimum of 36 semester units for the major. An alternative requirement for a major leading to a B.S. degree where the common core is less than 12 semester units, will result in the alternative being referred to as an option within the major. If the common core is at least 12 semester units but less than 36 semester units the alternative requirement will be referred to as a concentration. An alternative requirement where the common core is 36 semester units or more will be referred to as an emphasis.

Under Title 5, both the Bachelor of Music and the Bachelor of Fine Arts consist of a maximum of 70 semester units for the major. At least one-fourth of these units must be devoted to theory and content as distinguished from studio, production, and performance. All alternative requirements for a B.M. or a B.F.A. must have at least 18 semester units in a common core (i.e., no options allowed). Concentrations within the B.M. and B.F.A. are established based on the studio, production, and performance area requirements and may represent a common core between 18 semester units and 52 semester units. An alternative requirement with a common core in excess of 52 semester units will be referred to as an emphasis.

In summary, an option within a major reflects the least amount of shared core units in that major. An example of an option that currently exists is the B.A. in Ethnic Studies, which has three options, one in Chicano Studies, one in Afro-Ethnic Studies, and one in Asian American Studies. Only one course, “Introduction to Ethnic Studies,” constitutes the common core for that major.

A concentration within a major represents a mid-range of shared core units for that major, with the number of core units ranging from 12 to 23. An example of a concentration is the B.A. in Sociology that requires 18 units of a common core for all majors and 21 units in a concentration (Family, Gerontology, Social Work, etc.)

An emphasis within a major represents the largest number of shared core units in that major. An example of an emphasis is the B.S. in Physics that requires a common core of 52 units for all majors and then 21 units for the emphasis in Business Physics.

### III. SUMMARY OF UNIT LIMITS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degrees</th>
<th>Total Degree Units (minimum)</th>
<th>Major Units</th>
<th>Options</th>
<th>Concentration</th>
<th>Emphases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B.A.</td>
<td>120 units</td>
<td>24 units</td>
<td>9-11 units</td>
<td>12-23 units</td>
<td>&gt;23 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>120 units</td>
<td>36 units</td>
<td>9-11 units</td>
<td>12-35 units</td>
<td>&gt;35 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.M and B.F.A</td>
<td>120 units</td>
<td>70 units (max.)</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>18-52 units</td>
<td>&gt;52 units</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Degrees: Degrees offered at Cal State Fullerton.

Total Degree Units: Minimum total number of units required to meet graduation requirements, as set by Title 5.

Major Units: The minimum number of semester units required for a major, as set by Title 5.
Common Core: A set of courses or the same choice of alternative courses in the major that all students pursuing that major are required to complete.

Options: The number of units in the common core whereby the alternative requirements are referred to as options.

Concentrations: The number of units in the common core whereby the alternative requirements are referred to as concentrations.

Emphases: The number of units in the common core whereby the alternative requirements are referred to as emphases.

IV. APPROVAL PROCESS REQUIRED

A. New Degrees - Full review through approval of Chancellor’s Office, California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC), and CSU Board of Trustees.

B. New Options, Concentrations, Emphases within a major - Executive Order 1071 delegates presidents the authority to approve options, concentrations, and emphases within a major. The Chancellor’s Office must be notified of new options, concentrations and emphases within a major.

V. SPECIAL NOTES

A. Approved undergraduate degrees, majors, options, concentrations and emphases will be posted on a student’s transcript.

Source: University Curriculum Committee

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 5, 2014
Supersedes: UPS 410.104 dated 6-17-05 and ASD 14-92