

Graduation Requirements

1. Unit and Scholarship Requirement - Satisfactorily complete 60 or more units of work which will satisfy all the graduation requirements. "Satisfactorily completed" means either credit earned on a Credit/No Credit basis or cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or better for credit earned on a grading scale basis for all college coursework attempted, for all Southwestern College coursework attempted, and all courses required for the major.
2. Residence Requirement - Satisfactorily complete at Southwestern College a minimum of the last 12 units used to satisfy degree requirements, or complete at least 45 units at Southwestern College and obtain prior approval from the Director of Admissions and Records to complete the remaining graduation requirements elsewhere.
3. Physical Education Requirements - Satisfactorily complete two units of physical education activity credit in at least two different activities (i.e. racquetball and swimming). A student is exempted from this requirement under the following circumstances:
 - a. If the student is twenty-five years of age or older.
 - b. If the student presents a physician's statement detailing a physical disability.
 - c. If the student provides verification of graduation from a two-year or four-year college or university.
 - d. If the student provides a military (DD-214) showing at least one year of active duty, the College will grant two units of credit for Physical Education.
 - e. If the student has taken the majority of classes as an evening student at Southwestern College.
4. Health Education Requirement - Satisfactory completion (grade "C" or better) of Health 101 or Health 116 or satisfactory score on the health inventory test. Military DD-214 and DD-295 forms will satisfy this requirement under certain conditions. (See SWC Policy #6091 for details). For Nursing majors (VN, ADN), the Health Education requirement is met by completion of courses for the major.

Date: 9-90

Page 1 of 6

Revised and Adopted: 2-10-93

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Graduation Requirements

5. Major Requirement - The type of degree earned is determined by the major program selected by the student. Two options are available. (Note: 18 units of coursework used to satisfy major requirements may not also be used to satisfy the General Education graduation requirements).
- a. General Studies and Transfer Majors for the Associate in Arts Degree - A program of 18 or more units of coursework selected from courses transferable to the California State University and colleges system. (See Transferable Courses in the Programs of Study Section of the Catalog). This might consist of courses selected in preparation for transfer to a specific four-year institution, or groupings of courses which would best assist the student in achieving a personal educational goal. Students with this major will receive an Associate in Arts Degree with the major shown as General Studies. The diploma will read General Studies.
 - b. Specific Majors for the Associate Degree - A program of 18 or more units of coursework selected from courses transferable to the California State University System. Students may select a major with specified course requirements. Upon fulfillment of graduation requirements, students with a specified subject area transfer major will receive diploma naming the major. A major might consist of courses selected in preparation for transfer to a specific four-year institution, or groupings of courses which would best assist the student in achieving a personal educational goal. Students with this major will receive an Associate Degree with the major shown.
 - c. Occupational Major for the Associate in Science Degree - A program of 18 or more units specified coursework in a particular occupational area. Available occupational areas of concentration and the required courses are shown in the Programs of Study section of the Catalog. Students with this type of major will receive an Associate in Science Degree and their major area of concentration will be stated on the degree and on the transcript.

Occupational Programs are designed to provide educational experiences that will give the student occupational skills and knowledge needed for employment. The student may receive an

Graduation Requirements

Associate of Science Degree and/or a Vocational Certificate upon completion of an occupational program.

6. Proficiency Requirements

- a. English Writing Proficiency - Satisfactory completion (grade of 'C' or better) of one of the following courses:

AJ 167
Business 211
Business 212
English 105
English 114
English 115
English 116

The student should select a course that will also satisfy the General Education requirement for Written Communication in the Language and Analytical Thinking Category. (For the Associate Degree see Plan A; for California State University and Colleges certification, see Plan B).

- b. Reading Proficiency - Satisfactory score in the reading skills portion of the Guidance Placement Test or satisfactory completion (grade of 'C' or better) in English 12 or English 58.
- c. Mathematics Proficiency - Can be met by any one of the following:
- (1) Satisfactory completion (grade of Credit or C or better) of Math 45 (Elementary Algebra) or a higher numbered math course, or
 - (2) Mathematics assessment results that indicate eligibility for Math 65 (Intermediate Algebra), or a higher numbered Math course or
 - (3) Satisfactory completion (grade of Credit or C or better) of any course from the established list of equivalent courses, including but not limited to Bus 183, EngT 65 and/or EngT 104 or

Date: 9-90

Page 3 of 6

Revised and Adopted: 2-10-93

Revised and Adopted: 5-11-94

Revised and Adopted: 2-8-95

Revised and Adopted: 2-14-96

Revised and Adopted: 8-14-96

Graduation Requirements

- (4) Satisfactory completion (credit or grade of "C" or better) of any course from the established list of equivalent courses, including but not limited to Bus 183, EngT 65 and/or EngT 104.

The SWC Mathematics Assessment Tests may be taken throughout the year. It is advised that the student take these tests as soon as possible either before or following enrollment. Educational review can be arranged for students who are deficient in these areas. However, it is the responsibility of each student to arrange to take these tests, review his/her test results and meet with a counselor regarding his/her results. Review material will be available upon request. Students who have received a college degree from a U.S. accredited institution will not be required to take the tests to meet proficiency requirements.

- d. Proficiency Requirement (Math and Reading only) - As an alternative, the College grade point average may be substituted for the high school grade point average. The student must have completed a minimum of 24 degree units in residence, have completed those units within the past seven years and be in good standing with the College. The student must submit a student petition with the Admissions Center to be considered for this policy.

7. Computer Literacy Requirement - The requirement for the Associate Degree is a satisfactory completion (grade 'C' or better or credit) in one course (minimum 1 unit) selected from those listed below. Computer literacy is defined as an awareness of the impact that the electronic digital computer is having on contemporary society and the ability to use the computer to perform fundamental tasks that would be encountered in those job-related areas where it has the most widespread use. Students who have a background in computer may substitute a more advanced computer course or may have this requirement waived by verified work experience in the computer field.

- a. Architecture 200, Introduction to Computer Aided Design
- b. Art 165, Computer Art and Graphics I
- c. Computer Literacy 115, Microcomputer Programming using BASIC.
- d. Computer Literacy 120, Computer Literacy (IBM, P.C.)

Date: 9-90

Page 4 of 6

Revised and Adopted: 2-10-93

Revised and Adopted: 5-11-94

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Graduation Requirements

- e. Computer Information Systems 101 (primarily for Business majors), Intro to Computers and Information Processing
- f. Drafting 200, Introduction to Computer Aided Drafting
- g. Electronics 243, Digital Computers (primarily for Elec. majors)
- h. Electronics 252, Microprocessors (primarily for Elec. majors)
- i. Engineering 220, Introduction to CAD/CAM systems
- j. Journalism 200, 201, 202, Newspaper Production I-III
- k. LA 200 Intro to Computer-Aided Landscape Design
- l. Mathematics 130, Intro to Computer Programming (primarily for Math or Science majors)
- m. Music 100, Computers and Music
- n. Tele 163 Video Computer Graphics

8. General Education Requirement

Philosophy - Southwestern College is committed to providing General Education encompassing Learning Skills, Natural Sciences, Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences, all of which are basic to a well-balanced life and effective life-long participation in a modern democratic society.

The institution believes that a comprehensive education introduces the student to the fundamentals of human experience and to mankind's progress in the Humanities, Natural Sciences and Behavioral Sciences. Such experience provides a common base of learning for all students and seeks to meet the needs of a student body diverse in social, cultural and educational backgrounds. It also serves to develop creativity and critical thinking, skills essential to the attainment of personal goals and to participation in a society characterized by rapid and profound change.

Graduation Requirements

The purpose of General Education, therefore, is to enhance learning skills specialization in the major. The General Education curriculum thus provides coherence to undergraduate education, affording the student the opportunity to develop an integrated overview of the diverse fields of human knowledge.

General Educational Patterns - There are two General Education patterns available at Southwestern College. Each is based upon legal requirements and the educational philosophy of the college faculty.

The first pattern, Plan A, meets the 21 semester unit General Education requirement for an Associate Degree.

The second pattern, Plan B, is a 39 semester unit pattern designed for the student planning to transfer to one of the nineteen campuses of the California State University and Colleges system, including San Diego State University. Only courses completed at Southwestern College will be used for General Education Breadth Requirement Certification. Southwestern will not report coursework completed at any other institution as part of the General Education Breadth Requirement Certification. These institutions may require additional General Education courses only if such requirements are also imposed upon native students. Any category of required General Education courses not completed at Southwestern cannot be certified and will have to be fulfilled according to the requirement of the transfer institution.

The University of California and other four-year colleges have varying General Education requirements. With the aid of a Southwestern College counselor, the student should refer directly the current catalog of the college of interest for its General Education requirement. Cooperative and General Work Experience courses and courses numbered 295 and 299 may not be used to meet either pattern. A student who completes the Plan B General Education pattern requirements at Southwestern College will be deemed to have met the Plan A General Education requirement for the Associate Degree. See current college catalog for details of Plan A and Plan B.