Biola University

Requirements for all Baccalaureate Degrees

1. All baccalaureate degrees require a minimum of 130 degree-applicable units for graduation. Each major consists of a minimum of 30 units, of which 24 must be upper division. The Bachelor of Music degree requires 142 units. A degree in biological science requires 135 units and nursing requires 141 units. For specific major requirements please see indicated major listings.

2. Completion of all academic requirements and approval of the student's graduation petition by the major advisor and the Office of the Registrar a year before graduation. To ensure completion of degree requirements, the normal academic load, during the last year, for a student anticipating graduation is 18 units. Those students who wish to take more are expected to notify their graduation counselor. Approval for the additional units beyond the norm will be made through the Office of the Registrar.

3. Students are strongly encouraged to take an Interterm course (3 units) in each of their first three years, to retain maximum flexibility for completing all requirements in the senior year.

4. A minimum of 30 units must be taken at Biola University, at least 15 units (upper division level) in the major field. Extension credit or credit by examination may not be used to fulfill the minimum residence requirement of 30 semester units. See paragraph for information on minors.

5. A minimum "C" average (or a 2.00 grade point average) is required on work taken at Biola University and within most of the major fields. (Note: GPA requirements are higher in some majors. See departmental requirements.)

6. All correspondence course work must be completed and an official transcript received by the Office of the Registrar before the senior year, two semesters prior to graduation.

7. All coursework that is completed during the final semester and will be applied toward graduation requirements must be taken at Biola University.

8. All students who have entered the University in the fall 1986 or later and who will be graduating in the spring 1990 or later must pass the Writing Competency Exam.

Special Note: All graduation requirements may be met within four school years by carrying approximately 16 or 17 units each semester. A student may still be graduated within four years if he wishes to take a lighter load and enroll in summer session and/or Interterm.

Commencement

All degree requirements must be completed before the student may participate in commencement ceremonies. Those students completing the last of their coursework during Interterm or summer session must contact their graduation counselor to be cleared for graduation.
Degree Advancement

Semester Units of Credit
APU measures courses in semester units of credit. Courses are worth different unit values depending on the type of course and the number of hours the course meets each week. Three units are usually given when a course meets three hours per week, although in some fields, such as physical education, music, nursing, and laboratory sciences, more hours per week are required. Courses in summer sessions meet for the same number of minutes and receive the same unit value as semester courses, but more time per day is devoted to these courses since there are fewer sessions.

Normal Progress Toward a Degree
The minimum number of credits for a bachelor's degree is 126. Twelve (12) units per semester constitute a minimum full-time load, and will be considered normal progress toward a degree. However, students must be aware that at this 12-unit-per-semester pace, they will not complete the bachelor's degree in a four-year period unless summer sessions or extra terms are taken.

Graduation
Seniors must complete an Intent to Graduate form (PDF)* and submit it to the Office of the Registrar at least 90 days prior to commencement. A student may participate in the commencement exercises only if the degree work has been completed or is in process concurrently at another institution, and will be completed in the graduating term. Concurrent enrollment is limited to 17 units with a maximum of 7 units being completed at another institution. (The student must receive prior approval from the Office of the Registrar for concurrent enrollment, including correspondence classes.) Correspondence courses must be completed prior to commencement. Proof of completion must be given to the Office of the Registrar.
Pepperdine University

Seaver College will hold its commencement exercises on April 26, 2008, for students who complete their degree requirements in the fall, spring, or by the end of the summer term.* Follow these steps to ensure that you are clear to graduate and to participate in the April commencement ceremony!

**Step 2: Be sure you meet these basic graduation requirements for a bachelor's degree:**

- At least 128 units completed
- At least 40 upper-division units completed
- At least 24 upper-division units completed in your major
- At least a 2.0 grade point average in work completed at Seaver College, overall, and in your major(s)
- Successful completion of all major and minor requirements
- Successful completion of all currently enrolled courses

*You must be within 12 units of degree completion to participate in the April commencement and complete your coursework in the summer term. Academic honors will only be granted after all coursework is completed and graded.*
1.0 Graduation Requirements

Undergraduate students all share certain general requirements for earning the baccalaureate degree (B.A., B.Mus., B.S.N., and B.S.). These include the following:

- Satisfactory completion of 128 semester units (numbered 100 and above).
- Satisfactory completion of the General Education Program.
- Completion of an approved program of study in a major area.
- Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.000.
- Maintain a major GPA of 2.000 (unless otherwise stipulated).
- Residency at Point Loma during the final 24 units of study.
- Completion of all academic and institutional requirements.

To be eligible for graduation, an application for graduation needs to be filed in the Office of Records the semester before a student plans to graduate. To participate in the Spring Commencement ceremonies, the application and grad check appointment must be completed by the second week of February.

Email Response:

PLNU requires that all students have no more than 12 units to complete in order to participate in commencement in the spring. Those 12 units or less MUST be completed by the end of the summer following commencement. Students sign a Summer Contract stating that they will complete the courses.

Beginning next year, we will charge a fee for all students who wish to complete their degree requirements in the summer while participating in the spring commencement ceremonies.
Graduation Requirements

Undergraduate Programs

To obtain an associate or bachelor's degree from the University of La Verne, a student must complete all the appropriate residency, semester hour, and general education requirements listed below as well as specific major requirements listed in the Undergraduate Programs section of this catalog. In addition, to qualify for graduation the student must have a ULV GPA and a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better both in the major and overall. This is the minimum GPA requirement; see the Programs section of this catalog for any additional departmental GPA requirements. For the purpose of fulfilling elective requirements and general education requirements other than Written English, a course in which a D-level grade was received will be counted only if the course was taken at ULV. A grade of C- or better is required to fulfill the Written English general education requirement, to count toward an academic major or minor, or to advance to the next course in the ESL program. The grade of C- is also the minimum acceptable grade in prerequisites for undergraduate courses as well as for undergraduate supportive courses in the major.

Email Response:

Students cannot be eligible to participate in any commencement unless they have completed all of their units, or are currently enrolled in their last units. All units must be fulfilled in order to be eligible to participate.
Email Response (attachment is in the email):

Whittier College posts degrees four times a year, at the conclusion of the Fall semester, end of January Term, end of Spring, and again at the conclusion of the Summer term. We only have one graduation ceremony and the graduates from both semesters and Jan Term are invited to participate in the Spring ceremony. Students who have 6 or less credits to complete in the Summer may walk in the Spring Commencement Ceremony but will not receive their diplomas until after they complete the required courses. They must complete the attached form indicating the courses that they have remaining and where they will complete them that summer. Summer completers received degrees dated the end of the summer.

As you may expect, a number of students do not complete the required courses in the summer and therefore do not receive their degrees. When they finally get around to completing the requirements they must send transcripts to us so that we can re-evaluate their degree completion and release the degree dated the end of the semester in which they finally completed the requirements. If there has been too great a time between walking and completing the degree the student may be required to complete the requirements under the new catalog, a real hardship for many who procrastinate too long.
Pitzer College

- Satisfactorily complete 32 courses
- All academic credits transferred to Pitzer are translated into equivalent Pitzer course credits according to the conversion: four semester units or six quarter units equal one Pitzer course. Check with the Registrar’s Office to confirm your transfer credit totals.
- Attain at least a 2.0 “C” Grade Point Average overall and in the field of major
- Major Declaration Form must be on file in the Registrar’s Office
  - Advisors of Record verify completion of course work for fields of major and minor.
- Fulfill all Educational Objective Requirements of:
  - Interdisciplinary and Intercultural Exploration (3 courses)
  - Social Responsibility (credit or non-credit option)
  - Humanities (2 courses)
  - Social/Behavioral Science (2 courses)
  - Natural Science (1 course)
  - Mathematics/Formal Reasoning (1 course)
  - Written Expression (1 course)
- Complete the Application for Graduation Form and return it to the Registrar’s Office.

Email Response:

Pitzer does not allow students to participate in commencement unless they have completed all graduation requirements. It seems like we get at least one student each year who tries to appeal this, but it never gets approved. Our students also get their actual diploma at the commencement ceremony.
Email Response:

It is the policy of Scripps College that students must complete all degree requirements before they may participate in the Commencement Ceremony and receive their degree.

If a student is short credit in the Spring Term, they generally have two immediate options open to them.
1) They may finish requirements during a summer term and receive their diploma with an October 18, ____ date.
2) They may finish requirements during the subsequent fall term and receive their diploma with an January degree date.
In either of these two scenarios, the student is invited to return for the spring Commencement Exercises in the appropriate year following completion of requirements.
Email Response:

Yes, we allow students to participate in the May graduation ceremony even if they have not completed all their graduation requirements. To do this, the student must petition our Scholarly Standing Committee for permission. Generally the students need to be within 6 units of graduation (2 courses) before permission is given, but there are even exceptions to this. The missing units/courses should be completed before the next (fall) semester, but this is not a requirement.
Claremont McKenna

Email Response:

Claremont McKenna College permits only those students who have completed all requirements for the degree to participate in commencement exercises.
Email Response:

Pomona College students must complete all graduation requirements before commencement. They received their actual diploma on graduation day.
Email Response:

Occidental allows students to participate if they have met all requirements and are only 4 units short.
Email Response:

At the University of Redlands, if a student anticipates not being able to complete all graduation requirements by our commencement date; they must complete a written petition request with a proposed plan on how they will complete. Requests of 6 or less credits are reviewed by the Associate Registrar, and requests above 6 credits are submitted to the Academic Affairs Dean. Both need advisor support. Some are approved and some are denied.