



## **Academic Programs**

## Curricula

The curricula established for all bachelor's degrees include, usually, a set of courses that fulfill the general education requirements, a set of courses that comprise a departmental major, a set of courses that comprise a cognate or minor, and several elective courses.

## General Education

A competency based general education program offers students a common academic experience and stimulates an appetite for life-long education while serving the over-reaching purposes of general education—to collect and evaluate information, integrate and draw conclusions from this information, and communicate this new knowledge to others—providing students with the skills and abilities necessary to becoming responsible citizens. A competency based system is predicated on outcome-based education and the concept of focusing and organizing learning around what is essential for all students to be able to do successfully at the end of their learning experiences.

A set of general education requirements is included in each baccalaureate program. The purpose of such requirements is to provide a broadly based education foundation upon which an area of specialization may be developed. For this reason, students are encouraged to select various courses outside their major area of study.

To help ensure common educational competencies and skills in all students, the faculty has adopted: A) a set of general education competencies—the fundamental skills students will possess upon graduation from the University, and B) a general education course distribution—the courses a student must take to gain these competencies—that apply across all curricula of the University. However, the options provided in the general education course distribution have been limited and structured to meet the needs of each major. **Students are, therefore, advised to follow the specific requirements listed in the catalog under the individual majors.**

### A. General Education Competencies

**Competency 1:** The USC Upstate graduate should demonstrate an ability to communicate in English, both orally and in writing.

1.1 Students are able to create and deliver coherent, grammatically correct oral presentations.

1.2 Students are able to create coherent, grammatically correct written responses to prompts and questions.

**Competency 2:** The USC Upstate graduate should demonstrate an understanding of and an ability to apply scientific investigation and quantitative and logical reasoning.

2.1 Students demonstrate an ability to apply scientific reasoning by drawing appropriate conclusions from scientific data.

2.2 Students demonstrate an ability to apply quantitative and logical reasoning by producing solutions to or analyses of appropriate problems.

**Competency 3:** The USC Upstate graduate should be able to integrate and critically evaluate information.

3.1 Students are able to evaluate strengths and weaknesses of varying points of view.

3.2 Students demonstrate the ability to distinguish between pertinent and irrelevant information.

**Competency 4:** The USC Upstate graduate should understand and demonstrate an awareness of distinctive features of language and cultures.

4.1 Students demonstrate knowledge of linguistic and cultural diversity and contributions of such diversity to society.

**Competency 5:** The USC Upstate graduate should demonstrate responsible and appropriate use of information technologies.

5.1 Students are able to gather and correctly process information through appropriate use of technological tools.

5.2 Students demonstrate the ability to use information technologies to communicate information to others.

### B. General Education Course Distribution\*

The general education requirements listed below are incorporated into all majors at USC Upstate. This distribution represents a minimum level of introduction to various subdivisions in the liberal arts, providing a common educational experience for all USC Upstate graduates. A course may be used to satisfy only one general education requirement.

#### I. Communication Courses

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| English ..... | 6 |
| Speech .....  | 3 |

#### II. Mathematics & Logic Courses

|   |   |
|---|---|
| One mathematics course, .....                   | 3 |
| One course from math, logic or statistics ..... | 3 |

#### III. Information Technology Course

|   |   |
|---|---|
| One information technology course ..... | 3 |
|---|---|

#### IV. Natural Sciences Courses

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Two courses including one laboratory course<br>Selected from the following: astronomy, biology,<br>chemistry, geography, geology, physics..... | 7-8 |
|--|-----|

#### V. Arts & Humanities Courses

|  |   |
|--|---|
| One fine arts course: art history, music, theatre or<br>African American studies.....  | 3 |
| One course from the following:** .....   | 3 |
| Literature, African American studies, American studies,<br>linguistics, film, philosophy, religion, theatre.<br><i>**No more than three credit hours from a specific discipline<br/>will be accepted for the general education requirement<br/>under the Arts and Humanities distribution.</i> |   |

#### VI. Foreign Language/Culture

|  |   |
|--|---|
| The minimum acceptable level of competency is<br>completion of the 102 level of a language. Students<br>who place into the 201 or higher level of a language<br>satisfy the language requirement but will have additional<br>hours in electives, if hours are required by their degree<br>program..... | 3 |
|--|---|

#### VII. History Course

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| History ..... | 3 |
|---------------|---|

### VIII. Social and Behavioral Sciences Courses

Courses from two of the following, with two disciplines represented: .....6  
African American studies, Anthropology, Economics, Government & International studies, Geography, Psychology, Sociology, Women's studies

### Total General Education Requirements

.....43-46 Credit Hours

*\*For specific courses that meet the major's distribution requirement, consult the degree worksheets.*

### Assessment Participation

The University of South Carolina Upstate is committed to offering programs and activities that encourage students to develop both academically and socially. In order to evaluate and continuously improve the effectiveness of our efforts, faculty, administrators, and staff conduct ongoing assessments. Also, many of the University's assessment activities are mandated by external agencies. Consequently, student, faculty, and staff participation in assessment activities is a University priority and responsibility.

Therefore, all students wishing to receive a degree from the University of South Carolina Upstate are required to participate in assessments of general education competencies, their major and/or area of concentration, and other programs and activities sponsored by the University. If a student fails to participate in a required assessment activity, a hold may be placed on the student's records. The results of any University assessment activity will be reported in aggregate and may not be used for the evaluation of a student's progress in a course or progress toward a degree.

For more information contact the Office of Institutional Effectiveness.

### Foreign Language Placement Policy

I. Admission to the 102 level is reserved exclusively for those who have successfully completed the 101 course or been placed into 102 by the foreign language placement exam.

II. The following table summarizes credit awarded under the Advanced Placement (AP) Program. If a student has taken AP exams but has not yet received his/her results, he/she should register for courses based on assuming AP credit.

| Language     | Score | Credit Awarded for<br>USC Upstate Course(s) | Credit<br>Hours |
|--------------|-------|---|-----------------|
| French Lang  | 3,4   | SFRN 101, 102                               | 6               |
| French Lang  | 5     | SFRN 101, 102, 201                          | 9               |
| German Lang  | 3,4   | SGRM 101, 102                               | 6               |
| German Lang  | 5     | SGRM 101, 102, 201                          | 9               |
| Spanish Lang | 3,4   | SSPN 101, 102                               | 6               |
| Spanish Lang | 5     | SSPN 101, 102, 201                          | 9               |
| Spanish Lit  | 3     | SSPN 101, 102                               | 6               |
| Spanish Lit  | 4,5   | SSPN 102, 201, 202, 301                     | 12              |

IV. Students who are multilingual, who have learned English as a foreign language, or who through family and/or cultural background have strong skills in a foreign language should see the chair of Languages,

Literature, and Composition or the coordinator of foreign languages to determine if they will be exempt without credit from the foreign language requirement of their majors. An exemption form will be placed in each student's file and copy sent to records. Such students will, at the discretion of the chair or coordinator of foreign languages, be allowed to take upper division courses in their native language and receive credit.

V. While colleges and universities are not obligated to waive foreign language requirements for students with learning disabilities (according to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973), USC Upstate has made the following provision: students who are certified by the USC Upstate Office of Disability Services as having learning disabilities that may interfere with learning a foreign language, may fulfill their general education requirement in foreign languages by taking a course in English on the history, culture, civilization or literature of a non-English speaking country or countries.

### Major Requirements

Each baccalaureate program includes courses to enable students to specialize in a particular area of interest. A minimum grade of C is required for any course submitted for fulfillment of a major requirement. Exceptions to this requirement are noted in the description of each academic program.

### Senior Seminar

All baccalaureate programs will include a senior seminar course that will serve as a capstone experience for the program. This experience will allow students to integrate knowledge from their discipline and their General Education Program. Senior seminars must also critically evaluate related ethical issues and have students articulate relevant topics in written and oral presentations. Senior seminars must provide an opportunity for the assessment of program and general education goals. These courses are the culminating experience of students in a particular program and may follow a variety of formats such as student teaching or specific courses.

### Cognates and Minors

Students seeking degrees in the College of Arts and Sciences are required to complete either a cognate or a minor. Neither a cognate nor a minor is required for professional degrees, (i.e., nursing, education, and business). Both cognates and minors are concentrated study in an area that complements work in the major. Courses may not be counted toward both a cognate and a minor; however, students may apply up to 6 hours of minor credit toward general education requirements. See each degree program for cognate or minor regulations specific to a degree program.

Students not pursuing a Business degree may earn a maximum of 29 semester hours in Business courses, excluding SECO 221, 222, 291, and 292, providing they meet the course prerequisites and have earned 54 credit hours before enrolling in 300-level and above courses.

### Cognate

Cognate course requirements are selected by a student and the major academic advisor to meet the unique

needs and interests of the individual student. The cognate consists of 12 semester hours of a coherent selection of courses, typically 300-level or higher, approved in advance by the student's major advisor and supporting the course work in the major. A cognate may be from one or more disciplines outside the major field.

To assist students in the selection of coherent multidisciplinary cognates, the College of Arts and Sciences has suggested some options. Other multidisciplinary cognates may be planned with the advisor.

Courses usually eligible for consideration as cognate credit include all courses numbered 300 and above, as well as the following:

Art History and Art Studies 200 and above  
Computer Science 210  
Foreign language 202 and above  
Geography 200 and above  
Mathematics 241 and above  
Philosophy 200 and above  
Physics 201 and above

#### *Possible Multidisciplinary Cognates*

Appropriate internship, topics, or independent studies courses may be used in any multidisciplinary cognate.

African/African-American Studies: Courses primarily about Africa, African-Americans, or race relations in art, history, literature, or sociology, including Sociology 431, *Social Inequality: Class, Race and Gender in the United States*.

Fine Arts: 200-level or higher art studio (SART), or art history (SATH); 300 level or higher theater or music.

German Studies: German 202, Intermediate German, and higher; History 340, *Germany Since 1870*.

Business: SBAD 350: Principles of Marketing; SBAD 371: Organizational Management and Behavior; SBAD 347: Legal Environment of Business; SBAD 351: Consumer Behavior; SBAD 369: Personal Finance; SBAD 374: Management of Human Resources; SBAD 390: Business Technology and Information Systems.

Quantitative Research: Statistics courses in mathematics; Psychology 402, *Experimental Topics in Psychology*; Sociology 401, *Sociological Research Methods*.

Physical Sciences: physics, 200-level; chemistry and geology, 300-level or higher.

Political Philosophy: government and international studies course in political theory or thought, 300 level or higher including *Government and International Studies 350*, *Women and Politics*; ethics or history of philosophy, 200-level or higher.

Women & Gender Studies: 300-level or higher courses listed within women's studies (SWST) and courses primarily focused on women in areas such as art, English, history, literature, government and international studies, psychology, sociology, or criminal justice.

#### **Minor**

Minor course requirements are predetermined by academic disciplines or by multidisciplinary committees. The minor should develop a coherent basic preparation in a second field of study or introduce students to the interdisciplinary examination of an important area of learning. It is a minimum of 18 semester hours of prescribed courses with at least 12 semester hours at the 300 level or higher. No more than six semester hours may be earned in general education courses. A grade of C or better must be earned in each course used to satisfy the requirements of a minor.

While many degree programs include the option of a minor as part of the degree program, not all degree programs include the option of a minor. Even in these latter programs, however, any student pursuing a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree may also pursue a university-approved minor. Note that particular degree programs may have restrictions on choice of minors. Completing the degree with a minor may require more than the minimum 120 credit hours to graduate.

USC Upstate offers the following minors:

African American Studies  
American Studies  
Art History  
Biology  
Business Administration  
Chemistry  
Child Advocacy Studies  
Commercial Music  
Communication Studies  
Computer Science  
Creative Writing  
Criminal Justice  
Economics  
English  
Film Studies  
French  
German Studies  
History  
Information Management & Systems  
International Studies  
Jazz Studies  
Journalism  
Mathematics  
Nonprofit Administration  
Philosophy  
Political Science  
Psychology  
Religion  
Sociology  
Spanish  
Spanish Translation/Interpretation  
Sport Strength and Conditioning  
Theatre  
Women's and Gender Studies

## **Electives**

Most degree programs allow students the opportunity to take a limited number of courses that do not fulfill any specific academic requirements. Normally, any course can be counted as an elective, but some restrictions may be imposed by particular degree programs. Elective credits for participation in group performance music activity courses (SMUS 126, 127, 128, 129, 131, and 327) may be counted up to a maximum of eight credits. Elective credits for special university courses (SUNV) may be counted up to a maximum of six credits.

## **Special Programs**

### **Pre-Engineering**

Engineering areas of study include Biomedical, Chemical, Civil, Computer, Electrical, Environmental, and Mechanical engineering. The pre-engineering program at USC Upstate is designed to provide up to one year of general coursework transferable to the USC College of Engineering. Students must transfer to the USC College of Engineering, or other engineering program, by their sophomore year to earn a degree in a specific engineering area of study. Admission to engineering degree-completion programs is competitive and completion of Calculus I with a grade of C+ or higher is required for transfer to the USC College of Engineering. For more information, please contact the chair of the Division of Natural Sciences and Engineering.

### **Health-related Fields**

USC Upstate offers opportunities to students interested in pursuing health-related careers. Advisement tracks are available for pre-chiropractic, pre-medical, pre-dental, pre-occupational therapy, pre-optometry, pre-physical therapy, pre-speech pathology, and pre-veterinary medicine. A four-year baccalaureate degree in the sciences at USC Upstate is typically required before entering most postgraduate professional programs. A student must seek admission to a school that offers the desired professional degree. Entry into these professional programs is on a competitive basis and requirements for each professional program vary.

Specific information on health-related programs may be obtained from the Division of Natural Sciences and Engineering.

### **Pre-law<sup>1</sup>**

USC Upstate provides advisement and information about various law school programs through the chair of History, Political Science, Philosophy and American Studies. Because most law schools do not prescribe a specific curriculum, USC Upstate does not offer a pre-law major. While students interested in law often major in political science, a variety of other disciplines such as history, English, economics, business and math provide excellent backgrounds. Law schools want students who have mastered written and spoken English and who have the ability to analyze and think critically. They prefer a variety of learning experiences since the practice of law encompasses knowledge in many fields. In addition to certain requirements in the general education program, such as speech, math, computer science, lab science, American

government, the following courses represent the broad base of knowledge preferred by most law schools:

- **Freshman and Sophomore Years**  
Psychology 101  
Foreign language  
Sociology 101  
Economics 221  
History 101  
Accounting (SBAD 225)
- **Junior and Senior Years**  
Logic 205 and 207  
International Law (SGIS 460)  
Literature Course  
Legal Environment of Business (SBAD 347)  
Judicial Process (SGIS 452)  
Constitutional Law (SGIS 450)  
Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (SGIS 451)

Students should understand that taking specific courses is not nearly as important in gaining entrance to law school as maintaining a solid grade point average (GPA) and attaining a respectable score on the Law School Aptitude Test (LSAT). Students in any major or program interested in attending law school should contact the chair of History, Political Science, Philosophy and American Studies for assignment of a pre-law advisor.

### **Pre-pharmacy**

USC Upstate provides advisement services to pre-pharmacy students through faculty members in chemistry. Each fall, representatives of the South Carolina College of Pharmacy are invited to campus to meet with interested USC Upstate pre-pharmacy students. USC Upstate provides the course work required for admission into the South Carolina College of Pharmacy but does not award a degree in pharmacy. The South Carolina College of Pharmacy considers applications from students who complete a minimum of 67 semester hours of pre-pharmacy course work at USC Upstate. Pre-pharmacy students are encouraged to consider completion of a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry or Biology to improve their chances of admission into a pharmacy school. The following recommended sequence of courses has been developed through consultation between the South Carolina College of Pharmacy and USC Upstate.

### **Recommended Courses for the South Carolina College of Pharmacy**

- **First Pre-pharmacy Year**  
Biology 101: Biological Science I  
Biology 102: Biological Science II  
Chemistry 111: General Chemistry  
Chemistry 112: General Chemistry and Qualitative Analysis  
English 101, 102: Composition and Literature  
Mathematics 141: Calculus I  
Psychology 101: Introduction to Psychology  
Electives (6 semester hours) *(continued on next page)*

<sup>1</sup>Students desiring a postgraduate professional degree should note requirements for the Three-Plus-One Program (Page 66).

- **Second Pre-pharmacy Year**  
 Biology 232: Human Anatomy  
 Biology 242: Human Physiology  
 Chemistry 331: Organic Chemistry  
 Chemistry 331L: Organic Chemistry Laboratory  
 Chemistry 332: Organic Chemistry  
 Chemistry 332L: Organic Chemistry Laboratory  
 Mathematics 102: Elementary Statistics  
 Physics 201: General Physics I  
 Physics 202: General Physics II  
 Economics 221: Principles of Macroeconomics  
 or Economics 222: Principles of Microeconomics  
 Speech 201  
 Electives (3 semester hours)

As soon as possible, students interested in pursuing a career in pharmacy should contact the chair of the Division of Natural Sciences and Engineering for assignment to a pre-pharmacy advisor.

### ***Three-Plus-One Program***

USC Upstate awards the Bachelor of Arts or the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies to a student who has satisfactorily completed at least 90 semester hours of undergraduate work and one year (30 semester hours) of work in an approved accredited professional school, provided the applicant has:

- made application to the interdisciplinary studies program at USC Upstate;
- satisfied all general education and B.A. or B.S. option requirements for the interdisciplinary studies degree, with all minimum grade requirements met;
- completed a minimum of 15 semester hours of junior- and senior-level courses at USC Upstate;
- completed at least 30 semester hours of undergraduate work at USC Upstate;
- submitted a notice of intent, approved by the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, prior to leaving USC Upstate to enter the professional, postgraduate school; and
- submitted official documents from the approved professional school demonstrating satisfactory completion of the first year of full-time study leading to a post-baccalaureate degree.

A degree other than interdisciplinary studies may be awarded if the combination of course work taken at USC Upstate and the professional school is equivalent to the work required for another bachelor's degree program at USC Upstate. In such a case, the school in which the degree is offered may recommend awarding that bachelor's degree.

### ***Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC)***

Participation in ROTC is voluntary. Semester hours earned with the department can be applied toward an academic degree program. Uniforms, textbooks and equipment required for the ROTC program are provided at no expense to the student. For ROTC scholarship students, the Army pays tuition and other expenses (see description under "Scholarships"). The ROTC program is normally four years of instruction; however, a two-year program is also

offered. The four-year program of instruction is divided into the Basic Program and the Advanced Course.

**The Basic Program.** Acceptance may be considered when one of the following programs have been completed: six semester hours in the Basic Program, two years of active military duty with an honorable discharge, or three years of JROTC. Students must show leadership potential and meet the necessary physical and academic standards. Students participating in the Basic Program have no military service obligation.

**The Advanced Program.** Satisfactory completion of six semester hours in the Basic Program, substitute military experience (two years of active duty with an honorable discharge), or three years of JROTC qualifies students for entrance into the Advanced Program, if they have also shown leadership potential and have met the necessary physical and academic standards. The student must be an academic junior or senior with acceptance to graduate school to qualify for the advanced program.

Normally taken during the student's junior and senior years, the Advanced Program offers a maximum of 12 semester hours. It provides instruction in techniques of effective leadership, tactics, military law, logistics, administration, responsibility of the officer, and the exercise of command. It is designed to further the development of the student's leadership qualities. Advanced Program students receive a tax-free subsistence allowance of \$150 per month for 10 academic months per year, and are paid approximately \$800 for the five-week Summer Camp they are required to attend after completion of their junior year. The total subsistence and pay amounts to more than \$3,000 while enrolled in the Advanced Program. Cadets graduating from the ROTC program receive a second lieutenant's commission upon completing their undergraduate degree requirements.

The Advanced Program cadet may elect to enter active duty for three years or participate in the Reserve Force Duty Program (R.F.D.) as means for fulfilling the incurred obligation for military service. Under the R.F.D. program, students are commissioned in either the National Guard or the U.S. Army Reserves for a total of eight years, during which time they attend monthly paid drill periods. This enables individuals to pursue civilian careers and serve their nation at the same time. The R.F.D. program can be guaranteed if the student desires. Moreover, students' preferences concerning the occupational specialty in which they wish to serve are taken into consideration prior to assignment. The options offered are numerous and attractive.

**ROTC Activities.** In addition to normal classroom instruction, the Military Science Department sponsors numerous extracurricular activities. These activities are designed to complement and reinforce classroom skills and techniques. Participation is voluntary and no academic credit is awarded. The activities presently offered are the rifle team, and the Rangers. A chapter of the National Military Honor Society of Scabbard and Blade is available for student participation. Adventure activities such as rappelling, orienteering, mountaineering and white water rafting are open for participation.

# MAJORS, MINORS, AND PROGRAMS

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## **Bachelor's Degrees**

Art Education  
Art Studio (Graphic Design)  
Biology  
Business Administration and Economics  
*(concentrations in accounting, economics/finance, business administration, management and marketing)*  
Chemistry  
Communication *(concentrations in electronic media, journalism, communication studies and theater)*  
Commercial Music  
Computer Information Systems  
Computer Science  
Criminal Justice  
Early Childhood Education  
Elementary Education  
Engineering Technology Management  
English  
History  
Information Management and Systems  
Information Management and Systems (Health Info. Mgmt.)  
Interdisciplinary Studies  
Mathematics  
Middle Level Education  
Nonprofit Administration  
Nursing  
Physical Education *(concentrations in teacher education and exercise and sport science)*  
Political Science  
Psychology  
Secondary Education *(concentrations in biology, chemistry, English, mathematics, social studies/history, and Spanish)*  
Sociology  
Special Education: Learning Disabilities  
Spanish

## **Master's Degrees**

Early Childhood Education  
Elementary Education  
Special Education: Visual Impairment

## **Certification**

Early Childhood Education  
Elementary Education  
Middle Level Education  
Physical Education  
Secondary Education  
Special Education: Learning Disabilities  
Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

## **Minors**

African-American Studies  
American Studies  
Art History  
Biology  
Business Administration  
Chemistry  
Child Advocacy Studies  
Commercial Music  
Communication Studies  
Computer Science  
Creative Writing  
Criminal Justice  
Economics  
English  
Film Studies  
French  
German Studies  
History  
Information Management & Systems  
International Studies  
Jazz Studies  
Journalism  
Mathematics  
Nonprofit Administration  
Philosophy  
Political Science  
Psychology  
Religion  
Sociology  
Spanish  
Spanish Translation/Interpreting  
Sport Strength and Conditioning  
Theatre  
Women's and Gender Studies

## **Pre-professional Programs**

Pre-Chiropractic  
Pre-Dental  
Pre-Engineering  
Pre-Law  
Pre-Medical  
Pre-Optometry  
Pre-Occupational Therapy  
Pre-Pharmacy  
Pre-Physical Therapy  
Pre-Physician Assisting  
Pre-Speech Pathology  
Pre-Veterinary Medicine