Policies and Procedures

X-01 through X-79, X-397, and X-997 Level Courses

Courses numbered X-01 through X-79, X-397, and X-997 are professional development units offered only through Extension to meet specific academic needs of community groups. Courses at the X-01 through X-79 and X-397 levels are not acceptable for degree programs. All courses numbered X-01 through X-79 and X-397 will be processed according to the procedures established for the review and approval of new professional development courses through the College of Extended Studies. See the College of Extended Studies website for more information about course proposals at http://www.neverstoplearning.org.

General Education Courses – Frequency of Offerings
Policy adopted by the Senate, May 1983; Revised November 1998

All General Education courses shall be taught at least once every three years at any San Diego State University campus. Any course not taught during this time shall be dropped from the General Education program.

Time Limit on Completion of Requirements for the Major
Policy adopted by the Senate, December 10, 1985

As authorized by Title 5, California Code of Regulations, Section 40401, departments may require that specific baccalaureate degree requirements be met within as few as seven years of the date of the degree. Such requirements will consist of advanced courses and examinations in areas of knowledge changing so rapidly that information may be obsolete after seven years. Proposals to identify degree requirements subject to the seven-year restriction must be approved in accordance with curricular approval processes at the department, college, and university levels. Departments who wish to specify ways a student can verify recency of specific baccalaureate degree requirements may do so by use of a course change form or program change form. Justification for the change must be included on the form. Such requirements will be clearly identified in the General Catalog, and departments will be responsible for keeping Curriculum Services informed of appropriate ways for students to certify recency of subject matter. In instances in which a student is required to repeat a course taken more than seven years previously, only the last grade will be used in computation of grade point average. Students may repeat courses only if they earned grades lower than a C (CSU Executive Order No. 1037).

Course Scheduling Guidelines for Short-Term, One-Unit Graduate Courses
Policy adopted by the Graduate Council, March 21, 1985

All graduate courses need to be scheduled with class sessions throughout the semester so that students will have ample opportunity to conduct course library work, research, and other course requirements. Normally, all graduate courses will follow this type of scheduling. However, it is recognized that certain forms of intensive short-term courses for one unit may have educational value at the graduate level and the following guidelines should be followed by departments wishing to offer such a course.

All short-term, one-unit graduate courses must carry notification to the students as to the required coursework to be completed prior to the first class meeting and must have at least a one-week interval between class sessions during which time assignments are to be completed and at least two weeks after the last class meeting for completion of final course projects.

Course Scheduling Guidelines for Short-Term Undergraduate Courses

Regardless of the length of the term, all courses need to meet certain conditions to ensure lasting learning.

All courses should not only meet the required number of hours, but should also offer the student an opportunity to prepare, to study, and to cogitate for the required hours, as stated in the General Catalog.1

Courses offered in terms that are less than 15 weeks will be adjusted to contain the same contract and preparation time as courses offered over a 15 week semester.

In scheduling a short-term or weekend course (during the regular academic year and summer term sessions), the sessions should not meet on two or three consecutive days. Lasting assimilation of the experience can be facilitated by a special format; for example, a paper and a meeting scheduled after a main presentation on a following weekend, or a course offered on a Friday followed, a week or more later, by a full Saturday session. Short-term or weekend courses may be offered as deemed appropriate by the department.

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1 One unit or credit hour represents 50 minutes of lecture or recitation combined with two hours of preparation per week throughout one semester of 15 weeks. Two hours of activity (as in exercise and nutritional sciences) or three hours of laboratory (as in the sciences) are considered equivalent to one hour of lecture.