

II. Academic Degree Programs

Undergraduate and graduate degree programs are identified both by the title of the degree conferred and by the disciplinary area in which the degree is awarded. As one example, a B.S. in Mathematics is an undergraduate degree program with the Bachelor of Science degree title in the disciplinary area of mathematics. As another example, an M.F.A. in Theater is a graduate degree program with the Master of Fine Arts degree title in the disciplinary area of theater.

II.A. Undergraduate Degree Programs

With the exception of the four scenarios described below, all actions involving undergraduate degree programs are administered by the individual campuses and do not undergo system-level review. Examples of campus-only action include creating a new undergraduate degree program, changing the name of an existing undergraduate degree program, and consolidating, transferring, or discontinuing an existing undergraduate degree program. All undergraduate degree programs must be offered under the sole or joint jurisdiction of the departments, colleges, schools, or other appropriate academic units of the University. Implementation of any of these actions is subject to approval by the respective Divisional Academic Senate and endorsement by the campus administration. Anticipated actions involving undergraduate degree programs should be identified in the *Five-Year Planning Perspective*. All final campus actions involving undergraduate degree programs should be reported to the UC Provost and relevant UCOP staff.

The scenarios that are the exception to campus-only action in connection with undergraduate degree programs and that trigger system-level review are as follows:

- 1) establishment of a hybrid undergraduate/graduate degree program (Section II.A.1);
- 2) creation of an undergraduate degree title unique to the campus (e.g., the first-ever B.F.A. program on the campus) (Section II.C.);
- 3) discontinuance of an undergraduate degree title that is the last of its kind on a campus; (Section II.C.) and
- 4) discontinuance of an undergraduate degree program that is the last of its kind in the UC system (Section IV.A).

In a few cases, undergraduate degree programs may be subject to a Substantive Change Review by UC's accrediting agency, the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). WASC defines a substantive change as "one that may significantly affect an institution's quality, objectives, scope, or control." Though limited, the circumstances that most often trigger substantive change reviews for UC include proposal of new programs where 50% or more of instruction will be offered online or at a degree level for which the campus does not have general authority. Please consult [WASC](#) resources online for updated information.

II.A.1. Undergraduate/Graduate Hybrid Degree Programs

Undergraduate/Graduate hybrid degree programs are programs that allow undergraduate students to complete undergraduate and graduate programs simultaneously. Approval of such hybrid degree programs requires particular attention to double-counting of units. Proposals for hybrid programs must be sent simultaneously to the respective campus Divisional Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) and Graduate Council. Upon receipt of the proposal, a joint subcommittee of these two standing committees reviews the proposed hybrid program. If approved, the hybrid program proposal is forwarded to CCGA per the guidelines laid out in Section II.B.1., *Establishment of New Graduate Degree Programs*.

Details of the Process

1. A campus should include the anticipated action for the undergraduate/graduate hybrid degree program in its *Five-Year Planning Perspective* as early as possible in the proposal development stage.
2. Both the Divisional Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) and the campus Graduate Council review the proposal.
3. If approved at the campus, the proposal is forwarded to CCGA and follows the approval process for new graduate degree programs.