AR 25. Institutional Requirements for Baccalaureate Degrees

a. **Baccalaureate Core**: Each student will complete the following requirements:

1. **Skills Courses (15 credits)**
   - Mathematics, Writing I, and Speech must be taken and completed satisfactorily within the first 45 hours of OSU-generated credits.
   - Writing II must be taken and completed satisfactorily within the first 90 hours of OSU-generated credits.
   - Fitness (3 credits)
   - Mathematics (3 credits)
   - Speech (3 credits)
   - Writing I (3 credits)
   - Writing II (3 credits)

2. **Perspectives Courses (24 credits)**
   - Physical science (with lab) (4 credits)
   - Biological science (with lab) (4 credits)
   - Plus choice of second course in either of the above (with lab) (4 credits)
   - Take a minimum of one course in each of the following areas:
     - Western culture (3 credits)
     - Cultural diversity (3 credits)
     - Literature and the arts (3 credits)
     - Social processes and institutions (3 credits)

3. **Difference, Power, and Discrimination Courses (3 credits)**

4. **Synthesis Courses (6 credits)**
   - Science, technology, and society (3 credits)
   - Contemporary global issues (3 credits)

5. **Writing Intensive Courses, upper division (WIC) (3 credits)**
   - The Baccalaureate Core Committee determines which courses will satisfy each of the requirements above. WIC courses will be reviewed by the Writing Advisory Board. The core is governed by the following rules: (1) No more than two courses from any one department may be used by a student to satisfy the Perspectives category of the core. (2) No single course may be used by a student to satisfy more than one subject area of the core even though some courses have been approved in more than one area. (3) Both Synthesis courses may not be taken in the same department.²

b. **An undergraduate student may be granted a baccalaureate degree with one or more majors.**

c. **Credits**: Minimum 180 earned credits, which must include:³,⁴

   1. **Credits in upper-division courses**: minimum 60 (exclusive of upper-division physical education activity courses).
   2. **Credits in each major**: minimum, 36, including at least 24 in upper-division courses.

d. **Baccalaureate Degrees**: All students receiving a BA degree shall have proficiency in a second language, including American Sign Language (ASL), equivalent to that attained at the end of the second year sequence with a grade of C– or better as certified by the School of Language, Culture, and Society. Colleges offering both the BA and the BS will have specific requirements distinguishing the two degrees. The college requirements for
the two degrees will place comparable demands upon the time and effort of students, and that assessment of comparability will include the foreign language requirement for the BA. Academic units offering both the BA and BS may have specific requirements distinguishing the two degrees.

e. **Grade-Point Average:** minimum of 2.00 on OSU cumulative grade-point average.

f. **Academic Residence:**
   1. A minimum of 45 of the last 75 credits must be completed while the student is in academic residence at OSU. "Academic Residence" is defined as OSU courses taken as a degree-seeking student of OSU or courses through one of the following approved special programs: Professional degree programs which require that the student enroll in another institution while finishing the bachelor's degree at OSU or an international study program sponsored by the Oregon University System.
   2. A minimum of 15 upper-division credits used to meet the preceding residency requirement (1) must be taken in each of the student’s majors.
   3. Credits earned by special examination for credit (AR 23) are not considered in academic residence.

g. **Dean's certification of fulfillment of all requirements of major college.** (For details, see college advisors and deans.)

h. **Restrictions: A maximum number of credits may be applied to the Baccalaureate Degree as follows:**
   1. Transfer from first professional programs such as Law, Medicine, Pharmacy, and Veterinary Medicine: maximum 48 quarter credits.
   2. Music courses (applied music): maximum 12 credits. (This restriction is not applicable to majors in music.)
   3. Physical activity courses: maximum 11 credits.
   4. Courses graded on an S/U basis at Oregon State University: maximum 36 credits.
   5. Academic Learning Service courses: maximum 15 credits.

i. **Application for a Degree:** To become a candidate for a degree, a student must have achieved senior standing and must make formal application for the degree. It is recommended that the student file an application with the registrar three terms prior to the term in which he or she wishes to graduate. The student's deadline to file an application with the registrar is the end of the second week of the term in which he or she expects to complete requirements for a degree. [Approved by Faculty Senate 1/8/09.]

**Footnotes:**

3 Lists of approved courses may be obtained from advisors. Approved courses are also listed in the OSU General Catalog.

4 Some degree programs may require more than 180 credits.

5 Unearned credits are those courses for which a grade of F, N, U, I, W, Y, AUD, or WAU are assigned as a final grade for that course. All other grades are calculated as earned credit.