

# **Stony Brook Degree Requirements: Academic Graduation Requirements**

## **Stony Brook Curriculum (SBC)**

The Stony Brook Curriculum is Stony Brook's general education requirement. All undergraduate students at Stony Brook must complete this requirement, commonly referred to as the "SBC," in order to graduate. Taking SBC courses, in addition to courses needed for your major or minor programs, helps to ensure you receive a well-rounded opportunity for lifelong learning at Stony Brook. If you are currently undecided about which major you would like to pursue, taking courses toward the fulfillment of the SBC is a great way to help you make that decision. Consult with your advisor or the undergraduate bulletin to learn more about courses certified for multiple requirements.

Through the SBC, students will: *[Some courses may fulfill multiple requirements in the categories below.]*

**Demonstrate Versatility** by showing proficiency in each of **ten fundamental areas** of learning:

1. Write Effectively in English (**WRT**)
2. Master Quantitative Problem Solving (**QPS**)
3. Communicate in a Human Language Other than English (**LANG**)      *Note: CEAS majors are exempt from this requirement*
4. Address Problems using Critical Analysis and the Methods of the Humanities (**HUM**)
5. Study the Natural World (**SNW**)
6. Understand Technology (**TECH**)
7. Understand, Observe, and Analyze Human Behavior and the Structure and Functioning of Society (**SBS**)
8. Explore and Understand the Fine and Performing Arts (**ARTS**)
9. Understand the Political, Social, and Cultural History of the United States (**USA**)
10. Engage Global Issues (**GLO**)

**Explore Interconnectedness** by completing **a course** that examines significant relationships between:

1. Science or Technology and the Arts, Humanities, or Social Sciences (**STAS**)

**Pursue Deeper Understanding** by completing advanced studies in **three of four** distinct areas of knowledge. A "+" sign in the abbreviations for these categories signifies that most courses in these categories will be relatively advanced courses at the 200- to 400-level. Take note that 200- to 400-level courses may have pre-requisites. These areas are:

1. Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (**STEM+**)
2. Social and Behavioral Sciences (**SBS+**)
3. Humanities and Fine Arts (**HFA+**)
4. Experiential Learning (**EXP+**)

**Prepare for Life-Long Learning** by taking (in most cases) individual courses which may also satisfy other SBC or major requirements:

*[Some courses from the categories above may satisfy these requirements.]*

1. Evaluate and Synthesize Researched Information (**ESI**)
2. Practice and Respect Critical and Ethical Reasoning (**CER**)
3. Speak Effectively before an Audience (**SPK**)

#### 4. Write Effectively within One's Discipline (**WRTD**)

It should also be noted that Stony Brook offers a number of undergraduate majors housed in the Health Sciences Center, School of Nursing and School of Social Welfare for whom completion of all SBC requirements may not be necessary. Each of these special programs has different requirements, so if you are interested in any of them, it is very important to ask your Undergraduate College Advisor for more information.

For more detailed information regarding the Stony Brook Curriculum requirements visit:

<http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/gened/students.html>

### Upper-Division Credits

All undergraduate students at Stony Brook must earn at least 39 credits in upper-division courses (numbered 300 and higher) to graduate. Courses taken for a major, minor, or SBC requirement can also apply toward the upper-division requirement. Some upper-division credits may be earned through courses transferred from other colleges based upon individual evaluation by Academic and Transfer Advising Services.

### Credit Hours

You must earn a minimum of

- 120 credits—Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science (BA or BS)
- 127 credits—BA in Journalism
- 128 credits—BE in Engineering

You must complete at least 100 credits with a letter grade. Developmental courses (e.g., MAP 101 and 103) do not count as credit toward your degree. Repeated courses do not count for credit toward your degree unless you did not earn credit during the first attempt (e.g., earned a failing grade, withdrew from the course) or unless they are specified as repeatable courses in the Undergraduate Bulletin. There are limits on the number of credits from certain courses that may be counted toward your degree. These limits are detailed in the Academic Policies and Regulations section of the Undergraduate Bulletin.

### Grade Point Average

You must earn a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.00 ("C" average) in your academic coursework at Stony Brook to be awarded a Bachelor's degree. Grades from transfer coursework taken at other colleges are not included in computing the Stony Brook GPA. Calculate your GPA online at:

[http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/apac/gpa\\_calculator.shtml](http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/apac/gpa_calculator.shtml)

### Major

Major requirements are detailed in the Approved Majors, Minors, and Programs section of the Undergraduate Bulletin. Most major courses must be taken for a letter grade, and often require a grade of C or higher. You must officially declare a major upon completing 45 credits toward your Stony Brook degree. If you decide on a major during your freshman year, your Undergraduate College Advisor can help you with the declaration process and will refer you when necessary to the appropriate advising office and/or academic department (completion of a minor is optional for most programs).

### Residency

This does NOT mean that you have to live on campus! After the 57th credit, you must earn at least 36 credits at Stony Brook. Restrictions for all students are detailed in the Degree Requirements section of the Undergraduate Bulletin.