What’s In a Degree?

A bachelor’s degree requires at least 180-quarter credits or 120 semester credits and is composed of general education (GE) courses, major related courses, and electives.

An associate’s degree requires at least 90-quarter credits and is composed of GE courses, electives, and preparation for the major.

**Definitions**

**Major** - Primary area of academic specialization

**Minor** - Sub-area of specialization

**Prerequisites** - Required courses that prepare students for other courses, especially upper division courses

**Residence** - Colleges and universities require students to take a certain number of credits from their school in order to graduate

**Upper Division** - Courses that require a higher level of skill. Most colleges and universities require a certain number of upper division requirements to graduate

**Lower Division** - Typically entry-level courses. Often serve as prerequisites for other courses

**Grade Point Average (GPA) requirements** - Colleges and universities may require a minimum overall GPA or major GPA to graduate