

Brothers, Sheila C

From: Raphael Finkel [raphael@cs.uky.edu]
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2013 10:23 AM
To: Brothers, Sheila C
Cc: Lowry, Regina; Prats, Armando; Graf, Gregory A; Hayes, Robert Z; Jackson, Vanessa P; Raphael Finkel; Stanley, Aaron D; Rachel McMahan; Lewis, Wayne D; Provost, University of Kentucky; Witt, Don
Subject: SAASC Item 9: Codify draft definitions to make them compliant.
Attachments: revision.pdf

Sheila,

The SAASC approves the result of this discussion, which I attach.

Raphael

SAASC Item 9: Codify draft definitions to make them compliant.

The SAASC has been asked to codify the draft definitions created by the Academic Approvals Workgroup (AAW: now-defunct, SC-charged group) and make them compliant with the most recent CPE (Council on Postsecondary Education) rules, and return the definitions to the SC.

The draft definitions include such items as course, program, degree, major. They overlap with the CPE-defined definitions, but are sometimes different.

Proposed definitions of commonly-used academic terms

April 12, 2013

1 Background

The SAASC has been asked to codify the draft definitions created by the Academic Approvals Workgroup (AAW: now-defunct, SC-charged group) and make them compliant with the most recent CPE (Council on Postsecondary Education) rules.

The proposal here shows modifications from the AAW draft. Some of the modifications are for compliance with the CPE rules; others are for clarity or consistency.

Not all the definitions defined by the CPE are included here; only the ones in the AAW draft.

2 Definitions of Commonly-Used Academic Terms

Academic Program: a combination of courses and related activities organized for the attainment of broad educational objectives that lead to a certificate or diploma or an associate's, bachelor's, master's, specialist, or doctoral degree.

Course: A discrete subject studied during one semester or quarter.

Degree Program: ~~Consists of a degree type plus major.~~ A formalized path of study that allows a student to pursue a degree.

Degree: An award conferred by a postsecondary education institution as official recognition for the successful completion of ~~a program of studies~~ an academic program.

Major: ~~A major is a~~ A primary area of study defined by a set of courses and/or credit-hour requirements within ~~specified disciplines~~ a specified discipline or with a clearly defined multi-disciplinary focus.

Minor: ~~An academic subject area in which an undergraduate student may take the second-greatest concentration of courses.~~ A secondary area of study that is separate from the major and is defined by a set of course and/or credit hour requirements within a specified discipline or with a clearly defined multi-disciplinary focus.

~~**Option:** A particular area of emphasis within a degree program.~~

Track: A particular area of emphasis within an undergraduate degree program.

Concentration: A particular area of emphasis within a Masters degree program.

Specialization: A particular area of emphasis within a Doctoral degree program.

Specialty: An area of focus within ~~an option~~ a track, concentration, or specialization.

Sub-specialty: An area of focus within a specialty.

Graduate Certificate: An academic program leading to a formal certification of the satisfactory completion of a series of thematically related graduate ~~courses which require up to 15 graduate credits, usually taken over two years and are limited to a specific professional, research, or occupational focus.~~ courses, limited to a specific professional, research, or occupational focus, requiring up to 15 graduate credits, usually taken over two years.

Undergraduate Certificate: ~~a~~ An academic program ~~(as defined here 12 or more credits)~~ comprising 12 or more credits that are 1) are cross-disciplinary, but with a thematic consistency, and 2) form a distinctive complement to a student's major and degree program, or 3) 2) leads to the acquisition of a defined set of skills or expertise that will enhance the success of the student upon graduation. Undergraduate certificates are available only to students who are enrolled in an undergraduate degree program or who have successfully completed an undergraduate degree and enroll as a post-baccalaureate (non-degree) student for admission to a certificate curriculum. Undergraduate Certificates meet a clearly defined educational need of a constituency group, such as continuing education or accreditation for a particular profession; provide a basic competency in an emerging area within a discipline or across disciplines; or respond to a specific state mandate.

Service-learning eCourses: ~~Pairs academic work with public service to enable students to understand their disciplines in a social context.~~ Credit-bearing learning experience designed to enhance mastery of course concepts and content, gain appreciation of the discipline within its societal context, and promote civic responsibility through meaningful community service that meets a community-identified need.

Other Community-Based Learning Experience Courses: ~~For-credit courses wherein a student applies theoretical knowledge gained in classes in a real-world setting, under the supervision of a faculty member. Examples include experiential education, internships, externships, co-ops, practica, clinicals, field experiences, and capstone courses.~~ A for-credit course in which students apply, and thereby achieve greater mastery of, theoretical knowledge in real-world settings under the supervision of a faculty member. Examples include experiential education, internships, externships, co-ops, practica, field experiences, clinicals, residencies, and capstone courses. Unlike service-learning courses, which balance student learning and community need, these experiences are designed to advance academic learning and professional preparation. Service may be involved, but it is the vehicle, not the goal.

Extended-campus Course/Program: ~~Academic—courses/programs~~ An academic course / program offered at ~~off-campus sites either within or~~ any center, branch, campus, or other site at which UK postsecondary degree or nondegree work is offered, in addition to the UK campus. It refers to locations both within and outside UK's area of geographic responsibility.

Off-campus Site: a location that is geographically apart, but not independent of, the main campus.

Distance Learning Course/Program: A formal educational process / academic program in which the majority of the instruction ~~in a course~~ occurs when students and instructors are not in the same place. Instruction may be synchronous or asynchronous.

Credit Hour: The equivalent of one hour (50 minutes) of instruction per week over an entire term. May also be measured as 800 minutes per credit per semester. ~~Also, t~~ Three credit hours are equivalent to meeting for 2.5 hours per week.

Dual Degree Program: A ~~single academic program that involves a student studying for~~ formalized path of study that allows a student to pursue two different degrees at the same time, either at UK or at UK and another institution (sometimes in different countries), possibly completing them in less time than it would take to earn them separately. The two degrees could be in the same subject or in two different subjects. They could be at the same level (for example, two bachelor's degrees) or at two different levels (for example, bachelor's and master's degrees). Students must meet the admission requirements for both degree programs.

Suspended Program: An academic program that no longer accepts new students as of a specified date but allows current or previously accepted students ~~who entered the program before it was closed~~ to complete the program. The program can be re-opened within five years without going through the CPE's new program approval process. After five years, if the program has not been re-opened, it is considered a closed program.

Closed Program: An academic program that is no longer offered by ~~an institution~~ UK and has been removed from ~~the institution's~~ UK's catalog and the CPE's Registry of Degree Programs. ~~The institution~~ UK has no intention of re-opening a closed program at a future date.

Bachelor's Degree: An award that normally requires at least four but not more than five years of full-time equivalent college-level work. It requires at least 120 semester credit hours or the equivalent. This **definition** includes all bachelor's degrees conferred in a five-year cooperative (work-study) program and degrees in which the normal four years of work are completed in three years.

Master's Degree: An award that requires the successful completion of an academic program of at least the full-time equivalent of one but not more than two academic years beyond the bachelor's degree. It requires at least 30 semester credit hours or the equivalent at the post-baccalaureate, graduate, or professional level.

Doctoral Degree: The highest award a student can earn for graduate study.