

Committee on Educational Policy Senior Residency Policy

A student who takes courses outside UCSC, e.g. at community college, may choose at the time of graduation to have only some of the credits completed outside counted toward the 180-credit graduation requirement in order to meet the residency requirement. Subject credit will still be given for lower division courses and courses at other campuses of the University of California that are not counted toward the graduation requirement. This will not require a petition, and the credit will be reduced by the Office of the Registrar, in consultation with department or college advisors, or the Admissions Office, as needed.

According to legislation approved in 2018-19 by the Santa Cruz Division of the Academic Senate, with a variance to systemwide regulations subsequently granted by the Assembly, students covered by Santa Cruz Division Regulation 10.1.3.D.2 (who participate in an approved off-campus study program) may satisfy the residency requirement by earning 35 of the final 90 credits including the final 10 credits in residence at UC Santa Cruz.

With these changes, it is expected that waivers of the Senior Residency Requirement will not be granted except in compelling and documented situations that are not anticipated in this policy.

Example: A student completes 170 credits at UCSC, and then completes 30 credits at community college for courses articulated to UCSC courses with GE designations. If all 30 credits were to be counted, the student would not satisfy the Senior Residency Requirement. The student can choose to have only 10 credits counted and graduate with 180 credits, even though the GE requirements fulfilled by all the courses taken outside will be counted.

Example: A student completes 150 credits at UCSC, and then completes 30 credits at community college. They can choose to have only 10 credits counted toward graduation, but they have to then complete another 20 credits at UCSC to graduate.

Approved by the Committee on Educational Policy on October 10, 2018; amended on September 25, 2019.