

October 20, 2015

DEANS  
ALL FACULTY  
DEPARTMENT MANAGERS

Dear Colleagues:

Re: Comprehensive review of courses required for majors

We write to enlist your and your faculty's support in undertaking a comprehensive review of the courses required in each one of our majors, with the goal of reducing requirements, where possible, to 45 upper-division units or less.

This project is an important strategic direction for our campus, a key step in addressing the Five for 2015 goal of ensuring that students can graduate in four years or less. Reduced or simplified course requirements can:

- Help students graduate in four years or less.
- Open up the curriculum, making possible the offering of more or smaller courses at the undergraduate or graduate level.
- Provide opportunities to complete multiple majors or minors within four years (native frosh) or two years (junior transfers).
- Provide student flexibility for other academic activities, such as undergraduate research, study abroad, performance, or service learning.
- Lessen classroom impaction.

We hope that program faculty will undertake this review in an appropriately careful and deliberative manner. It is critical that program faculty examine and reexamine the full structure of each program to determine the feasibility of meeting the 45 upper-division unit goal. Please also carefully consider overall units, and, if your program cannot meet the goal, whether or not a closely allied alternate major could be developed.

Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) Chair John Tamkun and Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education (VPDUE) Richard Hughey will be collaborating in the leadership of this project and providing additional details soon.

Sincerely,



Donald Brenneis  
Chair, Santa Cruz Division



Alison Galloway  
Campus Provost/Executive Vice Chancellor

cc: Chancellor Blumenthal  
CEP Chair Tamkun  
VPDUE Hughey