GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR BACHELOR’S DEGREE

The university will confer the bachelor’s degree upon candidates who satisfactorily complete the following:

1. 124 semester units of credit, with at least 48 units in upper-division courses;
2. the core curriculum program;
3. a major concentration including at least 24 units of upper-division work, and satisfying the requirements of the department/school in question;
4. a minor field, if one is required by the department/school in which one takes a major; a minor field includes 18 or more units. At least 6 units in the minor must be in upper-division courses, and these units require a grade point average of 2.0 with C– or better;
5. maintain a grade point average of 2.0 or better in courses at USD and in upper-division courses in the major, and a grade of C– or better in a minimum of 24 upper-division units in fulfillment of the requirements for the major. Courses transferred to USD in which the student earned a grade of C or better may be counted toward this requirement, subject to possible limitation by a department/school as to the number of units from such courses which may be accepted for this purpose;
6. the residence requirement (completion of the final 30 semester units at the University of San Diego);
7. settlement of all financial obligations to the university.

Applicability of New Academic Requirements

Lower-Division Requirements
Changes in lower-division requirements, including prerequisites for a major, are not applicable to students already enrolled at USD.

Upper-Division Requirements
Changes in upper-division requirements, including requirements for a major, are:

1. applicable to freshmen, and to sophomores who have not yet enrolled in upper-division courses in their major, provided that the new academic requirements do not affect prerequisites for the major;
2. not applicable to juniors and seniors.

A student who so chooses may elect to fulfill new rather than previous requirements, except that the student may not intermingle previous and new requirements.

When a department/school deletes one course and substitutes a new one, only those students who have not completed the deleted course will be required to take the replacement course.

If new requirements are favorable to the student, the university may make them immediately applicable, unless the student objects.

Posthumous Degree Policy

A student may be considered a candidate for a posthumous degree/honorary class membership when the following requirements are met. Posthumous degrees/honorary class membership may be awarded at the undergraduate and graduate level.

Requirements for Nomination:

1. A student must have been in good standing with the University of San Diego at the time of death. Good standing is defined as not having any of the following statuses: academic probation, academic disqualification, disciplinary suspension, or expulsion.
2. The student must have been a current student at the time of death:
   1. a. enrolled in the current required term of a degree program if the program is in session; or
   2. b. enrolled in the most recent required term of a degree program if the program is not in session; or
   3. c. on an approved leave of absence.
3. Typically, a student should have completed at least 75% of degree requirements.
4. Eligible students who do not meet this requirement (specified in 3.) are eligible for honorary membership in their projected graduating class.
5. The department chair or program director and the dean of the School or College in which the student was enrolled must recommend the awarding of a posthumous degree/honorary class membership.

Nomination/Approval Process:

1. Any USD student, faculty or staff member, or family member can suggest a candidate be considered for a posthumous degree/honorary class membership. This request must be made in writing to the Vice President and Provost for Academic Affairs (Provost). The Provost will notify the Dean of Students of any requests received.
2. The Provost (or his/her designee) will take appropriate steps to verify whether the student meets the eligibility requirements described above to be considered for a posthumous degree/honorary class membership. The Provost will notify the department chair/program director and the dean of the School or College in which the student was enrolled, and the Dean of Students, of the student’s nomination for the posthumous degree/honorary class membership.
3. The department chair or program director and dean of the School or College in which the student was enrolled makes the formal recommendation of the candidate for a posthumous degree/honorary class membership in the form of a written request to the Provost. The request must include the name of the student, the degree/program/honorary class membership to be awarded, and the recommended semester for degree/honorary class membership conferral.
4. If approved by the Provost:
   1. a. The Provost will notify appropriate university personnel (e.g., the Registrar, commencement coordinator, and the Dean of Students).
   2. b. The Dean of Students will inform the immediate family of the university’s decision and desire to recognize the student (this process will be kept confidential until and unless approved at all levels). If the family desires to represent the student and receive the diploma at a commencement ceremony, this must be relayed to the commencement coordinator for planning purposes. If the family does not wish to attend the commencement ceremony, the diploma will be mailed to the requested address.
5. A posthumous degree/honorary class membership notation will be printed next to the student’s name in the commencement program. If the family chooses not to participate, this award will still be read during the ceremony unless explicitly requested otherwise by the family. Example: Jane M. Doe – Awarded Posthumously / Jane M. Doe – Honorary Class Member.