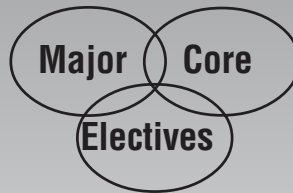


# USM

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE

# Guide to Graduation

**Summary of Bachelor's Degree  
Requirements: 120+ Credits**



**TOTAL CREDITS:** You must complete a minimum of 120 credits to graduate. The actual number depends upon your major. Read the catalog for specifics.

**MAJOR:** Major requirements can range from 36 to over 101 credits. Read the catalog for specific information on your major.

**PREREQUISITES:** Many courses (particularly upper-level courses) require that you complete other courses before you can register for them. Be sure to plan ahead!

**CORE CURRICULUM:** You must complete 28-31 credits in a variety of academic disciplines, explained in more detail on the next page.

**ELECTIVES:** You must complete as many elective credits as necessary to give you an overall total of 120+ credits. Electives, generally, are credit courses in any academic area. If you choose to develop a minor, those courses will also count as electives.

# THE CORE CURRICULUM

- These requirements apply to most students who are registered in a bachelor's degree program.
- Keep a record of all your completed Core curriculum requirements below.
- Before you choose courses, read the Core guidelines in the University catalog and this guide.
- Basic Competencies and Methods of Inquiry/Ways of Knowing courses *cannot be taken pass/fail*.
- Courses approved to satisfy Core requirements have a letter following the course number.
- Each semester fill in the courses you take to meet the requirements.
- Don't forget to list the courses you transferred in. Consult your Transfer Credit Evaluation.

## BASIC PROFICIENCY

SEMESTER  
COMPLETED

### A Writing Proficiency may be completed in one of these ways:

- Score 550 or above on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) verbal exam
- Score 30 or above on the USM English Placement Examination
- Successfully complete ENG 009A or its equivalent
- Transfer to USM a course equal to ENG 009A, or a course in Area C, or a total of 30+ credits
- **Remember:** No degree credit for ENG 009A

### B Mathematics Proficiency may be completed in one of these ways:

- Score 480 or above on the quantitative subtest of the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT)
- Successful score on USM Mathematics Proficiency Examination
- Score 500 or above on the General Mathematics Test of the College Level Examination Program (CLEP). This will also satisfy the Core Curriculum Quantitative Decision Making requirement
- Successfully complete "B" designated course
- Transfer to USM a course equal to "B" designated course, or a course in Area D
- **Remember:** No degree credit for "B" designated course in bachelor's degree programs

## BASIC COMPETENCIES

COURSE

SEMESTER  
COMPLETED

<b>C</b>	English Composition	3 Credits	_____	_____
<b>W</b>	Writing Intensive		_____	_____
<b>D</b>	Quantitative Decision Making	3 Credits	_____	_____
<b>E</b>	Skills of Analysis/Philosophy Must be completed after <b>C</b> or concurrently.	3 Credits	_____	_____

## METHODS OF INQUIRY/WAYS OF KNOWING

<b>F</b>	Performance Centered Fine Arts <i>Must be different department from G.</i>	3 Credits	_____	_____
<b>G</b>	History Centered Fine Arts <i>Must be different department from F.</i>	3 Credits	_____	_____
<b>H</b>	Humanities Literature <i>Must be different prefix from I.</i>	3 Credits	_____	_____
<b>I</b>	Humanities Other Times/Other Cultures <i>Must be different prefix from H.</i>	3 Credits	_____	_____
<b>J</b>	Social Sciences <i>Courses must be from different departments</i>	6 Credits	_____	_____
<b>K</b>	Natural Science	3 Credits	_____	_____
	Corresponding Laboratory	1 Credit	_____	_____

**Note:** you may take only one course toward the Core that has the prefix of your major.



## TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- Consult your faculty advisor or academic counselor regularly!
- Graduation is not automatic. You must apply during the semester in which you plan to graduate. Watch for information from the Registrar's Office.  
*CAS students: your Dean's office must verify completion of the Core.*
- An unofficial USM transcript may be obtained at the Registrar's Office at no charge (one per semester). Get one the semester *before* you plan to graduate, and use it to help insure that you've completed all necessary requirements.
- Suggest to your faculty advisor or academic counselor that he or she should keep a copy of your materials, too.

## GRADUATION CHECKLIST

- \_\_\_\_\_ Core curriculum completed
- \_\_\_\_\_ Major requirements completed and major G.P.A. met
- \_\_\_\_\_ Total number of required credits earned
- \_\_\_\_\_ Overall G.P.A., as required by your major
- \_\_\_\_\_ Application filed for graduation (check for deadlines)

## SOME THINGS TO REMEMBER

**Remember!** If your grade point average falls below the University's requirements for good academic standing, you will be placed on academic probation or academic suspension, or you may be academically dismissed. If you think you are in academic difficulty, consult your faculty advisor or an academic counselor in the Advising Services Center at once.

**Remember!** If you're unsure about career direction, you should visit the Career Services and Cooperative Education Office. A career counselor can speak with you about career planning, internships, résumé writing, and interviewing techniques. Don't wait until you graduate. Do it now!

**Remember!** This worksheet is your best way to insure completion of all necessary requirements. Keep it up-to-date, and bring it with you when you visit with a faculty advisor or academic advisor.

***The responsibility to insure that you graduate rests with you!***

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