

**CUNY Baccalaureate Program      Office of the Academic Director**  
**CALENDAR OF MAJOR CHANGES IN CUNY BA/BS DEGREE**  
**REQUIREMENTS**

- Spring 1981: **Plus and minus grades** awarded by colleges recorded in CUNY BA/BS consolidated transcript and used in calculating averages.
- Fall 1981: Passing scores required in all three **CUNY Skills Assessment Tests** for admission of any student who was first matriculated at an accredited college in Fall 1978 or any subsequent semester. Also: **Faculty mentor committee structure** reduced from three full-time faculty members to **at least two full-time faculty members**. Also: 2.50 **GPA** required overall and in the areas[s] of concentration for admission and graduation.
- Fall 1982: Approval of **dual areas** of concentration.
- Spring 1983: **No remedial or ESL courses** to be counted towards CUNY BA/BS degree.
- Spring 1984: **Liberal Arts and Sciences Core Distribution Requirement** instituted.
- Fall 1985: New **graduation honors** instituted to include both CUNY and non-CUNY courses.
- Spring 1991: **Dean's Certificate for Academic Excellence** instituted for graduates not eligible for regular graduation honors who maintain a 3.5 GPA for their coursework in the Program. Also: All courses for the **liberal arts and sciences core distribution** must be taken for a letter grade.
- Fall 1991: **Eligibility for Prior Experiential Learning** credits: Students must have completed at least 45 credits and no more than 90 to be eligible to apply.
- Spring 1992: Increase in the **credit requirements for Areas of Concentration**: for one area, a minimum of 24 upper level credits of 8 courses (whichever is greater) earned for a letter grade at a senior college offering a BA or BS in the appropriate discipline[s]; for two areas, a minimum of 18 such credits (6 courses) for each area. The degree formerly required 22 credits for a single area of concentration, 15/18 credits for a dual area.
- Fall 1994: All students pursuing **Psychology-related Areas** must complete *Experimental Psychology* (which has a pre-requisite of Statistics).
- Fall 1995: **Areas of Concentration**: Effective Spring 1996, a least 50% of any area must be completed in CUNY as a CUNY BA/BS student. Also: **Both** the minimum credit requirement and minimum number of courses must be met (24cr/8 courses or 18cr/6 courses in dual area). Also: Students are no longer required to have two mentors. They are now required to have **at least one full-time faculty mentor for each of concentration**, who must be a full-time faculty member holding the rank of lecturer or assistant, associate, or full professor in a department at a senior college directly related to the student's AOC.
- Spring 1996: Effective Fall 1998, **a maximum of 60 community college credits** may be applied to the degree, reduced from 68. (This policy was phased in over time, with 64 community college credits accepted from Fall through Spring 1998.)
- Summer 1998: Effective Spring 1999, the following changes are implemented **to update and strengthen the core distribution**: Lower-level, skill-building Speech and Foreign Language courses no longer accepted toward the Humanities requirement (*i.e., Voice and Diction and Public Speaking; Spanish I – Spanish IV*); English department Film courses in which literature and literary theory are taught may be applied toward the Literature requirement (*e.g., Fiction into Film*); one of the two required Literature courses may be studied in a language other than English.
- Spring 2002: **American Sign Language** can be used to fulfill the **language requirement**.
- Summer 2008: Effective Summer 2008 (for students entering Summer 08 and beyond), **"D-," "D," and "D+" grades may not be applied to an Area of Concentration (AOC)**. Since "D" grades cannot be repeated for higher grades in CUNY BA, students who receive a "D" in a course planned for their AOC will need to replace that course with one in which the student earns a "C-" or better. Also, **students may utilize courses related to their Areas of Concentration in the Core**, *i.e.*, if the student's AOC is Cross-Cultural Psychology, she/he may use Psychology courses in the Social Science category; if the student's AOC is Medieval History, she/he may use History courses in the Humanities category, and so on.
- Summer 2013: Implementation of **Pathways general education curriculum** for students entering or readmitting during Summer 2013 and beyond. Because students in CUNY Baccalaureate for Unique and Individualized Studies are pursuing individualized degrees and academic flexibility is part of the mission of this CUNY-wide program, the college option part of Pathways will consist of course work from, for example, independent studies, internships, graduate-level courses, study abroad, life-experience credits and other courses considered pertinent to our students' academic needs.