UC San Diego

EDUCATIONAL INNOVATION GLOSSARY

Degrees and Programs

Degrees

Master's Degree – A degree awarded for the successful completion of a program generally requiring 1 or 2 years of full-time college-level study beyond the bachelor's degree. One type of master's degree, including the Master of Arts degree, or **M.A.,** and the Master of Science degree of **M.S**., is awarded in the liberal arts and sciences for advanced scholarship in a subject field or discipline. (See Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs Handbook, pg. 39 for additional definitions.) Academic Master's Degrees can be self-supporting programs. (Master's degrees can be offered in-person or online)

MAS – Master of Advanced Study - Fully accredited Master's degree designed to expand career potential and bring academic rigor to professionals in various fields. The MAS is a self-supporting graduate degree program in which all the program costs, both direct and indirect, are covered by revenues generated by the program. (The MAS may be offered in-person or online)

Dual Degrees – A program offered collaboratively by two or more institutions that leads to the award of a separate degree from each of the participating institutions.

Sequential (Contiguous) Degrees – Two contiguous degrees, an undergraduate and a Master's degree, offered in a consecutive program (e.g.: 3+2 or 4+1). Typically students incorporate graduate-level coursework into their final year of undergraduate degree study. The sequential Master's degree is awarded upon completion of an additional year of graduate coursework. Target learners could include matriculated students or visiting university students via cohort concurrent enrollment.

[Note: Graduate Council provides guidelines on new degree program proposals and on the administrative procedures for submitting a new degree proposal.]

Programs

Program – A set of related activities or courses with a particular aim (e.g. certificate, degree).

Mini Master's Program – A series of online, credit-bearing graduate level courses in a specific field that provides students and working professionals with the knowledge and skills for career development and advancement. Additionally, the mini master's allows students to earn a quarter's worth of graduate level credit that can be applied towards a full Master's degree upon acceptance.

Non-Credit Certificate Program – Series of related non-credit courses designed for learner proficiency in a topic or skill. Some non-credit certificates may be "stackable" towards a graduate degree.

Summer Minor and Certificate – A series of courses offered during the summer that constitute a minor in a department. A minor consists of at least 28 units, of which 20 units must be upper division.

The minor is available to matriculated UC San Diego students; the Certificate is available to visiting students. [Senate Regulation 600(E) describes requirements for the minor.]

Cohort-Based Concurrent Enrollment – Designed for cohorts of non-matriculated students from other universities. Students attend a structured set of courses developed and delivered through academic units, and are granted a UC San Diego transcript.

Course/Program Delivery Options

Hybrid Course – Online activity is mixed with classroom meetings, replacing some fraction, but not all required face-to-face instructional activities.

Hybrid Program – A program that combines online learning and traditional face-to-face learning. Some courses in the program may be offered completely online and some face-to-face on campus.

Online Course/Program – All course activity is done online; there are no required face-to-face sessions within the course. Can be synchronous or asynchronous.

Online Platform Options

Canvas – UC San Diego's Learning Management System (LMS)* for matriculated students. Instructors can provide information and communication for on ground courses and host fully online courses. Canvas is not designed to handle Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs).

Open edX – Open source platform that powers edX. UC San Diego hosts its own instance of Open edX and provides support and marketing for its own courses. The Open edX platform can accommodate Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) as well as smaller classes and training modules.

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*Learning Management System (LMS) – A software application for the administration, tracking, reporting and delivery of educational courses and programs.