



Policy Type (choose one): **New** X or Existing

Recommended By (Name, Title, Date):

Barat Wolfe – Associate Professor, Liz Brown - Professor

Approved By (Name, Title, Date):

Zvi Szafran, President – November 8, 2021

Effective Date: Fall 2021

Last Review Date: July 14, 2021

Policy Contact: Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs

Contact Phone: 315-386-7202

Double Major Policy – Baccalaureate Degrees

I. SCOPE

In order to better serve our students and align with best practices in higher education, this policy allows students to pursue more than one major on a single baccalaureate degree and describes the process for doing so.

II. POLICY STATEMENT

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the SUNY Canton community understands the procedure to be followed for students pursuing a double major, i.e., for completing two majors on a single baccalaureate degree.

III. POLICY

Students may pursue a double major, defined as the awarding of a single degree with two majors. All program requirements for both majors must be completed satisfactorily before the degree is conferred. Under this policy, a student cannot graduate from SUNY Canton and return later to complete coursework for a second major – doing so would constitute a dual degree, which has different requirements. Students wishing to complete a dual degree (the awarding of two separate baccalaureate degrees) must follow the SUNY Canton approved [policy](#).

Students may designate a second major after completing at least 30 credits and before completing 90 credits in the first major with an unambiguous GPA of 2.000 or greater. The course of study must be approved by both majors. The student will enter into the second major with the most current catalog year of that major. If the second major is approved in the Spring, the student will adhere to the program requirements of the previous Fall's catalog year; if the second major is approved in the Fall, the student will adhere to the program requirements for that catalog year. The catalog year for the original major will remain the same. If the student wishes to update either major's catalog year, they must submit a Catalog Year Change Request Form.

Students pursuing a double major may find it necessary to complete more than 120 credits for graduation, and this may require additional time to graduation and additional costs. The second major must include at least 15 unique Upper Level credits (i.e., not overlapping with the first major's requirements or overlapping with the requirements of a minor or concentration). Beyond the unique 15 credits in the second major, all other courses may apply to both majors (e.g., a student double majoring in Forensic Criminology and Applied Psychology may "double count" Statistics, applying the credits toward both majors). Since a

designated writing intensive course is a requirement within each major, students with double majors will usually need to complete two writing intensive courses.

Students are strongly encouraged to reach out to a financial aid counselor to ensure there are no financial aid implications prior to declaring a second major.

Academic departments (especially those that offer more than one major) should identify any similar degree programs that would be inappropriate pairings for a double major and put forward a proposal to disallow the combination. Any such policy proposal must be submitted to Academic Standards for review and approval.

IV. DEFINITIONS

Double major: the awarding of one degree with two majors.

Dual degree: the awarding of two degrees, each with a different major.

V. OTHER RELATED INFORMATION

This policy has been proposed and approved by the Academic Standards Committee and approved by the Faculty Assembly.

VI. PROCEDURES

1. Students pursuing a baccalaureate degree may designate a second major after completing at least 30 credits and before completing 90 credits in the first major with an unambiguous GPA of 2.000 or greater.
2. To apply to add a second major, students must complete the Double Major Request Form listed in Section VII. The Department Chair/Director and the Dean of the second major must sign the form to verify that all necessary criteria has been met.
3. The student will enter into the second major with the most current catalog year of that major; e.g., if the second major is approved in the Spring, the student will adhere to the program requirements of the previous Fall's catalog year. If the second major is approved in the Fall, the student will adhere to the program requirements for that catalog year. The catalog year for the original major will remain the same. If the student wishes to update either major's catalog year, they must submit a Catalog Year Change Request form.

VII. FORMS

1. Double Major Request Form (can be found via Student Forms under the Student tab on the SUNY Canton website)
2. Catalog Year Change Request Form (can be found via Student Forms under the Student tab on the SUNY Canton website)

VIII. AUTHORITY

None

IX. HISTORY

None

X. APPENDICES

None

XI. FREQUENCY OF REVIEW AND UPDATE

Policies will have a normal review period of every five (5) years unless required otherwise.

XII. SIGNATURE, TITLE, AND DATE OF APPROVAL

Dr. Zvi Szafran
Policy Approver – Printed Name


Policy Approver – Signature

President
Title

11/8/21
Date of Approval