

USING THIS BULLETIN

Definitions and Abbreviations

Described below are definitions related to graduate major degree programs:

Graduate / Postbaccalaureate Certificate Program

A graduate or postbaccalaureate credit certificate program is a group of courses that focuses upon an area of specialized knowledge or information and is developed, supervised, and evaluated by the faculty members of the academic unit offering the program. Postbaccalaureate credit certificate programs reflect emerging academic areas, and may supplement or enhance existing degree programs. Postbaccalaureate certificates and graduate certificates differ in the number of graduate credits required; see the Postbaccalaureate Credit Certificate Programs policy (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-212-postbaccalaureate-credit-certificate-programs>) for more details.

Graduate Dual-Title Degree Program

A dual-title program is a fully integrated program of study that integrates course work and research in the graduate major and dual-title fields early in the student's program. Dual-title programs are adopted by existing graduate major programs; after entering those graduate major programs, students can apply to the dual-title and earn a degree in both their graduate major and the dual-title field. See the Dual-Title Graduate Degree Program policy (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-208-dual-titles>) for more details.

Graduate Joint Degree Program

A joint degree program allows students to pursue work simultaneously towards an existing, specific graduate degree and a professional degree (J.D. or M.D.) offered at Penn State. Joint degree programs enhance students' educational and research opportunities within the graduate and professional programs, provide students with valuable complementary training for a variety of career opportunities, and enable students to complete both degrees in less time than it would take to complete them separately. See the Joint Degree Programs policy (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-211-joint-degree-programs>) for more details.

Graduate Minor Program

A graduate minor may be taken in any of the approved graduate major degree programs. In addition, there are stand-alone graduate minors which are unaffiliated with a graduate major. Graduate minors are available for both master's and doctoral degrees; see the following Graduate Minors policies for more details: Minor - Research Doctorate (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-600/gcac-611-minor-research-doctorate>), Minor - Professional Doctoral Degrees (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-700/gcac-709-professional-doctoral-minor>), Minor - Research Master's Degrees (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-600/gcac-641-minor-research-masters>), Minor - Professional Master's Degrees (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-700/gcac-741-masters-minor-professional>).

Integrated Undergraduate-Graduate (IUG) Degree Program

An Integrated Undergraduate-Graduate (IUG) degree program combines a Penn State baccalaureate degree with a master's degree as a continuous program of study. An IUG program allows qualifying students to:

- create a cohesive plan for baccalaureate and master's degree studies, with advising informed by requirements for both degree programs;
- complete the combined degree program in less time than it would take to complete each program separately;
- become familiar with the expectations of graduate studies in their programs;
- access the resources of the J. Jeffrey and Ann Marie Fox Graduate School; and
- learn from current graduate students who share academic interests.

See the Integrated Undergraduate-Graduate (IUG) Degree Programs policy (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-210-integrated-undergraduate-graduate-degree-programs>) for more details.

Option

An option is a distinct curricular specialization within a graduate major. It is the only formal curricular specialization within a graduate major that is recognized on the transcript and diploma for students in the major. Options are defined by certain minimum requirements related to the distinctiveness and commonality of the course work in the major; see the Degree Program Options policy (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-207-degree-program-options>) for more details.

Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Codes

Described below are common codes, abbreviations, acronyms, and other types of academic shorthand used at Penn State, along with a brief explanation of each.

Code	Explanation
A	Special topics (course suffix; indicates different versions of the same course, e.g., CAS 100A, CAS 100B, CAS 100C)
A & A	Arts and Architecture (college abbreviation)
AA	Arts and Architecture (college code)
AAPPM	Academic Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual
AB	Abington (campus code)
AB	Abington (college code)
ACUE	Administrative Council on Undergraduate Education
AG	Agricultural Sciences (college code)
AL	Altoona (campus code)
AL	Altoona (college code)
AP	Advanced Placement Program
APPL	Course requires an application with the School of Music (course characteristic)
APPT	By appointment (class meeting time)

AU	Audit, attended regularly (grade reporting symbol)	DF	Deferred grade (grade reporting symbol)
AUDN	Course requires an audition (course characteristic)	DN	Dickinson School of Law (campus code)
AUU	Audit, did not attend regularly (grade reporting symbol)	DS	DuBois (campus code)
B	Special topics (course suffix; indicates different versions of the same course, e.g., CAS 100A, CAS 100B, CAS 100C)	DU	Division of Undergraduate Studies (college code)
BA	Business, Smeal College of (college code)	D U S	Division of Undergraduate Studies (college abbreviation)
BC	Behrend (college code)	E	Special topics (course suffix; indicates different versions of the same course, e.g., HIST 297D, HIST 297E)
BK	Berks (campus code)	ECoS	Eberly College of Science
BK	Berks (college code)	ED	Education (college code)
BR	Beaver (campus code)	EM	Earth and Mineral Sciences (college code)
BW	Brandywine (campus code)	EM SC	Earth and Mineral Sciences (college abbreviation)
C	Special topics (course suffix; indicates different versions of the same course, e.g., CAS 100A, CAS 100B, CAS 100C)	EN	Engineering (college code)
CA	Capital (college code)	ENGR	Engineering (college abbreviation)
CALC	Course requires a calculator (course characteristic)	EOP	Educational Opportunity Program
CAMP	College Assistance Migrant Program	EPR	Early Progress Report
CAT	Online catalog, University Libraries	EPS	Educational Planning Survey
CC	Commonwealth Campuses	ER	Behrend (campus code)
CCP	College Contact Person	ESL	English as a Second Language
CCRR	College Contact and Referral Representative	EVEX	Course has evening exams (course characteristic)
CCSG	Council of Commonwealth Student Governments	F	Special topics (course suffix; indicates different versions of the same course, e.g., HIST 297F, HIST 297E)
CE	Continuing Education	FE	Fayette (campus code)
CGPA	Cumulative grade-point average	FINL	Course has a final exam (course characteristic)
CIC	Committee on Institutional Cooperation	FL	Failure under pass/fail option (grade reporting symbol)
CLEP	College-Level Examination Program	FYS	First-Year Seminar
CM	Communications (college code)	G	Special topics (course suffix for temporary single domain general education course)
CNCR	Course is scheduled concurrently with another course (course characteristic)	GA	Arts (General Education code)
CNTL	Course is controlled (course characteristic)	GA	Greater Allegheny (campus code)
COMM	Communications (college abbreviation)	GH	Humanities (General Education code)
CORD	Course is coordinated with other course(s) (course characteristic)	GHW	Health and Wellness (General Education code)
COST	Course requires an additional fee (course characteristic)	GN	Graduate non-degree (college code)
D	Special topics (course suffix; indicates different versions of the same course, e.g., HIST 297D, HIST 297E)	GN	Natural Sciences (General Education code)
DAA	Dean/Director of Academic Affairs	GPA	Grade-point average
		GQ	Quantification (General Education code)
		GR	Graduate (level code)
		GR ND	Graduate non-degree (college code)

GS	Social and Behavioral Sciences (General Education code)	M	Writing Across the Curriculum and Honors (course suffix)
GV	Great Valley (campus code)	MA	Mont Alto (campus code)
GV	Great Valley (college code)	MAC	Morgan Academic Center (for Student-Athletes)
GWS	Writing/Speaking (General Education code)	MD	Medical (level code)
H	Honors course or section (course suffix)	MD	Medicine (college code)
HB	Harrisburg (campus code)	MED	Medicine (college abbreviation)
H H D	Health and Human Development (college abbreviation)	MEP	Multicultural Engineering Program
HH	Health and Human Development (college code)	MRC	Multicultural Resource Center
HN	Hazleton (campus code)	MS	Military Science (ROTC) (college code)
HY	Hershey Medical Center (campus code)	N	Inter-Domain course for General Education
I	Incomplete (grade reporting symbol)	NACADA	National Academic Advising Association
I	Special topics (course suffix; indicates different versions of the same course, e.g., HIST 297I, HIST 297K)	NC	Non-credit (level code)
I COL	Intercollege programs (college abbreviation)	NDEGR/C/H	Nondegree Regular/Conditional/High School (Classification of Undergraduate Students)
IB	International Baccalaureate Program	NG	No grade (grade reporting symbol)
IC	Intercollege programs (college code)	NK	New Kensington (campus code)
IL	International Cultures (General Education code)	NR	Nursing (college code)
INCP	Incomplete (grade reporting symbol)	NSO	New Student Orientation
INTG	Course is integrated with other courses (course characteristic)	OCLC	Course meets at an off-campus location (course characteristic)
IS	Information Sciences and Technology (college code)	ODS	Office for Disability Services
IST	Information Sciences and Technology (college abbreviation)	OSA	Office of Student Aid
ITS	Information Technology Services	OUR	Office of the University Registrar
IUG	Integrated undergraduate/graduate degree programs	P	Pass (noncredit course) (grade reporting symbol)
IVID	Course uses interactive video (course characteristic)	P	Practicum (or laboratory) section (course suffix)
J	Individualized instruction (course suffix)	PC	Penn College (Pennsylvania College of Technology; campus code)
K	Special topics (course suffix; indicates different versions of the same course, e.g., HIST 297I, HIST 297K)	PREQ	Course has prerequisites (course characteristic)
L	Lecture section (course suffix)	PS	Pass (pass/fail option) (grade reporting symbol)
LA	Liberal Arts (college code)	PSU	Pennsylvania State University
LEAP	Learning Edge Academic Program	Q	Inter-Domain and Honors course for General Education
LIAB	Course has liability attendance policy (course characteristic)	R	Recitation section (course suffix)
LV	Lehigh Valley (campus code)	R	Research (grade reporting symbol)
LW	Law (level code)	RAP	Recommended Academic Plan
		RI	Resident Instruction
		ROTC	Reserve Officers' Training Corps
		S	First-Year Seminar (course suffix)
		SA	Satisfactory achievement (grade reporting symbol)
		SATL	Course is offered at multiple locations via satellite uplink (course characteristic)
		SC	Science, Eberly College of (college code)

SCIEN	Science, Eberly College of (college abbreviation)
SEGM	Course is segmented (course characteristic)
SGPA	Semester grade-point average
SH	Shenango (campus code)
SI	Supplemental Instruction
SITE	Schreyer Institute for Teaching Excellence
SL	Schuylkill (campus code)
SLO	Special Living Options
SOTP	Student Orientation and Transition Programs
SRTE	Student Ratings of Teacher Effectiveness
SSSP	Student Support Services Program
T	First-Year Seminar and Honors (course suffix)
TMDT	Course has additional meeting times/dates (course characteristic)
U	United States Cultures/International Cultures and Honors (course suffix)
UAO	Undergraduate Admissions Office
UC	University College (college code)
UE	Undergraduate Education
UFO	University Fellowships Office
UG	Undergraduate (level code)
UG ND	Undergraduate non-degree (college code)
UN	Undergraduate nondegree (college code)
UN	Unsatisfactory achievement (grade reporting symbol)
UP	University Park (campus code)
UPUA	University Park Undergraduate Association
US	United States Cultures (General Education code)
W	Official withdrawal (grade reporting symbol)
W	Writing Across the Curriculum (course suffix)
WB	Wilkes-Barre (campus code)
WC	World Campus
WEB	Web course; offered entirely through the Internet (course characteristic)
WEP	Women in Engineering Program
WF	Withdrawn failing (grade reporting symbol)
WISE	Women in the Sciences and Engineering
WN	Withdrawn no grade (grade reporting symbol)

WP	Withdrawn passing (grade reporting symbol)
WS	Worthington Scranton (campus code)
X	Writing Across the Curriculum and First-Year Seminar (course suffix)
XC	State College Continuing Education (campus code)
XF	Failure, academic dishonesty (course grade)
XS	Foreign studies program (campus code)
Y	Writing Across the Curriculum course and United States Cultures/ International Cultures (course suffix)
YK	York (campus code)

Common abbreviations for course attributes and suffixes can be found in the University Course Descriptions (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/university-course-descriptions/>) section.