

# STOCKTON UNIVERSITY

## POLICY

### Academic Program Proposal, Maintenance, and Closure

Procedure Administrator:  
Provost/Associate Provost  
Authority:  
Effective Date:  
Index Cross-References: Policy I-1; Procedure:  
2040<sup>[BD1]</sup>  
Approved By:

All proposals for new academic programs/offerings shall adhere to the terms of this policy and the associated procedure for academic program proposal, maintenance, and closure.

### DEFINITIONS

#### A. Academic Programs

According to the Office of the (NJ) Secretary of Higher Education, a program is an academic curriculum that culminates in a degree (BA, BS, BFA, MA, MS, MBA, MFA, EdD, DPT, DNP, PhD, etc.). At Stockton, the Liberal Studies Bachelor of Arts ([LIBA](#)) is also considered a degree program.

#### B. Other Academic Offerings

Stockton offers academic programming that does not culminate in a degree. These other academic offerings may include:

##### 1. In-Program Minor

An in-program minor consists of a minimum of five courses in a program. At Stockton, some programs specify courses for a minor whereas other programs

allow students to choose their own five program courses to complete the minor. Stockton students declare in-program minors, and they appear on the student's official transcript; however, a student does not receive a degree for the minor; a student only receives a degree in a major program of study.

## 2. Interdisciplinary Minor

An interdisciplinary minor consists of a minimum of five General Studies courses or a minimum of five courses in more than a single program. Interdisciplinary minors do not usually have a corresponding degree-granting major. At Stockton, students declare interdisciplinary minors, and they appear on the student's official transcript; however, a student does not receive a degree for the minor; a student only receives a degree in a major program of study.

## 3. Concentrations/Tracks

Define concentration and track

Concentration does appear on transcript

Tracks at UG Don't, GRAD tracks do

## 4. Area of Specialization

A concentration (or terminology such as track, area of interest, or area of specialization) constitutes a cluster of four courses within a program. At Stockton, a concentration and a track are the same type of academic offering. Areas of specialization do not appear on a student's official transcript.

## 5. Areas of Interest

An area of interest is used to prepare students for graduate study or for a particular career. An area of interest consists of three or four courses in a major or minor focused on a field or discipline specific topic. An area of interest does not appear on a student's official transcript and is not a graduation requirement.

## 6. Certificates

According to the Office of the (NJ) Secretary of Higher Education, an academic certificate that carries college credit is a curriculum, oftentimes vocationally focused or intended for personal enrichment, that culminates in an official award or recognition from the University. Certificates appear on a student's official transcript.

## 6. P-12 Educational Endorsements

An endorsement is a group of courses in one or more majors and/or General Studies that meets the state Department of Education specifications for an official teaching endorsement. Endorsements do not appear on a student's official transcript.

## 7. Liberal Studies Bachelor of Arts (LIBA) Prompt/Pathway

The LIBA is a customizable degree program that permits students to create a fully individualized curriculum of study, created from courses within an academic School or College or by expanding an interdisciplinary minor into a curriculum similar to a major. A prompt/pathway is not synonymous with a concentration. The LIBA degree will appear on a student's official transcript; however, the specific prompt/pathway will not appear on a student's official transcript.

## 9. Miscellaneous Academic Offerings

At Stockton, there are a number of offerings that do not fall into the categories above, but that are considered non-degree granting programs. Honors, First-Year Studies, First-Year Seminars, etc. constitute this type of offering. Some miscellaneous academic offerings appear on the student's official transcript (Honors), and others do not (First-Year Studies).

## **POLICY**

### A. Review and Approval of New Academic Programs and Offerings

All new academic programs and offerings go through internal review, as well as a Provost and state approval processes.

### B. Life Cycle

The life cycle of an academic program or offering involves, for new programs and offerings, preparatory work, proposal, review, approval, and implementation. For existing programs, the life cycle involves annual reviews and five-year reporting; curriculum revision, updating, or redesign; and enrollment changes that might lead to suspension, change/consolidation, or closure.

### C. Reporting

Annual reviews and five-year reporting are required of all academic programs, interdisciplinary minors, and miscellaneous academic offerings.

<b>Approval History</b>	<b>Date</b>
Deans Council	
Provost Council	
Faculty Senate	
Provost	
President	