members of the military throughout the world. As an SOC member, Sul Ross State University recognizes the unique nature of the military lifestyle and has committed itself to easing the transfer of relevant course credits, providing flexible academic residency requirements, and crediting learning from appropriate military training and experiences when such actions are consistent with general University requirements stated elsewhere in this Catalog. Recognition will be given to educational experiences obtained in the Armed Services which are consistent with general University policies regarding admission procedures, transfer credit from other colleges and universities, and courses completed through the United States Armed Forces Institute (USAFAI), The College Level Examination Program (CLEP), and Defense Activity for Traditional Educational Support (DANTES), which are equivalent to CLEP credit awarded. SOC has been developed jointly by educational representatives of each of the Armed Services, the Office of the Secretary of Defense, and a consortium of thirteen leading national higher education associations. It is sponsored by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) and the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges (AACJC).

**Required Texas Core Curriculum**

Satisfactory completion of the Texas Core Curriculum is prescribed by the legislature and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for all recipients of a bachelor's degree granted by any public institution of higher education in the State of Texas. The Texas Core Curriculum establishes requirements in nine Foundational Component Areas. Since SRSU-RGC offers only upper level and graduate coursework, no specific courses are prescribed. Any student designated by any Texas public institution of higher education as "core complete" will be considered to have met the core curriculum requirements for any bachelor degree offered by SRSU-RGC.

Students who have met any of the Foundational Component Areas as designed by a Texas public institution of higher education will similarly have met that area for any bachelor degree offered through SRSU-RGC. All other students, including those with coursework from private or out-of-state institutions of higher education, will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

SRSU-RGC partners with Southwest Texas Junior College, an institution which offer a full range of courses to satisfy the requirements of the Texas Core Curriculum. Students are encouraged to complete the Texas Core Curriculum before transferring to SRSU-RGC. Students who have not completed the Texas Core Curriculum will be required to develop a plan to complete the requirement in consultation with their academic advisor. Students may also be required to complete departmental requirements depending on the program or major selected. In some cases departmental requirements may satisfy Core Curriculum requirements if students plan ahead properly.

The 42 hour required Texas Core Curriculum includes the following Foundational Component Areas:

**Communication (6 SCH)**

Courses in this category focus on developing ideas and expressing them clearly, considering the effect of the message, fostering understanding, and building the skills needed to communicate persuasively. Courses involve the command of oral, aural, written, and visual literacy skills that enable people to exchange messages appropriate to the subject, occasion, and audience.

**Mathematics (3 SCH)**

Courses in this category focus on quantitative literacy in logic, patterns, and relationships. Courses involve the understanding of key mathematical concepts and the application of appropriate quantitative tools to everyday situations.

**Life and Physical Sciences (6 SCH)**

Courses in this category focus on describing, explaining, and predicting natural phenomena using the scientific method. Courses involve the understanding of interactions among natural phenomena and the implications of scientific principles on the physical world and on human experiences.

**Language, Philosophy & Culture (3 SCH)**

Courses in this category focus on how ideas, values, beliefs, and other aspects of culture express and affect human experience. Courses involve the exploration of ideas that foster aesthetic and intellectual creation in order to understand the human condition across cultures.

**Creative Arts (3 SCH)**

Courses in this category focus on the appreciation and analysis of creative artifacts and works of the human imagination. Courses involve the synthesis and interpretation of artistic expression and enable critical, creative, and innovative communication about works of art.

**American History (6 SCH)**

Courses in this category focus on the consideration of past events and ideas relative to the United States, with the option of including Texas history for a portion of this component area. Courses involve the interaction among individuals, communities, states, the nation, and the world, considering how these interactions have contributed to the development of the United States and its global role.
Government/Political Science (6 SCH)
Courses in this category focus on consideration of the Constitution of the United States and the constitutions of the states, with special emphasis on that of Texas. Courses involve the analysis of governmental institutions, political behavior, civic engagement, and their political and philosophical foundations.

Social and Behavioral Sciences (3 SCH)
Courses in this category focus on the application of empirical and scientific methods that contribute to the understanding of what makes us human. Courses involve the exploration of behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events, examining their impact on the individual, society, and culture.

Component Area Option (6 SCH)
1. A minimum of 3 SCH must meet the definition and corresponding Core Objectives specified in one of the foundational component areas listed above.
2. As an option for up to 3 semester credit hours of the Component Area Option, an institution may select course(s) that:
   a. Meet(s) the definition specified for one or more of the foundational component areas; and
   b. Include(s) a minimum of three Core Objectives, including Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, and one of the remaining Core Objectives of the institution's choice.

For more information contact the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board at the website below:
http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/index.cfm?objectid=6F049CAE-F54E-26E4-ED9F0DAC62FABF7D

Note: Beginning in fall 2014, undergraduate students may not apply for graduation if the core curriculum requirements are not completed. Official transcripts must be sent to Sul Ross RGC for all courses taken at other colleges or universities.

Transfer Curriculum
Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College has an articulation agreement with Southwest Texas Junior College which allows students to complete a four-year degree without loss of credit, if the agreed plan is followed. The plans for each degree can be found on the RGC web site and from Admissions and Student Services offices at both institutions. Students having questions about the transferability of particular courses should consult the appropriate Department Chair, the Dean of the College, or the Director of Admissions and Records.

Graduate Programs
Graduate degrees are offered in Business, Counseling, Criminal Justice, Education, English, History, Public Administration, and School Administration. Some programs and courses are offered in conjunction with the main (Alpine) campus. Tuition and fees may vary; however, a Tuition Differential Rebate program is available for qualified persons.

Requirements for the Master of Arts in English, History, and Public Administration and Master of Science in Criminal Justice are listed in the Alpine catalog. Admission requirements for graduate study are the same as listed in this catalog.

Academic Regulations for Master's Degree Programs
Graduate programs provide opportunities for qualified students holding a baccalaureate degree to continue studies toward a master's degree. Advisors in each department offering master's degrees provide direct counseling to students in their major fields. Students desiring to pursue work in a teacher certification program at the graduate level are also advised by the Chair of the Education Department. Each graduate student is assigned a committee of faculty members when the student's degree plan is approved, and the student must complete all assigned work and receive the recommendations of the committee and the Dean before a degree can be awarded.

The Nature and Purpose of Graduate Work
Graduate study provides an opportunity for strengthening the academic and professional competence of students with superior ability. It is assumed that the student has a background of knowledge, preparation and skills necessary to carry on independent research and personal development with a high degree of self-direction and enthusiasm. Graduate study should inspire independence of thought and originality in the search for knowledge and truth. Such study demands a great deal of discipline. The graduate program is committed to the following aims:
- To broaden students' perspective in order that they may render greater service and increase their satisfaction in living;
- To deepen their knowledge of their own specialization;
- To improve their use of the tools of learning so that they may be able to address problems of further preparation independently;
To promote the critical and analytical approach to examinations of subject matter and professional performance;
To encourage the inquiring mind and the application of intellectual curiosity to research problems; and
To provide continuing support in lifetime educational goals beyond the master's degree.

A course for graduate students only (numbered 5000 or above) is a highly advanced and specialized course, demanding much on the part of students and instructors. Emphasis is usually placed on critical analysis and research. Graduate courses are conducted in various ways: as advanced lecture courses, as seminars, as independent study or reading courses, and as research projects.

Catalog Requirements for Graduation
To receive a degree from Sul Ross State University, a student must complete all requirements for the degree as stated in a particular University catalog. The student has the choice of graduating under the catalog in force at the time of first registering at Sul Ross State University (provided the student has been continuously enrolled) or any subsequent catalog.

Graduate Credit
Half credit may be given for graduate courses seven to ten years old upon recommendation by the major advisor. No graduate credit will be given for courses over ten years old.

Although courses over ten years old at the time of graduation may not be counted toward the master's degree, certain of these courses may be used to fulfill requirements for teaching certificates and endorsements with the approval of the Chair of Education.

Time Limit for Completion of Degrees

Undergraduate
All requirements for the degree must be completed within six (6) years from the date of the catalog the student selects for their degree plan.

Graduate
All graduate degrees must be completed within six (6) years from the date of the student's initial enrollment for a graduate course(s).

Requirements for a Second Baccalaureate Degree
A student who holds one baccalaureate degree from Sul Ross State University or from any college or university that is a member of a regional accredited association may receive a second baccalaureate degree by completing the following requirements:
1. A minimum of thirty semester credit hours, including twenty-four semester credit hours of advanced work at SRSU-RGC;
2. Completion of requirement in the major subject field, including a minimum of 18 semester credit hours of advanced work; and
3. Completion of all other requirements of the degree sought as outlined in the current University catalog.

Requirements for a Second Master's Degree
Subject to the approval by the Department Chair, a student holding a valid Master's degree from an accredited graduate institution within the past ten years may apply certain courses which were a part of the first Master's degree toward a second Master's degree. Generally, these previously applied semester hours will be applied toward a minor or related field of study. The number of semester hours so permitted will be:
1. For 36 semester hour programs, no more than 12 semester hours of approved courses with no grade of less than B in each, including all extension and transfer work; or
2. For 30 semester-hour programs, no more than nine semester hours of approved courses with no grade of less than B in each, including all extension and transfer work.
3. All remaining courses necessary to complete the second Master's degree must be resident credit courses at Sul Ross State University as this provision is subject to the rules governing the maximum amount of transfer and extension work which may be applied toward any Master's degree. A grade point average of 3.0 must be maintained in these courses, exclusive of the work accepted in a and b above.

Undergraduate Courses for Graduate Credit
Certain upper-level undergraduate courses which are taught by members of the graduate faculty may be taken for graduate credit upon consent of the instructor of the course and approval of the graduate major advisor. Graduate students allowed to take undergraduate courses for graduate credit must do additional work beyond
that required of undergraduates in the course. This work may consist of a documented paper or equivalent and/or other assignments deemed appropriate by the instructor. A description of the additional work must be on file in the departmental office by the 12th/4th class day via reporting forms which are available in the departmental offices. Once a student has begun an undergraduate course for graduate credit, the course must be completed as a graduate course.

Application for Graduation
Forms may be obtained from the Associate Provost/Dean of Rio Grande College or any of the Business Services offices at any of the three sites. A diploma fee of $30.00 is required. A student is expected to submit an application for graduation during the semester preceding the final semester of enrollment. Students who are not able to complete degree requirements as planned will re-submit the application during the semester or summer term at the end of which they expect to graduate. Applications which must be re-submitted require a $5.00 diploma insert fee. The University Calendar at the front of this catalog should be consulted for a specific deadline for applying to graduate. Students applying after the posted deadline for application in the Academic Calendar must also pay a $50.00 late application fee.

Note: Beginning in fall 2014, undergraduate students may not apply for graduation if the core curriculum requirements are not completed. Official transcripts must be sent to Sul Ross RGC for all courses taken at other colleges or universities.

Commencement
Commencement in the University is held each May for spring graduates and in December for graduates from the summer and fall terms. Students are expected to participate in the commencement ceremony appropriate to the semester of graduation. The degree will be posted to the Sul Ross transcript at the semester in which the degree is conferred. Students may elect to participate in the commencement ceremony in Alpine the semester of graduation. Dates are listed in the University calendar in the front of this Catalog.

Graduation with Honors
Special recognition at graduation is provided to those undergraduate students who compile outstanding academic records. Academic honors will be based on the student’s grade point average for all work attempted at Sul Ross State University. That average is set for commencement ceremonies as the grade point average of the semester prior to commencement, but students whose final grade point average merits honors have that honor posted on their transcript. The transcript is the only place where graduation with honors is noted. Nothing is placed on the diploma to indicate honors. Each student receiving a degree conferred cum laude, magna cum laude, or summa cum laude will receive a medallion, which symbolizes academic excellence. The distinction and corresponding grade point averages are cum laude-3.50 to 3.69; magna cum laude-3.70 to 3.89; summa cum laude-3.90 to 4.00.

Bachelor Degrees and Majors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business Administration</td>
<td>BBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>BS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
<td>BS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>BA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>BA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdisciplinary Studies</td>
<td>BA/BS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>BS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>BA</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>BSN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emphasis</th>
<th>Degree Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Development</td>
<td>BAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizational Leadership</td>
<td>BAS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Teacher Certification Areas

**Elementary**
- EC-6 Generalist
- EC-6 Bilingual Generalist
- 4-8 Generalist
- 4-8 Bilingual Generalist
- 4-8 English Language Arts & Reading
- 4-8 Mathematics
- 4-8 Social Studies

**Secondary**
- English (7-12)
- History (7-12)
- Social Studies (7-12)
- Spanish (EC-12)
- English/Language Arts & Reading (7-12)
- Mathematics (7-12)
- Business Education (6-12)
- Science (7-12)

Masters Degrees and Specializations

**Master of Arts**
- English
- History
- Public Administration (Political Science)

**Master of Business Administration**
- General Business

**Master of Education Degrees**
- Counseling
- Education
- Specializations:
  - Bilingual
  - Reading Specialist
- School Administration

**Master of Science**
- Criminal Justice
- Health and Human Performance

Undergraduate Degree Requirements

Requirements for all Bachelor of Arts Degrees
Core Curriculum (see page 37)
See "Required Texas Core Curriculum Section."

Departmental requirements
Departmental requirements are specified for each major by the department offering the major. In some cases, departmental requirements may be used to meet Core Curriculum requirements. Departmental requirements must be met even if the student met a specific Core Curriculum requirement with a different course.

Major
A. Students must complete a major of at least thirty semester credit hours, but no more than thirty-six of required courses, including a minimum of eighteen hours of advanced coursework in residence at SRSU-RGC. An exception is the broad field program in Social Science which requires a minimum of forty-eight semester credit hours but not more than sixty.

B. Majors may be selected from the following disciplines:
- English
- History
- Social Science
- Interdisciplinary Studies
- Psychology
- Spanish

Minor
A. Students must complete a minor (except majors with secondary teacher education certification as well as Interdisciplinary Studies and Social Science majors) of at least eighteen semester credit hours, including a minimum of nine semester credit hours of advanced coursework in residence at SRSU-RGC. A maximum of nine semester credit hours of transfer courses can be used.
B. Minors may be selected from any of the disciplines listed above which qualify for a major, except Social Science or Interdisciplinary Studies, or from any of the following:
   Business Administration  Mathematics
   Criminal Justice  Biology
C. Students pursuing teacher certification are not required to have a minor.

Additional Requirements
A. Electives must be completed to accumulate a minimum of 120 semester credit hours. Students in Teacher Certification Programs must complete a minimum of six semester credit hours of electives.
B. A cumulative grade point average of 2.0, including a minimum of 2.0 in both the major and the minor, is required for graduation. A minimum of 2.5 is required for certification in each of the teaching fields, in teacher certification degree programs, or in the academic support area for Interdisciplinary Studies majors.
C. A minimum of thirty-nine (39) advanced semester credit hours must be completed.
D. A minimum of thirty (30) semester credit hours must be earned in courses taken at SRSU-RGC.

Students should request a degree plan from their major advisor as soon as possible upon acceptance. This should be done at the beginning of the first semester of enrollment.

Requirements for Bachelor of Applied Science Degree
A. Required Texas Core Curriculum (see page 37)
B. Minimum of 10 years of relevant work experience. Relevant experience is defined as previous learning suitable for submission as Prior Learning Experience (PLA) yielding at least 9 semester hours of credit through LearningCounts.org on an online portfolio assessment service provided by Council of Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) or equivalent recognized assessment process. CAEL and LearningCounts.org are nationally recognized authorities for assessment of Prior Learning. CAEL's quality principles are recognized by all regional accrediting bodies. LearningCounts works with students to demonstrate their learning for college credit recommendations. Successful students will receive a transcript documenting their prior learning, acceptable for transfer of credit. Website: www.learningcounts.org shows students what is required and the process.
C. Students must choose either the Child Development emphasis or the Organizational Leadership emphasis. See pages 76 and 77 for specific classes required.

Students should request a degree plan from their major advisor as soon as possible upon acceptance. This should be done at the beginning of the first semester of enrollment.

Requirements for Bachelor of Business Administration Degree

Core Curriculum (see page 37)

Major
Students must complete 62 semester credit hours in the broad field Business Administration major, including a minimum of thirty hours at the advanced level and twelve advanced hours at SRSU-RGC.

Students must complete at least 32 semester credit hours of core courses in Business Administration.

All courses completed in Business Administration, required or not, count toward the total semester credit hours allowed in the major.

Minor
A minor is not required.

Additional Requirements
A. In addition to the General Education and major requirements, students must complete sufficient electives to present a minimum total of 120 semester credit hours for the degree.
B. In order to be eligible to graduate, the student must complete all course requirements with a cumulative grade point average of 2.0, including a minimum of 2.0 in both the major and the minor (if selected).
C. A minimum of thirty-nine advanced semester credit hours must be completed, including at least 15 at Sul Ross State University.
D. A minimum of 30 semester credit hours must be completed at SRSU-RGC.
E. At least 24 semester credit hours of the last 30 presented for a degree must be at SRSU-RGC. Courses required for the degree but not offered by Sul Ross State University-Rio Grande College are not included as a part of these hours.
F. Under no circumstances may more than 65 of the total semester credit hours required for a degree be presented in one discipline.

Students should request a degree plan from their major advisor as soon as possible upon acceptance. This should be done at the beginning of the first semester of enrollment.

Requirements for the Bachelor of Science Degree

Core Curriculum (see page 37)

Major
Students must complete a major of at least 30 semester credit hours but no more than 48 semester credit hours of required courses, including a minimum of eighteen hours of advanced coursework at SRSU-RGC.

Majors may be selected from the following disciplines:
- Biology
- Criminal Justice
- Mathematics

Minor
A. Except in the Interdisciplinary Studies program a student must complete a minor of at least eighteen semester credit hours, including a minimum of nine semester credit hours of advanced coursework at SRSU-RGC. A maximum of nine semester credit hours of transfer courses can be used.
B. Minors may be selected from any of the disciplines listed above which qualify for a major, except Social Science or Interdisciplinary Studies, or from any of the following:
   - Business Administration
   - Mathematics
   - English
   - History
   - Psychology
   - Spanish
   - Criminal Justice
   - Biology
C. Students pursuing teacher certification are not required to have a minor.

Additional Requirements
A. Electivee must be completed to present a minimum total of 120 semester credit hours for the degree.
B. A cumulative grade point average of 2.0, including a minimum of 2.0 in both the major and the minor is required for graduation. A minimum of 2.5 is required for certification in each of the teaching fields in teacher certification degree programs, or, for majors in Interdisciplinary Studies in the academic support area.
C. A minimum of 39 advanced semester credit hours must be completed.
D. A minimum of 30 semester credit hours must be completed at SRSU-RGC.

Students should request a degree plan from their major advisor as soon as possible upon acceptance. This should be done at the beginning of the first semester of enrollment.

Requirements for Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree

Core Curriculum (see page 37)

Additional Requirements
1. A minimum of 42 hours of college level, transferable semester credit hours with a 2.0 GPA from an accredited college or university and in good standing at the previous institution;
2. Must have a 3.0 GPA in previous nursing courses;
3. Must be eligible to enroll in upper level courses;
4. Must hold a current, valid RN license from the State of Texas; and
5. 39 Advanced hours from SRSU-RGC.

Students should request a degree plan from their major advisor as soon as possible upon acceptance. This should be done at the beginning of the first semester of enrollment.