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Steven W. Cheung  
Chair, Assembly of the  
Academic Senate  
Faculty Representative,  
UC Board of Regents  
Academic Senate

Office of the President  
1111 Franklin Street  
Oakland, CA 94607

[senate.universityofcalifornia.edu](https://senate.universityofcalifornia.edu)

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February 4, 2025

Academic Senate Division Chairs

Re: Credit for University of California Center Sacramento Courses

Dear Division Chairs,

At its January 29, 2025 meeting, the Academic Council endorsed a letter from the University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP) regarding articulation for courses offered through the University of California Center Sacramento (UCCS). UCEP highlights the importance of ensuring that UCCS courses can count toward students' graduation requirements, particularly upper-division elective credits within their majors. The systemwide committee encourages departments to adopt a generous approach when evaluating UCCS courses and to consider implementing pre-approval processes to enhance transparency of course articulations and support student success.

This letter is timely in light of recent efforts to reinvigorate and grow the UCCS program. At the December 18, 2024 Council meeting, the co-chairs of the UCCS Academic Program Modeling Workgroup discussed several barriers to increasing student enrollment in the program, including the difficulty students face in obtaining credit toward their major requirements for completion of UCCS coursework. Council members noted that many departments require petitions to award credit for UCCS courses, particularly for upper-division electives, which can discourage otherwise interested students from participating in the program. Council agreed that greater flexibility and alignment across campuses could foster broader student engagement. To support the integration of UCCS courses into students' academic plans, we encourage divisional Senates to work with departments to:

- Develop clear policies for pre-approving UCCS courses to satisfy major and upper-division elective requirements.
- Promote greater awareness of the UCCS program among faculty and advisors to encourage student participation.

- Address concerns about the impact of students' UCCS participation on time-to-degree by identifying pathways for seamless course articulation.

The Council recognizes the benefits UCCS offers in providing experiential learning opportunities and fostering student engagement with California public policy. Please consider disseminating these recommendations to relevant departments to support student and program success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven W. Cheung". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Steven W. Cheung  
Chair, Academic Council

Encl.

cc: Provost and Executive Vice President Newman  
Interim Vice Provost Haynes  
Senate Executive Director Lin



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UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY (UCEP)

Rachael Goodhue, Chair  
[goodhue@primal.ucdavis.edu](mailto:goodhue@primal.ucdavis.edu)

January 8, 2025

Steven W. Cheung  
Chair, UC Academic Council

RE: Credit for University of California Center Sacramento Courses

Dear Steven,

The University of California Center Sacramento (UCCS) provides a valuable opportunity for UC students to engage in experiential learning related to policymaking for the State of California. One of the challenges facing students who want to participate in this opportunity is whether or not the credits they earn at UCCS “count” towards graduation requirements. Importantly, the nature of “counting” is not simply the number of credits. It’s whether or not the credits can be included as meeting major requirements.

UCEP encourages departments to be generous when considering the possibility that UCCS credits may be able to meet upper-division elective requirements. In addition, the committee suggests that departments implement a process to pre-approve UCCS courses to ensure that the type of credit that will be awarded is transparent. We offer these recommendations in the context of finding ways to help improve time to degree and promote student success. The committee asks that Academic Council endorse our recommendation and transmit this memo to the divisional Senate chairs for dissemination to departments.

UCEP appreciates the opportunity to opine on this matter. Don’t hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Rachael Goodhue, Chair  
UCEP