

2006-2007 GUIDELINES FOR THE CUSTOMIZED MAJOR:

1. A person with clearly defined academic objectives not readily achievable through an existing SB degree program may receive a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree from the School of Business after the completion of a special curriculum approved by the SB dean and faculty.

2. A customized major program is designed to meet needs not fully met by existing curricula. Its curriculum must not simply duplicate that of an existing university degree program. It should, however, compare favorably in coherence, scope, and rigor with other baccalaureate curricula of the university. It should offer the breadth necessary to a truly liberal education.

3. A person desiring to propose a customized major should ordinarily do so by the beginning of the first quarter of her or his junior year, though the SB faculty may approve subsequent initiation dates under appropriate circumstances.

4. A committee of two to four members, nominated by the person proposing the customized major and approved by the SB faculty, will guide the student in her or his completion of the major. The committee members must approve the proposed curriculum by majority vote before it is submitted to the SB faculty for approval. If 12 units or more of the proposed curriculum are offered by a school of the university other than the SB, a member of the faculty of that school must be a member of the guidance committee. The committee chair will serve as academic advisor. Once approved, a customized major curriculum may be altered with the approval of the guidance committee and the SB dean.

5. A customized major proposal submitted to the SB faculty should include:

- a. A list of the courses to be included in the program, including any cognates, a baccalaureate thesis if appropriate and if necessary, alternate courses to be completed if proposed courses are not available, and an indication of the sequence in which requirements will be completed;
- b. A description of the program's intended academic focus and the goals it is intended to serve;
- c. A rationale for the details of the program;
- d. A title for the program, which will appear on the student's diploma and transcript if the program is approved;
- e. Documents or other materials supportive of the proposal; and
- f. A written evaluation by each member of the guidance committee.

6. The proposed curriculum must include a substantial number of courses in business, but may also include courses in other areas. A customized curriculum might entail work in the School of Business and any other program: the School of Education (e.g., Educational Leadership), the School of Religion (e.g., Urban Development, Business Ethics), the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science (e.g., Management Information Systems), the Department of English and Communication (e.g., Public Relations), the Department of Modern Languages (e.g. Intercultural Marketing), the Department of Music (e.g. Music Management), the Department of History, Politics, and Society (e.g. Political Economy, Public Policy, Business History), the Department of Health, Exercise Science, and Athletics (e.g. Sports Management), or the Program in Philosophical Studies (e.g. Business Ethics).

7. Completion of the proposed Customized major must require at least 52 quarter units. No more than 12 of the units to be applied to the major may also be used to fulfill general education requirements. At least 32 of the units must be upper-division. Each student must complete 1 unit of MGMT 219 for every three quarters of residence at La Sierra University.

8. The SB faculty must approve the title of the proposed major program, which will appear on the student's transcript and diploma. Subsequent changes in the program title must also be approved by the guidance committee and the dean.

9. The SB faculty is responsible for certifying the academic quality of any customized major it approves. Thus, it may require revisions in a proposal, reject it, and require changes in the program guidance committee.

10. While the SB and the university will attempt to ensure that a person whose customized major program has been approved will be able to complete the program on schedule, the approval of the customized major program constitutes only a commitment on the university's part to make the best effort possible to ensure the program's completion, not a guarantee that the courses included in the proposal or others to be substituted for them will be available at the times required for the major to be completed as planned.

11. The dean will notify the Office of the Registrar as soon as the SB faculty has approved a customized major program.