

**2009-2010 GUIDELINES FOR THE CUSTOMIZED MAJOR:**

1. A student 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's office.
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 and should offer the breadth necessary to a liberal education.
3. A student 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 Dean's office may approve subsequent initiation dates under appropriate circumstances.
4. A customized major proposal submitted to the SB faculty should include:
  - a. A sequenced 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;
  - 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
5. 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 other programs including: the School of Education, e.g., educational leadership; the School of Religion, e.g., urban development or 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 World 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, or business history; the Department of Health and Exercise Science, e.g. Sports Management; or the Program in Philosophical Studies, e.g. Business Ethics.
6. 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.
7. The SB Dean's office 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 Dean's office.

*For additional Guidelines, see next page*

## **CUSTOMIZED MAJOR, SB**

*B.A. or B.S. Degree*

8. 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 entirely.

9. While the SB and the University will attempt to ensure that a student 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.

10. The Dean will notify the Office of Admissions and Records upon the approval of a customized major program for a student.

### **SOURCES OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

*Websites:*

**La Sierra University**

<http://www.lasierra.edu/>

**School of Business**

<http://www.lasierra.edu/sbm/>

*School Contacts:*

**Dean:**

**John Thomas, Ph.D.**

**Coordinator:**

**Gary Chartier, J.D., Ph.D.**

**Location:**

**School of Business**

**951-785-2060**

*Professional Organizations:*

**American Economic Association**

**2014 Broadway, Suite 305**

**Nashville, TN 37203**

<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA/>

**American Management Association**

**1601 Broadway**

**New York, NY 10019-7420**

<http://www.amanet.org>

**National Management Association**

**2210 Arbor Blvd.**

**Dayton, OH 45439**

<http://www.nmal.org>

**Academic Advising  
Center for Student Academic Success  
Sierra Vista Hall, Room 114  
(951) 785-2452**

**LA SIERRA  
UNIVERSITY**