

Student Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

We recognize that the decision to discontinue certain academic majors is a significant change. This FAQ document is designed to provide affected students with information and resources to navigate the transition.

1. Why is Sonoma State University discontinuing select majors?

The decision to discontinue certain majors was made after a thorough review of the university's financial priorities and long-term sustainability. While this decision is difficult and impacts students, faculty, and staff, we are committed to supporting all affected students through this transition to ensure they achieve their academic and personal goals.

2. Which majors are being discontinued and when will the changes take effect?

Majors to be eliminated: Administrative Services Credential in Education Leadership; Applied Statistics BA; Art History BA; Art Studio BFA; Executive MBA; Dance BA; Earth and Environmental Sciences BA; Economics BA; Education Leadership MA; English MA; French BA; Geology BS; Global Studies BA; History MA; Interdisciplinary Studies BA and BS; Interdisciplinary Studies MA and MS; Philosophy BA; Physical Science BA; Physics BA; Physics BS; Public Administration MPA; Spanish MA; Theatre Arts BA; Women's and Gender Studies BA.

Minors identified for elimination: Art History, Economics, French, Geology, German Cultural Studies, Global Studies, Interdisciplinary Studies, Museum and Gallery Studies, Paleontology, Philosophy, Queer Studies, Theatre Arts, Women's and Gender Studies

Changes will take place for Fall 2025. Students in majors that are closing can follow a pathway to graduate in their current major if they are within 60 units of completing all requirements for graduation by the end of Spring 2025 so they can follow a pathway to graduating within two years (by the end of the Spring 2027 semester).. Students who are not within 60 units of graduation or are otherwise unable to follow a pathway to graduating within two years will be required to change majors by May 22, 2025 (the end of the Spring 2025 semester).

3. My program was listed in the President's Message to campus. What do I need to do right now?

Each student's educational path is unique so you may need to consult several offices on campus to get all the answers you need. It may be best to start with talking to your

advisor, either your professional or your faculty advisor. Professional academic advisors will be available to provide advising support for students in majors that are closing. Please see University Advising or advisors in your College for the following:

- General academic advising
- Major exploration at Sonoma State
- ARR Review of requirements
- Guidance on appropriate points of contact for major specific questions, teach out plans and graduation timelines.

Find your advisor: <https://advising.sonoma.edu/find-your-advisor>

4. Will I be able to finish my current degree program?

Yes, in some cases. Students who are within 60 units of graduation by the end of Spring 2025 can finish their current degrees. Students who are not within 60 units of graduation or are otherwise unable to follow a pathway to graduating within two years will need to change majors by May 22, 2025 (the end of the Spring 2025 semester).

5. How do I make sure I understand how many units I have left to complete my requirements?

Please work with your advisor or faculty in the major you are interested in to ensure an accurate understanding of your progress to date. You can find your advisor here: <https://advising.sonoma.edu/find-your-advisor>. Contact universityadvising@sonoma.edu with any additional advising questions.

6. Can I switch to another major at Sonoma State?

Yes, students are encouraged to explore other majors that align with their interests and career goals. You can contact your assigned advisor to work with you to identify other major options and ensure a smooth transition. Find your Advisor at <https://advising.sonoma.edu/find-your-advisor>

7. What if I want to transfer to another institution?

While we encourage you to explore alternate majors here at Sonoma State, we understand you may decide to transfer. We are here to help but also encourage you to work directly with the institution you are considering transferring to for specific transfer requirements and academic advising.

For help requesting transcripts and other necessary documents, please order official transcripts on the Registrar's website [Transcripts | Office of the Registrar at Sonoma State University](#) or contact the Registrar's Office at registrar@sonoma.edu

8. What support will be available to help students who may need to choose a new major?

University Advising and CAASE will host drop-in advising starting January 22, 2025 from 9am-4pm. Additionally, Academic Programs will be hosting a majors fair in April 2025 (date to be announced).

9. What can I expect in terms of course scheduling for Fall 2025?

There may be some changes to the regular course schedule for your major in Fall 2025. Faculty and professional advisors can help you navigate the courses available for you to complete your degree. You will also have the opportunity to take courses online from other CSU campuses through CSU Fully Online.

10. Will my financial aid or scholarships be impacted?

Each student's situation is unique. For specific questions about your financial aid and scholarships please contact the Financial Aid Office at finaid@sonoma.edu or (707) 664-2389 or go to the [Financial Aid Office Hours](#)

11. Will fees be waived for students adding or dropping courses after the deadline this Spring semester?

This semester, students will have until February 17, 2025 to drop courses without fees, and they can add courses with no fees through February 4, 2025.

12. What academic and advising support will be available during this transition?

Professional academic advisors will be available to provide advising support for students in majors that are closing. Please see University Advising or advisors in your College for the following:

- General academic advising
- Major exploration at Sonoma State
- ARR Review of requirements
- Guidance on appropriate points of contact for major specific questions, teach out plans and graduation timelines.

Find your advisor: <https://advising.sonoma.edu/find-your-advisor>

13. What resources are available for emotional support?

We understand that this transition can be challenging. Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) is available to provide support.

- **Schedule an appointment:** caps@sonoma.edu
- **Crisis support:** Call (707) 664-2153

14. Will Sonoma State provide career guidance for students in discontinued majors?

Yes, the Career Center will offer drop-in and one-on-one appointments to help students in discontinued majors explore new career pathways and opportunities. Contact the Career Center at Careercenter@sonoma.edu or (707) 664-2153 for more information.

15. Who can I contact for more information?

- University Advising General Advising Support: (707) 664-2730
- CAASE General advising Support: (707) 664 -2427
- Financial Aid Questions: Financial Aid Office (707) 664-2389
- Emotional Support: Counseling and Psychological Services caps@sonoma.edu

We are here to support you during this transition and ensure you have the resources needed to achieve your academic and career goals.

For questions not answered in this document, please send an email to questions@sonoma.edu.