

## 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.

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- **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.

- **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).

- **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>

- **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).

- **I am in a major that is closing. I will not be within 60 units by the end of Spring 2025, but I’m very close, and I know I can follow the teach-out plan (available by March 30). Can I remain in my major?**

Students who are not within 60 units of graduating will be automatically transferred to a new major at the end of the Spring 2025 semester. If you would like an exception, please consult with your advisor to confirm you can follow the teach-out plan (available by March 30), then contact [academicprograms@sonoma.edu](mailto:academicprograms@sonoma.edu) to make the exception request.

- **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](mailto:universityadvising@sonoma.edu) with any additional advising questions.

- **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>.

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

Students are encouraged to meet with their advisor. Additionally, Academic Programs will be hosting a workshop on Selecting a Major on April 2.

- **Will additional majors be cut in the future?**

There are no plans for additional academic program cuts.

- **I am in a minor that is being discontinued. Can I still complete my minor?**

Yes, students who are planning to complete a discontinuing minor will need to consult with the teach-out plan for the related major (available by March 30) and take care to enroll in the final offerings of the courses required for the minor.

- **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](mailto:registrar@sonoma.edu).

- **Are there still CSU campuses accepting transfer applications?**

Yes. Many CSU campuses are still open and accepting transfer applications. We encourage students to explore their options by visiting the [CSU Application Dates & Deadlines page](#), which provides a full list of campuses, deadlines, and eligibility details.

- **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](mailto:finaid@sonoma.edu) or (707) 664-2389 or go to the [Financial Aid Office Hours](#)

- **Will a fee be charged to petition to add or drop a class after the deadline this Spring semester?**

This semester students have until February 4, 2025 to add or drop a course online. From February 5, 2025 to February 17, 2025, students can withdraw from a course with a W online or petition to add a course by completing a Petition to Add [form](#). A fee will not be charged to students who petition to add a course or drop with a W online during this timeline.

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

- **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](mailto:caps@sonoma.edu)
- **Crisis support:** Call (707) 664-2153

- **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](mailto:Careercenter@sonoma.edu) or (707) 664-2153 for more information.

- **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](mailto: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](mailto:questions@sonoma.edu).

- **Are these cuts a sign that SSU will be going away in the near future?**

Absolutely not. SSU has no plans to close. Indeed, the goal of making these cuts is to preserve the long-term financial stability of the University.

### **Can I withdraw from the University and receive a tuition refund?**

Students wishing to withdraw from Sonoma State are directed to the Office of the [Registrar's Withdrawals webpage](#). Students may also contact the Office of the Registrar for guidance on their particular circumstances.