

**2.7.2** Offers degree programs that embody a coherent course of study that is compatible with its stated mission and is based upon fields of study appropriate to higher education. **(Program content)**

**Compliance Status:** Compliance

As noted in its [mission statement](#), the College of Coastal Georgia, a member of the USG, “offers targeted baccalaureate programs of study, pre-baccalaureate programs of study for transfer, associate of arts and associate of science degrees and serves as a portal to graduate education.”

To fulfill this mission, the College offers pre-baccalaureate associate of arts and associate of science degrees as a sequence of courses designed to prepare the student for upper division coursework at either the College or upon transfer to another institution. Within the curricula for these degrees, sequences of courses and the associated prerequisites are identified.

Freshman and sophomore courses can be identified by a common numbering system with courses numbered 1000-1999 being designated as freshman level and those numbered 2000-2999 as sophomore level. The College also offers four career associate degree programs: clinical laboratory technology, hospitality management, nursing (RN), and radiologic science. Each program has its own program purpose and design as described in the [2010-2011 College of Coastal Georgia Catalog](#). The career associate degree coursework is sequenced in a logical manner with defined core curriculum.

Baccalaureate degree programs are built upon a strong [core curriculum](#) foundation. Each of the programs includes a general education core of 42 hours, with an additional 18 hours in the discipline, two hours of physical education, 21 semester hours of upper division courses in the major field, and at least 39 hours of upper division work overall. Appropriate prerequisites and course sequences are identified in both the general education core and in the major and listed in the *2010-2011 College of Coastal Georgia Catalog*.

### Program Review

According to USG Board of Regents, all programs are reviewed every seven years following the [Academic Program Review](#) process, which is discussed more fully in [Core Requirement 2.5](#). This self-study review includes outside peer reviews, internal reviews, and an action plan. Additionally, the preservation of the quality of the College’s academic programs is further maintained through professional peer review and scrutiny of [discipline-specific accredited programs](#) at the institution.

**Degree Program Development**

In addition to the College's comprehensive curriculum development process, all degree programs must be approved by the USG Board of Regents to ensure that new majors are established only after a thorough and comprehensive analysis by the College faculty and administration, as well as the USG Academic Affairs Division and peers across the USG.

Recent baccalaureate degree program developments have followed the requirements of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), the Georgia Board of Nursing, the National League for Nursing, and the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) guidelines for the business administration programs, and the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education.

To ensure that the degree requirements and course offerings for each major are properly designed, the College follows this procedure:

- All curriculum proposals developed within an academic department are first reviewed and approved by the School Dean, and then submitted to the Vice President for Academic Affairs to review for completeness.
- The proposal is then submitted to the Senate Curriculum Committee for review and approval. Recommendations from the Senate Curriculum Committee are sent to the Faculty Senate for review and approval.
- The Faculty Senate reviews the recommendations from the Curriculum Committee, and if approved, forwards the recommendation to the President.
- If the President approves the proposal, it is forwarded to the USG Board of Regents for final review and approval.

**New Degree Programs**

In March 2011, the College received approval from the USG Board of Regents for two new baccalaureate degree programs to begin Fall Semester 2011. The Office of Institutional Effectiveness will submit a SACSCOC Substantive Change Prospectus for each program in April 2011.

The new degree programs include:

- Bachelor of Science in Psychology
  - The program will consist of three areas of concentration: 1) an interdisciplinary concentration in the Psychology of Human Services, an emerging field at the intersection of psychology, health, and business; 2) an interdisciplinary concentration in Organizational and Community Leadership, an applied field based in organizational and community psychology and business; and 3) a traditional baccalaureate concentration in General Psychology

- Bachelor of Science in Mathematics with a Secondary Education in Mathematics track and a Mathematics track
  - The Secondary Education track will prepare future secondary mathematics teachers for the southeastern region of Georgia and beyond
  - The Mathematics track will prepare students to successfully pursue occupations in various industry and government positions requiring bachelor-level proficiency in the mathematical sciences, or graduate education in the mathematical sciences and engineering

**Fields of Study**

All associate and baccalaureate degree programs at the College “are based upon fields of study appropriate to higher education” as noted and described in the [National Center for Education Statistics Classification of Instructional Programs \(CIP-2010\)](#), a “taxonomic scheme that supports the accurate tracking and reporting of fields of study and program completions activity,” according to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System.

**Supporting Documentation**

[College of Coastal Georgia mission statement](#)

[2010-2011 College of Coastal Georgia Catalog](#)

[College of Coastal Georgia core curriculum](#)

[USG Academic Affairs Handbook, Section 2.3.6](#)

[College of Coastal Georgia discipline-specific accreditation programs list](#)

[National Center for Education Statistics Classification of Instructional Programs \(CIP-2010\)](#)