**Definitions and Requirements for Certificate Programs**

**March 21, 2016**

**Undergraduate Certificates**

These programs are for bachelor’s degree seeking undergraduate students and provide a significant interdisciplinary academic experience intended complement the major, broaden career possibilities, or allow study in an area of interest from a variety of perspectives. Students will be awarded the certificate and receive official recognition on their transcript when they graduate with a bachelor’s degree. These certificate programs require:

* courses from at least two disciplines, i.e. distinct departments
* 15 credits minimum
* 24 credits maximum
* At least 2 courses at the junior level or above.

**Graduate Certificates**

In order to differentiate graduate certificate programs, certificate program names must be unique across all graduate certificate program types.

1. Interdisciplinary certificates

These programs provide a significant interdisciplinary academic experience intended to complement a major program of study, broaden career possibilities, or allow students to study an area of interest from a variety of perspectives and may be for degree and/or non-degree seeking students. Graduate interdisciplinary certificates require:

* courses from at least two disciplines, i.e. distinct departments
* 14 credit minimum
* 20 credit maximum

1. Specialized certificates

These programs are not required to be interdisciplinary, but provide an opportunity for skill development or achievement often for non-degree-seeking students in the workforce and may be related to external agency licensure, endorsements1, or certifications., but they may also be available to degree-seeking students. Graduate specialized certificates require:

* 9 credit minimum
* 20 credit maximum

1. Specialized stackable certificates

These programs should provide a coherent academic course of study that may be within a single discipline or program, or may be multidisciplinary. A stackable certificate is intended to be combined (“stacked”) with other stackable certificates and/or other requirements to lead to a graduate degree but may be for degree and/or non-degree seeking students. A capstone or integrating experience is recommended for graduate degrees composed of stackable certificates. Graduate specialized stackable certificates require:

* 9 credit minimum

1Program codes for teacher certification endorsements granted by the State of Ohio are not required to have UCC approval ([Minutes of the University Curriculum Council 13 November 2012](https://www.ohio.edu/facultysenate/ucc/upload/ucc-minutes-11-13-12.pdf)), only notification.