The Course Numbering System at the CSU

Each California State University (CSU) course is given a unique identifier number which begins with a two to five letter departmental code to represent the department in which the course is being taught at the CSU campus. The departmental code is followed by one to four digits to signify the division or level in which the course is being taught. Generally, course division levels correlate with the difficulty of the course. Lower and upper division courses pertain to undergraduate degrees, and graduate level courses pertain to graduate (post-graduate) degrees.

Most CSU degrees are four years in length. Lower division courses are designed for first and second year CSU students undertaking an undergraduate degree although courses may be taken by other students. Many upper division courses have prerequisite course work which must be satisfied to take the course. Prerequisites are provided in course descriptions which can be found online in the campus 'catalog' or 'bulletin'. Detailed course outlines and/or syllabi are not available online but are given to students on the first day of class. Most campuses restrict undergraduate exchange students from taking graduate (post-graduate) courses.

Note: The campuses listed below operate on the semester system except for San Luis Obispo. This campus operates on the quarter system in which three quarters are considered equivalent to two semesters, or one academic year.

CSU BAKERSFIELD
1000-2999	lower division (undergraduates)
3000-4999	upper division (undergraduate)
5000-5999	graduate but open to advanced undergraduate "seniors"
6000-6999	graduate

CSU CHANNEL ISLANDS
100-299	lower division (undergraduate)
300-499	upper division (undergraduate)
500-699	graduate

CHICO STATE
100-299	lower division (undergraduate)
300-499	upper division (undergraduate)
500-599	advanced upper division or graduate
600-699	graduate

CSU DOMINGUEZ HILLS
100-299	lower division (undergraduate)
300-499	upper division (undergraduate)
500-600	graduate

CAL STATE EAST BAY
100-299	lower division (undergraduate)
300-499	upper division (undergraduate)
500-699	graduate

FRESNO STATE
001-099	lower division (undergraduate)
100-199	upper division (undergraduate)
200-299	graduate

CAL STATE FULLERTON
100-299	lower division (undergraduate)
300-499	upper division (undergraduate)
500-699	graduate

HUMBOLDT STATE
100-299	lower division (undergraduate)
300-499	upper division (undergraduate)
500-699	graduate

CAL STATE LONG BEACH
100-299	lower division (undergraduate)
300-499	upper division (undergraduate)
500-799	graduate

CAL STATE LA
1000-2999	lower division (undergraduate)
3000-4999	upper division (undergraduate)
5000-5999	graduate

CSU MONTEREY BAY
100-299   lower division (undergraduate)
300-499   upper division (undergraduate)
500-699   graduate

CSUN (Northridge)
100-299   lower division (undergraduate)
300-499   upper division (undergraduate)
500-699   graduate

CAL POLY POMONA
1000-2999 lower division (undergraduate)
3000-4999 upper division (undergraduate)
5000-6999 graduate

SACRAMENTO STATE
001-099   lower division (undergraduate)
100-199   upper division (undergraduate)
200-599   graduate

CAL STATE SAN BERNARDINO
1000-2999 lower division (undergraduate)
3000-5999 upper division (undergraduate)
6000-6999 graduate

SAN DIEGO STATE
100-299   lower division (undergraduate)
300-499   upper division (undergraduate)
500-599   advanced upper division
600-799   graduate

SAN FRANCISCO STATE
100-299   lower division (undergraduate)
300-699   upper division (undergraduate)
700-899   graduate

SAN JOSÉ STATE
001-099   lower division (undergraduate)
100-199   upper division (undergraduate)
200-299   graduate

CAL POLY SAN LUIS OBISPO (QUARTER)
100-299   lower division (undergraduate)
300-499   upper division (undergraduate)
500-599   graduate division

CSU SAN MARCOS
100-299   lower division (undergraduate)
300-499   upper division (undergraduate)
500-699   graduate

SONOMA STATE
100-299   lower division (undergraduate)
300-499   upper division (undergraduate)
500-599   graduate

STANISLAUS STATE
1000-2999 lower division (undergraduate)
3000-4999 upper division (undergraduate)
5000-5999 graduate

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