

The Course Numbering System at the CSU

Each California State University (CSU) course is given a unique identifier number which begins with a two, three, four or 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 three or 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 in order 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 that the campuses listed below operate on the semester system except for San Bernardino and San Luis Obispo. These two campuses operate 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" and graduate students
6000-6999 graduate

CSU, CHANNEL ISLANDS

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

CSU, CHICO

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 courses

CSU, EAST BAY

100-299 lower division (undergraduate)
300-499 upper division (undergraduate)
600-699 graduate

CSU, FRESNO

1- 99 lower division (undergraduate)
100-199 upper division (undergraduate)
200-299 graduate

CSU, FULLERTON

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

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY

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

CSU, LONG BEACH

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

CSU, LOS ANGELES

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)
500-599 graduate

CSU, NORTHRIDGE

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

CSPU, POMONA

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

CSU, SACRAMENTO

1- 99 lower division (undergraduate)
100-199 upper division (undergraduate)
200-599 graduate

CSU, SAN BERNARDINO (QUARTER)

100-299 lower division (undergraduate)
300-599 upper division (undergraduate)
600-699 graduate

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

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

SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY

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

SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY

1 - 99 lower division (undergraduate)
100-199 upper division (undergraduate)
200-299 graduate

CPSU, 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 UNIVERSITY

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

CSU, STANISLAUS

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