



California University of Pennsylvania

Graduate School POLICY: Cohorts: Rights And Responsibilities

A. Purpose & Scope

To define the rights and responsibilities of a cohort.

B. Definition(s)

Cohort – a group of students who begin an academic program and follow a pre-published scope and sequence to the completion of the program.

C. Policy

Several of California University's graduate programs, both traditional and on-line, are offered in a cohort format. The purpose of creating a cohort model of enrollment is to maximize the size of the enrollment and to better meet the needs of students by providing a clear scope and sequence for the courses. This enrollment model has benefits for students, faculty and the University and it also has responsibilities.

The decision on the size of the cohort will be made by the administration at the time the cohort is scheduled to begin. The administration also identifies the beginning time for a cohort and in consultation with the faculty the scope and sequence of the courses.

Once a cohort has begun, the University guarantees that courses will be available in a timely manner so that the degree can be completed within a predetermined time frame. However, the number of courses offered and the specific courses offered in any given semester are at the discretion of the University.

The Administration will promise to provide the instruction opportunities necessary to meet the needs of the cohort. This does not necessarily mean the opportunities will be exclusively in the form of formal classes taught by tenure track faculty. Individualized instruction may be used; adjunct faculty may also be used.

When a student becomes a member of a cohort, they are committing to the published scope and sequence of courses. As long as they attend the course when offered, they will be able to proceed through the program. If, for whatever reason, a cohort student fails to enroll in a scheduled cohort class (i.e. gets out of sequence), he or she may have to wait a considerable period of time before it is offered again.

D. Procedure(s)

E. Effective date: 2005-2006 Graduate Catalog

Updated date: August 15, 2010

Amended Date: