Liberal Arts and Sciences Degree Programs

ABOUT THE PROGRAMS

The Liberal Arts and Sciences curriculum prepares a student to be an accomplished and productive human being. A liberal arts degree opens doors to the professions and to rewarding and responsible careers. Future physicians, teachers, scientists, lawyers and businessmen, for example, develop themselves as well-rounded individuals, in addition to completing their pre-professional work. The academic experiences in liberal arts and sciences provide the foundation for later specialization, graduate study and professional school.

Associate in Arts (AA)

The general **Associate in Arts (AA)** provides a well-rounded background and the opportunity to explore a variety of subject areas so that graduates may transfer to the third year of a senior college. Those who wish to pursue a program that allows a greater degree of specialization in the first two years of college may select one of the following options: Early Childhood and Childhood Education; History; Human Services; Media Studies; Performing Arts; Political Science; Psychology; Secondary Education; Sociology; Spanish; Speech Pathology; Studio Art. Please note that AA curricular requirements and option descriptions immediately follow this page.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the AA Liberal Arts and Sciences program requirements, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a broad knowledge base from the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences.
2. Evaluate and analyze a range of artistic, historical, literary and philosophical works.
3. Examine the formation of individual and group behavior, and social institutions and processes.
4. Develop an ability and a cultural context for communication in a language other than English.
5. Communicate effectively through written and oral forms.
6. Demonstrate informed critical thinking.
7. Engage in quantitative reasoning and scientific inquiry.
8. Demonstrate an awareness of diverse cultures.

Associate in Science (AS)

The **Associate in Science (AS)** degree is designed with a greater emphasis in mathematics and science than the Associate in Arts degree. A student interested in the Associate in Science (AS) degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences has to choose one of four options: Biology, Chemistry, Earth Systems and Environmental Science, or Physics. Each option prepares students for transfer to a complementary four-year degree program. Students in the Biology, Chemistry, or Earth Systems and Environmental Science options transfer to four-year science programs (biochemistry, biology, chemistry, earth and environmental science, etc.), teacher education programs, pharmacy schools, or engineering programs (biomedical, chemical, environmental). Students in the Physics option usually transfer to colleges offering bachelor's degrees in engineering (civil, electrical, mechanical, etc.) or in the physical sciences. Enrichment programs are offered to encourage students to continue their education beyond the bachelor degree by attending graduate or other professional programs (e.g., medical school, physical assistant programs, physical therapy programs). Please note that the AS curricular requirements and option descriptions immediately follow the AA program/option listings.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the Liberal Arts and Sciences program requirements, students will be able to:

1. Identify and apply the fundamental concepts and methods of a life or physical science.
2. Apply the scientific method to explore natural phenomena, including hypothesis development, observation, experimentation, measurement, data analysis, and data presentation.
3. Interpret and draw appropriate inferences from quantitative representation such as formulas, graphs, or tables and represent quantitative problems expressed in natural language in a mathematical format.
4. Use algebraic, numerical, graphical, or statistical methods to solve mathematical problems and to apply mathematical methods in a scientific field.

LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

Associate in Arts Degree | Transfer Degree Program

LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES CURRICULUM (PATHWAYS)

60 Credits required for AA Degree

Curriculum Coordinator: Dr. Debra Gonsher

Required Core

A. **English Composition** (6 Credits)

B. **Mathematical and Quantitative Reasoning** (3 Credits)

C. **Life and Physical Sciences**[1] (3-4 Credits)

SUBTOTAL 12-13

Flexible Core

A. **World Cultures and Global Issues** (6 Credits)

B. **U.S. Experience in Diversity** (3 Credits)

C. **Creative Expression** (3 Credits)

D. **Individual and Society** (3 Credits)

E. **Scientific World** (3 Credits)

SUBTOTAL 18

Major Requirements

NOTE: Students will complete a minimum of six credits of these requirements within the Flexible Core. Transfer students who have completed Common Core requirements at a previous institution will not be required to complete credits in excess of the 60 credit requirement.

- **ART 11** Introduction to Art History *OR*
  ART 12 Introduction to Art History: Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Middle East (0-3 Credits)
- **MUS 11** Introduction to Music *OR*
  MUS 12 Introduction to Music: A Multi-Cultural Survey of World Music (0-3 Credits)
- **COMM 11** Fundamentals of Interpersonal Communication (0-3 Credits)
- **COMMUNICATION** Select ONE from **COMM, THEA, FILM, MEST** (0-3 Credits)
- **ENGLISH** English Elective[2] (0-3 Credits)
- **HIS 10** History of the Modern World *OR*
  HIS 11 Introduction to the Modern World (0-3 Credits)
- **HISTORY** Select ONE from **HIS, GEO, PHL** (0-3 Credits)
- **MODERN LANGUAGE** Select TWO from the same language (0-6 Credits)
- **SOCIAL SCIENCE** Select TWO courses from **ANT, CRJ, ECO, HSC, POL, PSY** *and* **SOC** (0-6 Credits)

Additional Major Requirements

- **PEA** Physical Education *OR*
  HLT 91 Critical Issues in Health (1-2 Credits)
- **Lab Science**[1] (0-1 Credit)
- **Free Electives** (0-10 Credits)

SUBTOTAL 29-30

[1] This requirement is satisfied if a student takes a 4-credit STEM variant course in Required Area C.

[2] Choose any ENG course from ENG 120-199.