The Associate in Arts Degree

University Transfer Program

The associate in arts (AA) degree is designed primarily to meet the requirements for a student to transfer to the upper division level of a college or university to continue to work toward a bachelor’s degree.

Students should be aware of the specific requirements for the AA degree imposed by state regulations and law. For example, general education and elective credit requirements integrate requirements established by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and Florida’s Gordon Rule.

Meeting graduation requirements for an AA degree from a Florida community college is not synonymous with meeting the specific course requirements to enter a specific program at a state university or private college belonging to the Independent Colleges of Florida.

HCC prepares students for hundreds of possible transfer majors, each of which has a distinct listing of common prerequisite courses designated by the Florida University System. To ensure accuracy in selecting courses, students should refer to the student advising guides available online or in the counseling and advising offices. These guides can be adapted to a specific university major including, but not limited to the following:

• Agriculture
• Architecture
• Art
• Building Construction
• Business Administration
• Computer Information Systems
• Computer Science (Engineering)
• Dance
• Dramatic Arts
• Education and Teacher Preparation
• Engineering
• Graphic Design
• Hospitality Administration Management
• Liberal Arts and Sciences
• Mass Communications
• Medical Science
• Music
• Pharmacy

To earn an AA degree, students must complete a minimum of 60 credit hours with no less than 36 credits of specified general education courses and 24 credits in the university transfer program electives. Legislation may further affect the graduation requirement; therefore, students are advised to obtain more current information from the advising and transfer offices.

The articulation agreement between Florida community colleges and state universities specifies that students who have been certified as having satisfactorily completed the general education requirements in a university transfer program are exempt from any additional general education requirements after transferring to a state university or community college. However, to be eligible for admission into a limited access program at a state university, students may be required to take specific prerequisite courses (which may exceed the 60 credit hours) and meet other requirements such as a minimum GPA, minimum ACT/SAT test scores or audition/portfolio.

Students may pursue any combination of university transfer programs, but only one AA degree will be awarded.

Students are advised to contact the specific department of the institution where they plan to transfer as early as possible for information regarding courses to be taken at HCC. Courses required at transfer institutions may fulfill HCC general education requirements or electives.

General Education Requirements

General education provides a foundation upon which a student’s learning experience is built. It offers students the opportunity to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to have a broad understanding of a changing world.

The HCC general education program is designed to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and vision necessary to allow them to become valued participants in a complex and culturally diverse world. The program encourages intellectual inquiry, helping students to develop an understanding of the human mind and spirit, as well as a sense of history and the dynamics of the society around them. As students plan for the world that is ahead of them, the general education program gives them an appreciation of the world that preceded them, as well as a frame of reference for the world in which they live.

Students who complete the HCC general education core curriculum should be able to demonstrate their:

• ability to think critically.
• ability to express themselves clearly in written and oral communication.
• ability to express themselves effectively in quantitative terms.
• understanding of and appreciation for the value and significance of culture.
• appreciation of the scientific method of inquiry and the historical and contemporary impact of science on daily life.
• understanding of global political, social, economic, and historical perspectives.
• ability to use technology to access, retrieve, process, and communicate information.

**To earn an AA degree, students must complete 36 hours of general education courses.**

**Group I – Communications and Humanities: 15 credits required**

**Communications:** 9 credits required

ENC 1101 English Composition I.........................3 cr.
ENC 1102 English Composition II........................3 cr.
SPC 1608 Public Speaking....................................3 cr.
Humanities: 6 credits required
AML 2010 American Literature to 1885 ............... 3 cr.
AML 2020 American Literature: 1885 to Present ..... 3 cr.
AML 2600 African-American Literature ................ 3 cr.
ARH 1000 Understanding Visual Art ................... 3 cr.
DAN 2100 Introduction to Dance ....................... 3 cr.
ENL 2102 British Literature to 1800 ................. 3 cr.
ENL 2102 British Literature: 1800 to Present ........ 3 cr.
HUM 2210 World Humanities: Prehistory to Early Modern Era ................. 3 cr.
HUM 2230 World Humanities: Early Modern to Contemporary ......................... 3 cr.
HUM 2410 Asian Humanities ............................ 3 cr.
HUM 2420 African Humanities .......................... 3 cr.
HUM 2461 Latin-American Humanities ............... 3 cr.
LIT 2110 World Literature to 1650 ................. 3 cr.
LIT 2120 World Literature: 1650 to Present ........ 3 cr.
MUL 1010 Introduction to Music ....................... 3 cr.
PHI 1010 Introduction to Philosophy ................ 3 cr.
PHI 1100 Elementary Logic ............................ 3 cr.
PHI 1600 Ethics ............................................. 3 cr.
REL 2300 Introduction to Religion ................... 3 cr.
The 1000 Introduction to Theatre Arts ............... 3 cr.

Group II – Mathematics and Natural Science: 12 credits required
Math: 6 credits required
Students may choose two of the following:
MAC 1105 College Algebra .................................. 3 cr.
MAC 2241 Calculus for Life Sciences ............... 3 cr.
MGF 1106 Topics in Mathematics .................... 3 cr.
MGF 1107 Explorations in Mathematics ............. 3 cr.
STA 2023 Elementary Statistics ....................... 3 cr.
*(May take any courses of higher content to substitute)

Science: 6 credits required

General education requirement in science may be met through any of the following three options:

Option I (7 credit hours total)

Students must select at least one course in biological science and one course in physical science from the following list of courses. The selection must include at least one lecture course with its co-requisite laboratory in biological science or physical science.

Biological Science
BSC 1005 Biological Foundations (non-science majors) ......................... 3 cr.
BSC 1005L Biological Foundations Lab ..................... 1 cr.
BSC 1010 Biological Science I .................................. 3 cr.
BSC 1010L Biological Science I Lab ....................... 1 cr.
BSC 1025C Nutrition and Drugs .......................... 3 cr.
BSC 1085 Human Anatomy and Physiology I ........... 3 cr.
BSC 1085L Human Anatomy and Physiology I Lab ...... 1 cr.
BSC 1092 Human Biology .................................... 3 cr.
BSC 1092L Human Biology Lab ............................ 1 cr.
IDS 1152C Environmental Science ....................... 3 cr.
OCB 2000 Marine Biology .................................. 3 cr.
OCB 2000L Marine Biology Lab ........................... 1 cr.
PCB 1730C Human Reproduction and Inheritance ... 3 cr.
ZOO 1010C General Zoology ................................ 3 cr.

Option II (8 credit hours total)

Students intending to pursue a major in the sciences, health care, or a related field, may wish to fulfill the general education requirement by selecting a biological science and a physical science with their corequisite laboratories from the following list of courses:

Biological Science
BSC 1010 Biological Science I ................................. 3 cr.
BSC 1010L Biological Science I Lab ........................ 1 cr.
BSC 1085 Human Anatomy and Physiology I .......... 3 cr.
BSC 1085L Human Anatomy and Physiology I Lab .... 1 cr.
OCB 2000 Marine Biology ................................... 3 cr.
OCB 2000L Marine Biology Lab ............................ 1 cr.

Physical Science
CHM 1045 College Chemistry I ............................. 3 cr.
CHM 1045L College Chemistry I Lab ....................... 1 cr.
CHM 1032 Chemistry for Health Science .............. 3 cr.
CHM 1032L Chemistry for Health Science Lab ........ 1 cr.
GLY 1010 Physical Geology .................................. 3 cr.
GLY 1010L Physical Geology Lab .......................... 1 cr.
PSC 1515 Energy and the Environment ................. 3 cr.
PSC 1515L Energy and the Environment Lab ........... 1 cr.

Option III (6 credit hours total)

Students who possess an interest in science but who do not intend to major in a science discipline may wish to fulfill the general education requirement by completing the two-part integrated natural science course sequence listed below. ISC 1004C and ISC 1005C both cover biological and physical science objectives. Due to the integrated approach of these courses, the student must successfully complete both courses with a grade of “C” or higher for either of the courses to count toward satisfaction of the general education requirement in science. Should the student successfully complete only one of the courses, that course will be considered an elective credit only.

Integrated Science Course Program
ISC 1004C Integrated Natural Science I ............... 3 cr.
ISC 1005C Integrated Natural Science II .............. 3 cr.
Group III – Social Science: 9 credits required

Behavioral Science (3 credits required)
- ANT 2000 Introduction to Anthropology .......... 3 cr.
- PSY 2012 General Psychology .............................. 3 cr.
- SYG 2000 Introduction to Sociology .................... 3 cr.

History (3 credits required)
- AMH 1010 Early American History .................... 3 cr.
- AMH 1020 Modern American History .................. 3 cr.
- EUH 1000 The Western World: Origins to Early Modern Europe ................................ 3 cr.
- EUH 1001 The Western World: Modern Europe ........ 3 cr.

Behavioral Science, History, Political Science
(3 credits required)
- AMH 1010 Early American History .................... 3 cr.
- AMH 1020 Modern American History .................. 3 cr.
- ANT 2000 Introduction to Anthropology ............... 3 cr.
- EUH 1000 The Western World Origins to Early Modern Europe ................................ 3 cr.
- EUH 1001 The Western World: Modern Europe ........ 3 cr.
- POS 2041 American Government .......................... 3 cr.
- PSY 2012 General Psychology .............................. 3 cr.
- SYG 2000 Introduction to Sociology .................... 3 cr.

NOTE: ENC 1151, Technical English may substitute as the English requirement in the associate in applied science. Industrial Management Technology program.

NOTE: MGF 1119, Introductory Mathematics with Applications, may substitute as the math requirement in the associate in applied science degree.

Computer Proficiency Requirement

Computer proficiency is a core requirement of the associate in arts degree general education curriculum. Students must demonstrate computer proficiency in one of the following ways:
1. Successfully complete the approved HCC computer course, CGS 1000 (3 Credits). Successful completion requires that the student earn a grade of “C” or better in the course.
2. Provide an official transcript demonstrating successful completion of a college/university course(s) equivalent to the approved HCC course(s).
3. Pass the proficiency test administered by the college.
   Students should check with the counseling/advising office on their campus for specific information about fulfilling the requirement to demonstrate computer proficiency.

Gordon Rule Requirements

State Board of Education Rule 6A-10.030 (the Gordon Rule) is a rule stipulating requirements of student performance in both the communications and mathematics areas. Satisfactory completion of this rule requires that a student earn a grade of “C” or better in each applicable course.

Students fulfill the Gordon Rule requirement upon successful completion of the general education curriculum. Within the communications area, the student is required to complete writing assignments as designated in the instructors’ syllabi in the areas of English, humanities, history, natural science, physical science, behavioral science, and history/political science. Certain courses and disciplines have word-count requirements. For example, ENC 1101 requires that students write a total of 6000 words, 3000 of which must be graded. Gordon Rule behavioral science courses require that students write a minimum of 1000 written words that must be graded. Within the mathematics area, completion of the general education mathematics courses fulfills the requirement. Prerequisite courses must be completed, or appropriate test scores attained, before enrolling in Gordon Rule courses.

Capstone Course Requirement
(IDS 2110, CONNECTIONS)

The capstone course (IDS 2110, Connections) is an interdisciplinary course that allows students to synthesize key components of their general education experience. Based on the selected topics approach, the course summarizes major points in the bodies of knowledge that were acquired while students participated in the general education curriculum, and it provides opportunities for students to use the knowledge and skills gained from their general education experience in an applied manner. Required for graduation by students enrolled in the associate in arts degree program, the course involves research skills, the application of theoretical models, and the use of learned skills. Prior to taking the course, students must have completed at least 45 hours of coursework towards the degree, including at least 24 hours of general education coursework with a minimum grade of “C.”

State University Foreign Language Requirement

Although a student who has not earned two credits of sequential foreign language at the secondary level is not required to take a foreign language to graduate from HCC, a student must successfully complete 8 to 10 hours of one foreign language at the college level for undergraduate admission to a state university. Thus, if students intend to transfer to a four-year university, they should consider completing their foreign language requirement at HCC.

Two years of American Sign Language at the secondary level or 8 to 10 credits at the postsecondary level also satisfy the language admission requirement.