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 (http://www.hccf.edu/ssem/advising-guides.aspx) 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
- Anthropology
- 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**

**Discipline: Communications (9 credits required)**

**Core Options**

Choose course below:
- ENC 1101  English Composition I .......................... 3 cr.

**Additional HCC Options**

Choose both options below:
- ENC 1102  English Composition II ........................ 3 cr.
- SPC 1608  Public Speaking .................................. 3 cr.

**Discipline: Humanities (6 credits required)**

**Core Options**

Choose one or two courses below:
- ARH 1000  Understanding Visual Art .................... 3 cr.
- MUL 1010  Introduction to Music .......................... 3 cr.
- PHI 1010  Introduction to Philosophy .................... 3 cr.
- THE 1000  Introduction to Theatre Arts ................. 3 cr.

**Additional HCC Options**

If only one course was selected from the core options, choose the second course from options below:
- AML 2100  American Literature to 1885 .................. 3 cr.
- AML 2120  American Literature: 1885 to Present .... 3 cr.
- AML 2600  African-American Literature ................. 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.
- PHI 1100  Elementary Logic ................................ 3 cr.
- PHI 1600  Ethics ................................................ 3 cr.
- REL 2300  Introduction to Religion ....................... 3 cr.

**Group II – Mathematics and Natural Science: 12 credits required**

**Discipline: Mathematics (6 credits required)**

**Core Options**

Choose one or two courses below:
- MAC 1105  College Algebra .................................. 3 cr.
- MAC 2311  Calculus and Analytic Geometry I ........ 5 cr.
- MGF 1106  Topics in Mathematics ........................ 3 cr.
- MGF 1107  Explorations in Mathematics ............... 3 cr.
- STA 2023  Elementary Statistics .......................... 3 cr.

**Additional HCC Options**

If only one course was selected from the core options, choose the second course from the options below:
- MAC 1106  Combined College Algebra/Pre-Calculus .... 5 cr.
- MAC 1114  Trigonometry ..................................... 3 cr.
- MAC 1140  Pre-Calculus Algebra .......................... 3 cr.
- MAC 1147  Pre-Calculus Algebra and Trigonometry .... 5 cr.
- MAC 2233  Calculus for Business and Social Science .............................................................................. 4 cr.
- MAC 2241  Calculus for the Life Sciences ............... 5 cr.
- MAC 2312  Calculus and Analytical Geometry II ...... 5 cr.
- MAC 2313  Calculus and Analytic Geometry III ...... 5 cr.
- MAP 2302  Differential Equations .......................... 3 cr.
- MAS 2103  Linear Algebra .................................... 3 cr.

**NOTE:** Any student who completes a mathematics course for which one of the general education core course options in mathematics is an immediate prerequisite should be considered to have completed the mathematics core.

**Discipline: Science (6 credits required plus at least one lab as a required elective)**

Students must select at least one course in biological science and one course in physical science from the following list of courses. At least one science option must be a core option. For the additional HCC options, students may choose from the list below, or students may select any college-level science course higher than the core course options.

The selection must include at least one lecture course with its co-requisite laboratory in biological science or physical science. The co-requisite laboratory will count outside of the 36 hour general education requirement.

Courses with an asterisk denote courses that are intended for students who plan to pursue a major in the sciences, health care, or a related field. See an advisor for specific guidance on which courses to take.

**Biological Science**

Students must select at least one course below in the biological sciences from the core option or from the additional HCC options. Students may choose a lecture/lab combination from the biological sciences and/or from the physical sciences, but they must choose a lecture/lab combination from at least one of these sciences.

**Core Options**

- BSC 1005  Biological Foundations/BSC 1005L Biological Foundations Lab .................................. 4 cr.
- BSC 2010  Biological Science I/BSC 2010L Biological Science I Lab* .......................................... 4 cr.
- BSC 2085  Human Anatomy and Physiology I/BSC 2085L Human Anatomy and Physiology I Lab* ..... 4 cr.
- EVR 1001C Introduction to Environmental Science ... 3 cr.
Additional HCC Options
BSC 1025C  Nutrition and Drugs ................................. 3 cr.
BSC 1092  Human Biology /BSC 1092L Human Biology Lab* ................................. 4 cr.
PCB 1730C  Human Reproduction and Inheritance ... 3 cr.
ZOO 1010C  General Zoology ................................. 3 cr.

Physical Science
Students must select at least one course below in the physical sciences from the core option or from the additional HCC options. Students may choose a lecture/lab combination from the physical sciences and/or from the biological sciences, but they must choose a lecture/lab combination from at least one of these sciences.

Core Options
AST 1002C  Astronomy ....................................... 3 cr.
CHM 1020C  Chemistry and Society ................. 3 cr.
CHM 2045  General Chemistry I/CHM 2045L General Chemistry I Lab* ......................... 4 cr.
ESC 1000  Earth Science/ESC 1000L Earth Science Lab ........................................ 4 cr.
PHY 2048  Physics with Calculus I/PHY 2048L Physics with Calculus I Lab* ......................... 4 cr.
PHY 2053  General Physics I/PHY 2053L General Physics I Lab* ......................... 4 cr.

Additional HCC Options
CHM 1032  Chemistry for Health Sciences/CHM 1032L Chemistry for Health Sciences Lab* ................................. 4 cr.
GLY 2010  Physical Geology/GLY 2010L Physical Geology Lab* ................................. 4 cr.
MET 2010C  Meteorology ........................................ 3 cr.

* Intended for students who plan to pursue a major in the sciences, health care, or a related field. See an advisor for specific guidelines on which courses to take.

NOTE: Any student who completes a natural science course for which one of the general education core options in natural science is an immediate prerequisite should be considered to have completed the natural science core.

Group III – Social Science: 9 credits required
Discipline: Behavioral Science (3 credits required)
Core Options
Choose one course from options below:
ANT 2000  Introduction to Anthropology ................. 3 cr.
PSY 2012  General Psychology ................................. 3 cr.
SYG 2000  Introduction to Sociology ........................ 3 cr.

Discipline: History (3 credits required)
Choose one course from core history required or additional HCC history options below:
Core Options
AMH 2020  Modern American History ................. 3 cr.
POS 2041  American Government ......................... 3 cr.

Additional HCC Options
AMH 2010  Early American History ......................... 3 cr.
EUH 2000  The Western World: Origins to Early Modern Europe ........................................ 3 cr.
EUH 2001  The Western World: Modern Europe .......... 3 cr.
LAH 2020  Survey of Latin American History ........... 3 cr.
POS 1001  Introduction to Political Science ............... 3 cr.

Discipline: Behavioral Science, History, Economics (3 credits required)
Choose one course from core options or additional HCC options below.
Core Options
AMH 2020  Modern American History ................. 3 cr.
ANT 2000  Introduction to Anthropology .................. 3 cr.
ECO 2013  Principles of Macroeconomics .................. 3 cr.
POS 2041  American Government ......................... 3 cr.
PSY 2012  General Psychology ................................. 3 cr.
SYG 2000  Introduction to Sociology ......................... 3 cr.

Additional HCC Options
AMH 2010  Early American History ......................... 3 cr.
EUH 2000  The Western World: Origins to Early Modern Europe ........................................ 3 cr.
EUH 2001  The Western World: Modern Europe .......... 3 cr.
LAH 2020  Survey of Latin American History ........... 3 cr.
POS 1001  Introduction to Political Science ............... 3 cr.

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.

IDS 2891, CONNECTIONS Course Requirement

IDS 2891, 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 course work towards the degree, including at least 24 hours of general education coursework with a minimum grade of “C.”

Foreign Language Requirement

Section (s.) 1007.25, Florida Statutes (F.S.) requires demonstration of foreign language competency for Associate in Arts degree-seeking students. Students must demonstrate competence in foreign languages by completing two credits in one foreign language at the secondary level or the equivalent at the postsecondary level. The equivalent at the postsecondary level is defined as completing a postsecondary course at the elementary 2 level in one foreign language or in American Sign Language.