



## **AP 4025 Philosophy and Criteria for Associate Degree and General Education**

### **References:**

Title 5 Section 55061;  
ACCJC Accreditation Standard 2

1. The programs of the District shall be consistent with its institutional mission and purpose, and its community's demographics and economics, while developing a sense of diversity, equity, inclusion, civic awareness, and global responsibility.
2. Students receiving an Associate Degree must satisfactorily complete the requirements in general education selected from the following areas indicated below. A course may only meet the requirement for a given general education area once and shall not count towards multiple general education requirements for the same student. The requirements are:
  - (1) English Composition, Oral Communication, and Critical Thinking (minimum of 6 semester units) including:
    - (A) English Composition (minimum of 3 semester units). Courses fulfilling this requirement must be baccalaureate-level and include expository and argumentative writing.
    - (B) Oral Communication and Critical Thinking (minimum of 3 semester units). Courses fulfilling this requirement must be baccalaureate-level and may include oral communication and critical thinking courses.
  - (2) Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning (minimum of 3 semester units). Courses fulfilling this requirement must be at least college-level and may include mathematics or quantitative reasoning courses, including logic, statistics, computer languages, and related disciplines.
  - (3) Arts and Humanities (minimum of 3 semester units). Courses in the humanities study the cultural activities and artistic expressions of human beings. Such courses develop students' awareness of how people throughout the ages and in different cultures respond to themselves and the world around them in artistic and cultural creation, and develop students' aesthetic understandings and abilities to make value

judgments. Courses fulfilling this requirement may include introductory or integrative baccalaureate-level courses in the visual and performing arts, art history, foreign languages, literature, philosophy, religion, and related disciplines.

- (4) Social and Behavioral Sciences (minimum of 3 semester units). Courses in the social and behavioral sciences focus on people as members of society and develop awareness of the methods of inquiry used by the social and behavioral sciences. They stimulate critical thinking about how people act and have acted in response to their societies and promote appreciation of how societies and social subgroups operate. Courses fulfilling this requirement may include introductory or integrative baccalaureate-level courses in cultural anthropology, cultural geography, economics, history, political science, psychology, sociology, and related disciplines.
- (5) Natural Sciences (minimum of 3 semester units). Courses in the natural sciences examine the physical universe, its life forms, and its natural phenomena, helping students appreciate and understand the scientific method and the relationships between science and other human activities. Courses fulfilling this requirement may include introductory or integrative baccalaureate-level courses in astronomy, biology, chemistry, general physical science, geology, meteorology, oceanography, physical geography, physical anthropology, physics, and other scientific disciplines.
- (6) Ethnic Studies (minimum of 3 semester units). Courses fulfilling this requirement may include baccalaureate-level courses in the four autonomous disciplines within Ethnic Studies: Black Studies; African American Studies; Africana Studies; Native American Studies; Chicano/a/x; Latino/a/x Studies/La Raza Studies; and Asian American Studies.

**Reviewed by CPC: 04/22/2025**

**Next Review Date: Spring 2031**