

Academic Affairs

AP 4025 PHILOSOPHY AND CRITERIA FOR ASSOCIATE DEGREE
AND GENERAL EDUCATION

Reference:

Title 5 Section 55061;
Accreditation Standard II.A.3

The Academic Senates, either as a body or through their various subcommittees, participates in the development, revision, and maintenance of the Associate Degree requirements, General Education requirements, and the related Student Learning Outcomes associated with the curriculum.

Each college in the District has a Curriculum Committee, a subcommittee of the Academic Senate, which is responsible for ensuring and preserving the academic integrity and quality of all courses and programs at that college. Specifically, the College Curriculum Committees are primarily responsible for curriculum, degree and certificate requirements, grading policies, education program development, and standards or policies regarding student preparation and success.

The District Curriculum Council facilitates the communication and cooperation between the two colleges on all matters charged to the College Curriculum Committees. The District Curriculum Council works to achieve agreement on curriculum shared by the two colleges and makes recommendations about curriculum matters to the Academic Senates at both colleges.

The requirements for the Associate Degrees and General Education are printed in the College Catalogs and include, but are not limited to:

- The programs of the District are consistent with the institutional mission, purposes, demographics and economics of its community.
- The philosophy and criteria regarding the associate degree references the policy of the Board of Governors that the associate degree symbolizes a successful attempt to lead students through patterns of learning experiences designed to develop certain capabilities and insight, including:
 - The ability to think and communicate clearly and effectively orally and in writing;
 - Use mathematics;
 - Understand the modes of inquiry of the major disciplines
 - Be aware of other cultures and times;

- Achieve insights gained through experience in thinking about ethical problems; and
- Develop the [capacity](#) for self-understanding.

The philosophy and criteria regarding general education references the policy of the Board of Governors that general education should lead to better self-understanding, including:

General Education is designed to introduce students to the variety of means through which people comprehend the modern world.

General education introduces the content and methodology of the major areas of knowledge and provides an opportunity for students to develop intellectual skills, information technology facility, affective and creative capabilities, social attitudes, and an appreciation for cultural diversity.

Approved: February 18, 2014

(This is a new procedure recommended by the Policy and Procedure Service)