

CCP 1040 ASSOCIATE DEGREE GENERAL EDUCATION

General education is a significant part of the program of studies in American colleges and universities. The term *general education* refers to a program of studies intended to broaden students' minds and enrich their personal, social, and cultural understanding through exposure to a breadth of academic disciplines. Students develop skills and aptitudes that prepare them to contribute to and participate in society and the democratic process.

Las Positas College Associate Degree General Education Pattern

Area 1: English Composition, Oral Communication, and Critical Thinking

Area 1A: English Composition (3 semester units)

Area 1B: Oral Communication and Critical Thinking (3 semester units)

Area 2: Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning (3 semester units)

Area 3: Arts and Humanities (3 semester units)

Area 4: Social and Behavioral Sciences (3 semester units)

Area 5: Natural Sciences (3 semester units)

Area 6: Ethnic Studies (3 semester units)

Area 7: Kinesiology (1 semester unit)

Area 8: Health (3 semester units – AA Requirement Only)

Area 9: American Institutions (3 semester units – AA Requirement Only)

Courses satisfying Areas 1A and 2 must be completed with a grade of "C" (or "P") or higher.

Courses that fulfill Area 1 through 9 shall have at least the number of units required and satisfy the following standards:

Area 1A: English Composition

Courses fulfilling this requirement must be baccalaureate-level and include expository and argumentative writing. Courses in English Composition should require that students demonstrate reading comprehension for a range of college-level texts, write essays demonstrating college-level reasoning and organization in academic prose, and apply basic research skills in written form.

Area 1B: Oral Communication and Critical Thinking

Courses in Oral Communication are designed to emphasize the content of communication as well as the form and should provide an understanding of the psychological basis and the social significance of communication, including how communication operates in various situations. Applicable courses should view communication as the process of human symbolic interaction focusing on the communicative process from the rhetorical perspective: reasoning and advocacy, organization, accuracy; the discovery, critical evaluation and reporting of information; reading and listening effectively as well as speaking and writing. This must include faculty-supervised, faculty-evaluated oral presentations in the presence of others (physically or virtually).

Courses in Critical Thinking should require that students analyze, synthesize and evaluate academic and cultural texts, write complex argumentative essays, demonstrate critical thinking skills in class discussion and in writing, and use appropriate research techniques to produce an acceptable research paper.

Courses fulfilling this requirement must be baccalaureate-level and may include oral communication and critical thinking courses.

Area 2: Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning

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.

Area 3: Arts and Humanities

Courses in Arts and 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 understanding and ability to make value judgments.

Through completing courses in this area, students will do the following:

- gain an awareness and appreciation of traditional creative disciplines, such as the visual arts, music, literature, film, and performative arts.
- increase the awareness and understanding of philosophical thought, spiritual values, mythological lessons, political and social institutions, and foreign languages.
- employ critical thinking, investigative methods, and personal reflection to create and shape value judgments based on expanded perspectives provided by these subjects

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.

Area 4: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Courses in 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.

Through completing courses in this area, students will do the following:

- gain a broad understanding of the historic foundations of social change, intellectual ideas, and various cultural practices that shape the contemporary human social world
- develop global consciousness and multicultural awareness by appreciating the contributions of all people, especially those of historically underrepresented backgrounds
- analyze problems and issues using the respective disciplinary principles, methodologies, value systems, and ethics of social and behavioral sciences.

Courses fulfilling this requirement may include introductory or integrative baccalaureate-level courses in cultural anthropology, cultural geography,

economics, history, political science, psychology, sociology, women's studies, and related disciplines.

Area 5: Natural Sciences (3 semester units)

Courses in 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.

Area 6: Ethnic Studies

Courses in Ethnic Studies examine the diverse histories, current issues, and unique lived experiences of major American racial and ethnic groups along with the intersectionality of racial and ethnic identities with other forms of social identity in the social, cultural, and political contexts.

Courses in this area require students to do the following:

- critically examine and articulate concepts of ethnic studies
- apply theory and knowledge produced by one of the major American racial and ethnic groups.
- critically analyze the concept of intersectionality.
- examine issues facing main ethnic groups in the relevant structural contexts.

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 Studies; Latino/a/x Studies/La Raza Studies; and Asian American Studies.

Area 7: Kinesiology

Courses in Kinesiology require students to develop an awareness of the importance of a healthy lifestyle through physical activity, focus on the

development of overall well-being through physical activity, and incorporate key principles of healthy lifestyle and physical activity to enhance quality of life.

Courses fulfilling this requirement include a variety of physical activity and dance courses.

Area 8: Health (AA Requirement Only)

Courses in Health require students to learn health and wellness concepts, critically evaluate scientifically derived knowledge about health, identify methods for -and challenges of- maintaining a healthy lifestyle, describe relationships of personal, community, and global health issues.

Courses fulfilling this requirement may include health, early childhood education, psychology, nutrition, kinesiology and related disciplines.

Area 9: American Institutions (AA Requirement Only)

Courses in this area fulfill the CSU U.S. History, Constitution, and American Ideals graduation requirement which calls for study in 3 areas:

- The historical development of American institutions and ideals (Area US-1).
- The Constitution of the United States and the operation of representative democratic government under the Constitution (Area US-2).
- The process of California state and local government (Area US-3).

Adopted: October 7, 2024, Revised March 31, 2025