General Education

Goals, Outcomes & Requirements

I. POLICY:

All students seeking an AA/AS or BA/BS are required to complete the General Studies requirements. The goals for general education are:

1. an understanding of and facility in the basic modes of communication and an ability to initiate inquiry, question conventional wisdom, and analyze problems;
2. a critical understanding of the current state of knowledge, of the methods by which that knowledge has been produced, and of the interrelationships among the major academic divisions of knowledge: Fine Arts, Humanities, the Physical and Natural Sciences, and Social Sciences;
3. a global perspective (cultural, historical, societal, and scientific) from which a strong set of ethical and moral values can evolve;
4. an awareness of the importance and desirability of continuing to pursue intellectual growth throughout one’s lifetime.

The above goals are deliberately pursued within specific general studies requirements, as well as within the academic major. Programs are designed to produce the following student outcomes.

General Studies Performance Outcomes:

At the conclusion of [associate or] baccalaureate study at Adams State University, graduates will:

Demonstrate the ABILITY to:

1. read, write, speak, and listen accurately, effectively, and critically;
2. distinguish fact from opinion and think independently;
3. function as productive members of society;
4. access information effectively;
5. think analytically, cooperatively, and creatively.

Demonstrate an UNDERSTANDING of:

1. the major fields of knowledge and their interrelationships;
2. quantitative methods and their uses;
3. implications and uses of technology;
4. diverse moral and ethical philosophies;
5. one's place within a larger historical and multicultural framework.

**Demonstrate an INCREASED AWARENESS of the importance of:**

1. the aesthetic dimensions of the human experience;
2. community involvement;
3. diverse cultures, persons, and ideas.

II. **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this policy is to state the goals and performance outcomes for general education requirements, and to state the curriculum that meets those requirements for students.

III. **DEFINITIONS:**

A. **Associate's Degree (AA/AS):** An Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree.

B. **Academic Advisor:** A faculty or staff member who advises students regarding their academic program.

C. **Bachelor's Degree (BA/BS):** A Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree.

D. **General Education Courses:** The program of general studies courses required of all students in order to complete a degree, regardless of major.

E. **Goals:** The philosophies and related expectations for students that the general education curriculum as a whole should develop.

F. **Performance Outcomes:** Abilities a student demonstrates as a result of a course or courses within the general education curriculum.

IV. **PROCEDURES:**

A. All students will complete the number of approved courses in the specified category below:

   Area I. Communications………………………………………6 credit hours
   Area II. Arts & Humanities……………………………………9 credit hours
   Area III. Mathematics………………………………………..3 credit hours
   Area IV. Social & Behavioral Sciences………………………12 credit hours
     (At least one course must be HGP/HIST, but no more than two may be HGP/HIST)
   Area V. Physical & Natural Science…………………………8 credit hours

B. Students should check with their advisor to obtain a current list of course in each area.

C. General studies course substitutions must be approved by the VPAA.

D. Student must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 in general education courses to graduate (fall 2011 admittance or later).

V. **RESPONSIBILITY:**

A. The student is responsible for enrolling in the required number and category of courses to meet the requirements above.

B. The academic advisor is responsible for assisting the student in determining which courses to enroll in to complete the general studies requirements in a timely manner, and in assisting the student in determining if any developmental courses are required first.
C. ASU is responsible for offering all general education courses on a schedule that makes degree completion possible within 4 years, provided a student enrolls in, and passes, 15 or more credit hours of appropriate course per semester.

VI. AUTHORITY:

ASC General Catalog 2006-2007
ASC General Catalog 2011-2012

VII. HISTORY:

March 29, 2006
March 24, 2010
Revised July 12, 2012
Reviewed February 24, 2014

VIII. ATTACHMENTS:
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