Associate in Arts in Liberal Arts

To earn this degree, students must meet the following requirements:

Choose option A or B or C for the General Education pattern related to your educational goal:
A. Associate of Arts/Associate of Science General Education;
B. California State University General Education Breadth (CSU GE-B); or
C. Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC)

Complete a minimum of 18 units in one of the four Areas of Emphasis:
• Arts and Humanities
• Communication in the English Language and Critical Thinking
• Natural Science and Mathematics
• Social and Behavioral Sciences

For all options, complete necessary Mission College Graduation and Proficiency requirements.

Associate in Arts in Liberal Arts: Arts and Humanities

The Associate in Arts in Liberal Arts with an emphasis in Arts and Humanities provides students the opportunity to cultivate intellect, imagination, sensibility and sensitivity. Students will respond subjectively as well as objectively to aesthetic experiences and will develop an understanding of the integrity of both emotional and intellectual responses. Students will also refine their affective, cognitive, and physical faculties through studying great works of the human imagination. Critical thinking skills and self-understanding through these courses provide a framework for lifelong study in the arts and humanities areas and offers students a breadth of knowledge that could be focused into single discipline degrees as well as applied to an interdisciplinary degree.

Program Learning Outcomes:
• Students will explain or demonstrate the connections between language, communication, and culture.
• Students will create, critique or analyze key elements of artistic expression by individuals or cultures.
• Students will interpret art forms and analyze humanistic texts in their historical and social contexts.

Career/Transfer Opportunities:
The program is intended for students who are considering transfer, but have not decided on a major; students who are required to complete a degree for job promotion; or students who may wish to further their education and are considering a major that is interdisciplinary in focus.

To earn this degree, students must meet the following requirements:
1. Completion of 60 degree applicable units with an overall GPA of 2.0.
2. Completion of a minimum of 18 semester units in the major with a grade of C (or P) or better.
3. Completion of the Associate in Arts graduation requirements.

Select a minimum of 18 units from the approved CSU GE-B Area C. Include courses from at least two different disciplines.
These courses emphasize the study of cultural, literary, and humanistic activities as well as artistic expression of human beings. Students will evaluate and interpret the ways in which people through the ages in different cultures have responded to themselves and the world around them in artistic and cultural creation. Students will also learn to value aesthetic understanding and incorporate these concepts when constructing value judgments.

See pages 45-47 for approved CSU GE-B, Area C courses.

Completion of General Education Requirements and electives as needed to reach 60 units.

Total Required Units: 60.0
Associate in Arts in Liberal Arts: Communication in the English Language and Critical Thinking

The Associate in Arts in Liberal Arts with an emphasis in Communication in the English Language and Critical Thinking provides students the opportunity to develop knowledge and understanding of the form, content, context, and effectiveness of communication. Students will develop proficiency in oral and written communication in English, examining communication from the rhetorical perspective and practicing reasoning and advocacy, organization, and accuracy. Students will practice the discovery, critical evaluation, and reporting of information, as well as reading, writing, and listening effectively. Students will also will understand logic and its relation to language; elementary inductive and deductive processes, including an understanding of the formal and informal fallacies of language and thought; and the ability to distinguish matters of fact from issues of judgment or opinion. Critical thinking skills and self-understanding through these courses provide a framework for lifelong learning in written and oral communication and offers students a breadth of knowledge that could be focused into single discipline degrees as well as applied to an interdisciplinary degree.

Program Learning Outcomes:

- Students will comprehend and analyze written and oral information effectively.
- Students will use language as a tool for logical thought, clear and precise expression, and critical evaluation of communication.

Career/Transfer Opportunities:

The program is intended for students who are considering transfer, but have not decided on a major; students who are required to complete a degree for job promotion; or students who may wish to further their education and are considering a major that is interdisciplinary in focus.

To earn this degree, students must meet the following requirements:

1. Completion of 60 degree applicable units with an overall GPA of 2.0.
2. Completion of a minimum of 18 semester units in the major with a grade of C (or P) or better.
3. Completion of the Associate in Arts graduation requirements.

Select a minimum of 18 units from the approved CSU GE-B Area A. Include courses from at least two different disciplines.

These courses emphasize the content of communication as well as the form and should provide an understanding of the psychological basis and social significance of communication. Students will be able to assess communication as the process of human symbolic interaction. Students will also develop skills in the areas of reasoning and advocacy, organization, accuracy, reading and listening effectively. Students will be able to integrate important concepts of critical thinking as related to the development of analysis, critical evaluation, to reason inductively and deductively that will enable them to make important decisions regarding their own lives and society at large.

See pages 45-47 for approved CSU GE-B, Area A courses. Completion of General Education Requirements and electives as needed.

Total Required Units: 60.0
Associate in Arts in Liberal Arts: Natural Science and Mathematics

The Associate in Arts in Liberal Arts with an emphasis in Natural Science and Mathematics provides students the opportunity to develop knowledge of scientific theories, concepts, and data about both living and nonliving systems. Students will achieve an understanding and appreciation of scientific principles and the scientific method, as well as the potential limits of scientific endeavors and the value systems and ethics associated with human inquiry. In addition, students shall develop skills and understanding beyond the level of intermediate algebra. Students will not just practice computational skills, but will be able to explain and apply basic mathematical concepts and will be able to solve problems through quantitative reasoning. Critical thinking skills and self-understanding through these courses provide a framework for lifelong learning in the math and science areas and offers students a breadth of knowledge that could be focused into single discipline degrees as well as applied towards an interdisciplinary degree.

Program Learning Outcomes:
• Students will solve problems using quantitative information in verbal, numeric, graphic, and symbolic form.
• Students will apply scientific and/or mathematical processes and theories to address real-world applications.
• Students will understand how findings and ideas in science can be applied to explain phenomena and events and influence the larger society.

Career/Transfer Opportunities:
The program is intended for students who are considering transfer, but have not decided on a major; students who are required to complete a degree for job promotion; or students who may wish to further their education and are considering a major that is interdisciplinary in focus.

To earn this degree, students must meet the following requirements:
1. Completion of 60 degree applicable units with an overall GPA of 2.0.
2. Completion of a minimum of 18 semester units in the major with a grade of C (or P) or better.
3. Completion of the Associate in Arts graduation requirements.

Select a minimum of 18 units from the approved CSU GE-B Area B list. At least one mathematics course and one science course must be included.

These courses emphasize the natural sciences which examine the physical universe, its life forms and its natural phenomena. Courses in math emphasize the development of mathematical and quantitative reasoning skills beyond the level of intermediate algebra. Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the methodologies of science as investigative tools. Students will also examine the influence that the acquisition of scientific knowledge has on the development of the world’s civilizations.

See pages 45-47 for approved CSU GE-B, Area B courses.

Completion of General Education Requirements and electives as needed to reach 60 units.

Total Required Units: 60.0
Associate in Arts in Liberal Arts:
Social and Behavioral Sciences

The Associate in Arts in Liberal Arts with an emphasis in Social and Behavioral Sciences provides students with a broad perspective on human behavior. It is designed to stimulate appreciation for, and understanding of, values, ideas, and artifacts of culture and society. Critical thinking skills and self-understanding through these courses provide a framework for lifelong study in liberal arts. Successful completion of the curriculum in Social and Behavioral Sciences offers students a breadth of knowledge that could be focused into single discipline degrees as well as applied to an interdisciplinary degree

Program Learning Outcomes:
- Students will evaluate and critique the interactions between individuals and the societies and/or social subgroups of which they are a part.
- Students will think critically about ways people have acted in response to their societies.
- Students will apply the principles, methodologies, value systems, ethics, and thought processes employed in human inquiry.

Career/Transfer Opportunities:
The program is intended for students who are considering transfer, but have not decided on a major; students who are required to complete a degree for job promotion; or students who may wish to further their education and are considering a major that is interdisciplinary in focus.

To earn this degree, students must meet the following requirements:
1. Completion of 60 degree applicable units with an overall GPA of 2.0.
2. Completion of a minimum of 18 semester units in the major with a grade of C (or P) or better.
3. Completion of the Associate in Arts graduation requirements.

Select a minimum of 18 units from the approved CSU GE-B Area D list. Include courses from at least two different disciplines. These courses emphasize the perspectives, concepts, theories, and methodologies of the disciplines typically found in the vast variety of disciplines that comprise study in the Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Students will study about themselves and others as members of a larger society. Topics and discussion to stimulate critical thinking about ways people have acted in response to their societies will allow students to evaluate how societies and social subgroups operate.

See pages 45-47 for approved CSU GE-B, Area D courses.

Completion of General Education Requirements and electives as needed to reach 60 units.

Total Required Units: 60.0