

GE Designation for AAS Degree Proposal

General Education Statement of Philosophy

For the learner, general education at Hawai'i Community College fosters self-awareness; broadens the understanding of an individual's roles within communities and environments; supports cultural understanding; emphasizes the breadth and interconnectedness of knowledge; and creates a foundation for continued personal, intellectual and professional development.

ACCJC (updated Standards)

STANDARD II A 5: The institution's degrees and programs follow practices common to American higher education, including appropriate length, breadth, depth, rigor, course sequencing, time to completion, and synthesis of learning. The institution ensures that minimum degree requirements are 60 semester credits or equivalent at the associate level, and 120 credits or equivalent at the baccalaureate level. (ER 12)

STANDARD II A 11: The institution includes in all of its programs, student learning outcomes, appropriate to the program level, in communication competency, information competency, quantitative competency, analytic inquiry skills, ethical reasoning, the ability to engage diverse perspectives, and other program-specific learning outcomes.

STANDARD II A 12: The institution requires of all of its degree programs a component of general education based on a carefully considered philosophy for both associate and baccalaureate degrees that is clearly stated in its catalog. The institution, relying on faculty expertise, determines the appropriateness of each course for inclusion in the general education curriculum, based upon student learning outcomes and competencies appropriate to the degree level. The learning outcomes include a student's preparation for and acceptance of responsible participation in civil society, skills for lifelong learning and application of learning, and a broad comprehension of the development of knowledge, practice, and interpretive approaches in the arts and humanities, the sciences, mathematics, and social sciences. (ER 12)

UHCCP 5.203: Program Credentials

4. Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree: A career and technical education degree, consisting of at least 60 semester credits, which provides students with skills and competencies for gainful employment in a career and/or technical education area. The AAS degree is not intended or designed for transfer directly to a baccalaureate program. AAS programs may, however, include some baccalaureate-level course offerings. Components of General Education included within the AAS must be consistent with levels of quality and rigor appropriate to higher education. The issuance of an AAS degree requires that the student's work has been evaluated and stated outcomes have been met. The issuance of an AAS degree requires that the student must earn a cumulative 2.0 GPR or better for all courses used to meet degree requirements. Degree Approval: BOR.

Rationale for GE for AAS Degree not having the same criteria/benchmarks as the GE for the AA/AS degrees.

General education for the community college Associate in Applied Science degree students should complement their career and technical education skills training and should allow them to develop an integrated view of knowledge, a more authentic view of life, and a more defined sense of community and social responsibility.

General education for the Associate of Applied Science degree student should not be confused with wide ranging education for the Associates of Arts degree student.

In order for the AAS degree program to meet both their program requirements and GE requirements, without adding additional credits, it is important that a new method of meeting the GE requirement be created, while maintaining the General Education Philosophy.

In addition, communication and quantitative reasoning courses should be meaningful and applicable to the program needs as required by industry. Students should not be required to have writing and math skills at levels not required by program accrediting bodies and/or program advisory councils, yet students earning an AAS degree should demonstrate communication and quantitative reasoning skills at the college level.

Therefore, we recommend an additional GE designation process (option 3) for the AAS degree program based on the philosophy mentioned above in which GE supplements, but is not the major component of the degree.

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Motion needed:

A motion to allow CTE programs to have a separate GE process for the AAS degree only as stated in the proposed Process.

Process

Each individual AAS program determines how the GE requirements are to be met by one of 3 Options.

Options:

1. Be met by selecting a Primary GE Designated course (current GE process);
2. Be met by selecting a Secondary GE Designated course which has a Primary GE Designation (current GE process);
3. **Be met by a non-GE designated course or a combination of courses that would demonstrate meeting 50% or more of the benchmarks for Primary GE Designated courses.**
 - **Courses or a combination of courses under option 3 will only apply to the AAS degree.**
 - **These courses must be at the 100 level or higher.**
 - **Applications using this option (option 3) must include: 1) the option 3 GE designation form; 2) the Course Outline of Record for all courses used in demonstrating the benchmarks; 3) the worksheet that lists all CLOs, Course Objectives, and/or Course Content that align to current GE benchmarks.**
 - **A separate GE for AAS Committee will be established to review all GE designation proposals for the AAS degrees only in option 3. The five-member committee will be composed of the chair (selected by the VCAA), two members from various Career and Technical Education (CTE) or Public Service (PS) programs, and two members from non-CTE programs (including Counseling).**

Motions needed:

A motion to approve the modification of the AAS Degree Requirements.

Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) Degree (as shown in current catalog, p-60)

A career and technical education degree, consisting of at least 60 semester credits, which provides students with skills and competencies for gainful employment in a career and/or technical education area. The AAS degree is not intended or designed for transfer directly to a baccalaureate program. AAS programs may, however, include some baccalaureate-level course offerings. Components of General Education included within the AAS must be consistent with levels of quality and rigor appropriate to higher education. The issuance of an AAS degree requires that the student's work has been evaluated and stated outcomes have been met. The

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To earn the Associate in Applied Science degree at HawCC, it is the responsibility of the student to meet the program requirements. Those requirements are:

1. Satisfactorily complete the program of courses prescribed for his/her major which include communication competency, information competency, quantitative competency, analytical inquiry skills, ethical reasoning, the ability to engage diverse perspectives, and other program-specific competencies identified by the program.
2. Earn nine (9) credits total by selecting one 3-credit general elective course from each of the three areas: Humanities/Cultural Environment, Natural Sciences/Natural Environment, Social Sciences/Social Environment
3. Earn a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 in HawCC courses.
4. Earn a “C” or higher in major courses.
5. A minimum of 12 credit hours of program courses in the major subject area (such as Automotive, Culinary Arts, etc.) must be earned at HawCC. *(The residency requirement may be waived for cause at the option of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs or appropriate Academic Dean.)*

Associate in Applied Science General Education Electives: The following courses may satisfy the A.A.S. degree general education electives: Humanities/Cultural Environment, Natural Sciences/Natural Environment, and Social Sciences/Social Environment. Check with a program advisor for program requirements. NOTE: Students should see their academic advisor for the most recent listing of courses used as general education electives.

Natural Sciences/Natural Environment:

- (Include all Natural Sciences GE designated courses for the AA/AS degrees)
- Ag 122, 141, 175, 175L, 200, 250, 260¹
- Culn 185¹

Humanities/Cultural Environment:

- (Include all Humanities GE designated courses for the AA/AS degrees)
- (Presently no additional courses for AAS degree only)

Social Sciences/Social Environment:

- (Include all Social Sciences GE designated courses for the AA/AS degrees)
- Busn 164¹
- Host 290¹
- Mgt 124¹

¹ Marked courses satisfy requirements for the A.A.S. degree and certificates only.