

General Education Philosophy for the Associate Degree

General education breadth requirements emphasize democratic concepts based on the value and dignity of each individual, thus helping students prepare to undertake the responsibilities of citizenship and to participate knowledgeably in the varied experiences of life.

Major requirements educate students in the area of specialization; breadth requirements help them develop the capacity for independent judgment. The general education breadth requirements are of vital importance in the personal, social, and vocational/professional life of each student.

In personal development, breadth requirements help students develop self-awareness, thus increasing understanding of personal potential and limitations.

In social relationships and in the life of society, breadth requirements help students communicate more effectively, better understand others, and develop awareness of societal relationships.

In professional development, breadth requirements help students become more effective in the workplace through more effective communication through a better understanding of the relationship between the job at hand and the larger world.

General education breadth requirements:

1. Expose students to the major disciplines of accumulated knowledge
2. Stimulate curiosity about their surroundings
3. Help students evaluate alternatives so that personal values can be formed
4. Develop effective communication skills
5. Gain a sense of self-worth
6. Learn to make rational decisions based on the utilization of problem-solving techniques
7. Question simple solutions of complex problems; and if appropriate, seek alternatives