



Origination 05/2004  
Last Approved 07/2024  
Last Revised 07/2024  
Next Review 07/2034

Chapter Lead Nohemy Ornelas:  
Chapter 3(CC),4&5  
Policy Area Chapter 4  
Academic Affairs  
References 10+1, CCLC |  
Legally Required

## BP 4025 Philosophy and Criteria for Associate Degree and General Education

Courses that are designated to fulfill the general education and depth requirements shall meet the following philosophy:

The awarding of an Associate degree is intended to represent more than an accumulation of units. It is to symbolize a successful attempt on the part of the college to lead students through patterns of learning experiences designed to develop certain capabilities and insights. Among these are the ability to think and to communicate clearly and effectively both orally and in writing; to use mathematics, to understand the modes of inquiry of the major disciplines; to be aware of other cultures and times; to achieve insights gained through experience in thinking about ethical problems, and to develop the capacity for self-understanding.

In addition to these accomplishments, the student shall possess sufficient depth in some field of knowledge to contribute to lifetime interest.

Central to an Associate degree, general education is designed to introduce students to the variety of means through which people comprehend the modern world. It reflects the conviction of colleges that those who receive their degrees must possess in common certain basic principles, concepts and methodologies both unique to and shared by the various disciplines. College educated persons must be able to use this knowledge when evaluating and appreciating the physical environment, the culture, and the society in which they live. Most important, general education should lead to better self-understanding.

In establishing or modifying a general education program, ways shall be sought to create coherence and integration among the separate requirements. It is also desirable that general education programs involve students actively *in* examining values inherent in proposed solutions to major *society* **social** problems.

The Chancellor is responsible for establishing procedures to assure that courses used to meet general education and associate degree requirements meet the standards in this policy. The procedures shall provide for Academic Senate involvement following the guidelines of Title 5.

## References:

Title 5 Section 55061;  
ACCJC Accreditation Standard 2

---

## Attachments

- [BP 4025 Philosophy and Criteria for Associate Degree and General Education - Comments](#)
- [BP 4025 Philosophy and Criteria for Associate Degree and General Education - Legal Citations](#)
- [BP4025 -OLD.pdf](#)

## Approval Signatures

**Step Description**

**Approver**

**Date**

Approved per Level 3 process  
in AP 2410

Kelly Goodrich: PPAC Support

07/2024



Origination 02/2009  
Last Approved 07/2024  
Last Revised 07/2024  
Next Review 07/2034

Chapter Lead Nohemy Ornelas:  
Chapter 3(CC),4&5  
Policy Area Chapter 4  
Academic Affairs  
References 10+1, CCLC |  
Legally Required

## AP 4025 Philosophy and Criteria for Associate Degree and General Education

The philosophy and criteria for the associate degree and general education should address the considerations contained in the references listed below. These include, but are not limited to:

The programs of the District are consistent with the institutional mission, purposes, demographics and economics of its community.

The philosophy and criteria regarding the associate degree references the policy of the Board of Governors that the associate degree symbolizes a successful attempt to lead students through patterns of learning experiences designed to develop certain capabilities and insight, including:

- the ability to think and communicate clearly and effectively in speaking and writing;
- understand and use mathematics in everyday living;
- understand the modes of inquiry of the major disciplines;
- understand the methods used in knowledge acquisition within major disciplines such as science, humanities, and social sciences;
- achieve insights gained through experience in thinking about ethical problems; and to develop the capacity for self-understanding. Be aware and receptive to other cultures and time periods
- develop an understanding and appreciation of the arts and humanities

The philosophy and criteria regarding general education references the policy of the Board of Governors that general education should lead to better self-understanding, including:

Develop the capacity for improved self-understanding.

General education is designed to introduce students to the variety of means through which people

comprehend the modern world.

General education introduces the content and methodology of the major areas of knowledge and provides an opportunity for students to develop intellectual skills, information technology facility, affective and creative capabilities, social attitudes, and an appreciation for cultural diversity.

Procedures to determine which courses address this philosophy and criteria are developed by the campus curriculum committees under the purview of the respective Academic Senate. These procedures are documented in the campus curriculum committee handbook.

**References:**

Title 5 Section 55061;

ACCJC Accreditation Standard 2

---

## Attachments

[AP 4025 Philosophy & Criteria for AS and GE- Comments](#)

[AP 4025 Philosophy & Criteria for AS and GE- Legal Citations](#)

## Approval Signatures

**Step Description**

**Approver**

**Date**

Approved per Level 3 process  
in AP 2410

Kelly Goodrich: PPAC Support

07/2024