

**BP 2025 PHILOSOPHY AND CRITERIA FOR ASSOCIATE DEGREE AND
GENERAL EDUCATION**

References:

Title 5 Section 55061;
ACCJC Accreditation Standard II.A

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.

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 societal problems.

The Chancellor, in consultation with District Academic Senate, shall establish procedures to assure that courses used to fulfill general education and Associate degree requirements meet the standards in this policy.

Date Adopted: May 15, 2007

Revised: April 22, 2008

Revised: November 25, 2014 (references only)

Revised: April 18, 2023

Formerly: 4025

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ACCJC Accreditation Standard II.A, (formerly II.A.3)

The District Academic Senate, either as a body or through its various subcommittees, participates in the development, revision and maintenance of the Associates Degree requirements, and the General Education Student Learning Outcomes (updated and approved by the Board of Trustees, September 18, 2012). The General Education Student Learning Outcomes and the requirements for the Associates Degree are printed in the District Catalog, which is available for viewing on the District's website (www.rccd.edu), or through the Academic Affairs offices on each campus.

Office of Primary Responsibility: Vice Chancellor, Educational Services & Strategic Planning

Administrative Approval: October 18, 2007

Revised: July 16, 2013

Revised: April, 2014 (Job Titles only)

Revised: December 2, 2014 (Job Title and References only)

Formerly: 4025