

**Maricopa Community Colleges (MCCCD)  
2014-2015 Associate in Science Degree (AS)**

**Description**

The Maricopa County Community College District Associate in Science degree requires 60-64 semester credits for the program of study. The degree includes the following components:

- I. General Education:
  - Arizona General Education Curriculum for Science (AGEC-S)
  - MCCCD Additional Requirements
- II. General Electives

**Purpose of the Degree**

The Associate in Science degree is designed for students planning to transfer to four-year colleges and universities. In general, the components of the degree meet requirements for majors with more stringent mathematics and mathematics-based science requirements. Generally, the degree will transfer as a block without loss of credit to Arizona's public universities and other institutions with district-wide articulation agreements.

In most cases, courses used to satisfy the MCCCD Associate in Science will apply to university graduation requirements of the university major for which the Associate in Science is designed. Information regarding the articulation of the Associate in Science with majors at the Arizona public universities can be accessed via the following website: [www.aztransfer.com](http://www.aztransfer.com)

**Academic Policies that Govern the Associate in Science Degree**

- Completion of the Associate in Science and the AGECS provides for exemption from Arizona public university admission requirements for Arizona residents who have a minimum Grade Point Average of 2.0 on a 4.0=A scale and a minimum 2.5 on a 4.0=A scale for non-residents.
- The graduation policies within the general catalog must be satisfied for completion of the Associate in Science degree.
- A minimum of 60 semester credits in courses numbered 100 and above to be completed with a grade of "C" or better. Credit units transferred from outside of the district need to be at a grade of "C" or better. A grade of "C" equals 2.0 on a 4.0 grading scale or equivalent. On an exception basis, P-grades may be allowed in the AGECS for credit transferred if documentation collected by the community college indicates that the P-grade issued was the only option for the student and the P-grade is a "C" or better. The P-grade exception does not apply to credits awarded by AGECS granting/receiving institutions
- Credit received through prior learning assessment or credit by evaluation is transferable within the Maricopa Community Colleges but is not necessarily transferable to other colleges and universities. No more than 20 semester credit hours may be applied toward AGECS.
- The General Education Requirements for AGECS may be completed in 36-38 semester credits with the following stipulations
  - Courses can satisfy a Core area and one or two Awareness areas simultaneously.
  - A course cannot be used to satisfy more than one Core area requirement in the AGECS A and B.
  - A course can be used to satisfy the L and SB or L and HU requirements simultaneously in the Core area for the AGECS.
- General Education Courses can satisfy multiple areas within the degree simultaneously (AGECS Core Area, AGECS Awareness Area, MCCCD Additional Requirements, or lower-division courses applicable to the major).

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**Academic Policies that Govern the Associate in Science Degree (continued):**

- Effective fall 2000, the course evaluation and/or general education designation as listed in the Arizona Course Equivalency Guide (CEG) within the Arizona Course Applicability System (AZCAS), is valid for the term in which the student is awarded credit on the transcript. A course evaluation and/or general education designation may be subject to change. Students do have the option to petition for general education evaluations and/or general education designations upon transfer.
- Courses completed at one of the Maricopa Community Colleges to meet AGEC-S requirements must be listed in the Course Equivalency Guide within the Arizona Course Applicability System as an equivalent course, departmental elective credit (XXXXDEC), or general elective credit (Elective) at all Arizona public universities. The course's evaluation and/or general education designation is valid for the term in which the student is awarded credit on the transcript. View specific course information via the following website: <http://www.maricopa.edu/academic/ccta/> by clicking on the statewide AGEC icon.
- Courses completed at one of the Maricopa Community Colleges to meet the General Electives requirement must be transferable to the university or universities to which the student plans to transfer, as elective credit or better. For appropriate course selection, students should consult with an advisor.
- Courses transferred from another regionally accredited institution to one of the Maricopa Community Colleges will be evaluated by the college for inclusion in the AGEC-S or Associate in Science Degree.
- Courses and their modular equivalents will satisfy AGEC-S and Associate in Science requirements.
- If a course is cross-referenced with one or more other courses, then only one of the cross-referenced courses will be accepted to meet requirements.
- Courses completed at one of the Maricopa Community Colleges to satisfy Common Courses must be transferable as elective or better to the universities that have the shared majors listed on a Common Course Matrix. A shared major is a university degree program that has similar academic preparation to one or more degree programs at other Arizona public universities as listed on the Common Course Matrices. For appropriate course selection, students should consult with an advisor.

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**Degree Requirements**

The 60-64 semester credits required for the Associate in Science follow. View specific course information via the following website: <http://www.maricopa.edu/academic/ccta/> by clicking on the statewide AGEC icon. The AGEC A, B, S, and AGEC Matrix identify the courses in alpha-order by prefix as well as the Core Areas and Awareness Areas where the course will apply.

**I. MCCCD General Education**

The MCCCD General Education includes two areas: MCCCD AGEC-S and MCCCD Additional Requirements.

**MCCCD AGEC-S**

- |    |  |       |
|----|--|-------|
| 1. | Core Areas:  | 36-38 |
|    | a. First-Year Composition (FYC)  | 6     |
|    | b. Literacy and Critical Inquiry [L]   | 0-3   |
|    | Recommend selecting a course that satisfies L (Literacy and Critical Inquiry) and SB (Social and Behavioral Sciences) OR L (Literacy and Critical Inquiry) and HU (Humanities and Fine Arts) or L (Literacy and Critical Inquiry) and COM or L (Literacy and Critical Inquiry) and CRE101 requirements simultaneously. |       |
|    | c. Mathematical Studies [MA]   | 4     |
|    | To complete the Mathematical Studies requirement, select one course to satisfy Mathematics [MA] S.   |       |
|    | 1) Mathematics [MA] S (4 credits)<br>Select a calculus course MAT220 or MAT221, OR<br>Any mathematics course for which MAT220 or MAT221 is a prerequisite,   |       |
|    | d. Humanities and Fine Arts [HU]   | 6     |
|    | Students are encouraged to choose course work from more than one discipline for a total of six semester credits.<br>Select a course that satisfies both L and HU requirements simultaneously.  |       |
|    | e. Social and Behavioral Sciences [SB]   | 6     |
|    | Students are encouraged to choose course work from more than one discipline for a total of six semester credits.<br>Select a course that satisfies both L and SB requirements simultaneously.  |       |

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**MCCCD General Education Core Areas (continued):**

f. Natural Sciences 8

To complete the Natural Sciences requirement:

Select eight (8) semester credits of either general chemistry

CHM151 & CHM151LL and CHM152 & CHM152LL

OR

Eight (8) semester credits of university physics

PHY115 & PHY116 or PHY121 & PHY131

OR

Eight (8) semester credits of general biology, BIO181 & BIO182  
appropriate to the major.

g. Subject Options (subject based on major) 6-8

Students completing AGEC S, through careful selection of courses that  
meet the other major or pre-requisite requirements for Science degree,

will meet this requirement. Using a transfer guide, select courses from

Mathematics courses above Calculus, and/or Science courses from:

Astronomy, Biology, Botany, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Geology,  
Physical Geography, Physics, Zoology.

**2. Awareness Areas:**

Students must satisfy two Awareness Areas: Cultural Diversity in the United States [C] and either  
Global Awareness [G] or Historical Awareness [H]. However, it is not necessary for students to exceed  
thirty-six to thirty-eight semester credits to complete the Awareness Areas because courses can satisfy  
a Core Area and one or two Awareness Areas simultaneously. Therefore no additional semester credits  
are required to satisfy the two Awareness Areas.

Cultural Diversity in the United States [C]

AND

Global Awareness [G] OR

Historical Awareness [H]

**3. MCCCD Additional Requirements 0-6**

Students must satisfy Oral Communication and Critical Reading areas. However, it is not necessary for  
students to exceed the thirty-six to thirty-eight semester credits required in order to complete the  
MCCCD Additional Requirements.

**a. Oral Communication**

A total of three (3) semester credits are required for Oral Communication. However, if  
students select a communication course that satisfies both the Oral Communication area and  
an area within the Core, then the Oral Communication requirement has been satisfied and  
additional electives may be taken.

Select from the following options:

COM100 [SB] (3 credits) OR

COM100AA & COM100AB & COM100AC [SB] (3 credits) OR

COM110 [SB] (3 credits) OR

COM110AA & COM110AB & COM110AC [SB] (3 credits) OR

COM225 [L] (3 credits) OR

COM230 [SB] (3 credits)

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**MCCCD General Education Core Areas (continued):**

b. Critical Reading

A total of three (3) semester credits are required for the Critical Reading area. If students demonstrate proficiency through assessment, then the Critical Reading requirement has been satisfied and additional electives may be taken.

CRE101 [L] OR equivalent as indicated by assessment

**II. General Electives**

Select courses to complete a minimum of 60 semester credits but no more than a total of 64 semester credits.

For students who have decided on a major that articulates with the AS, but who are undecided on the university to which they will transfer, courses satisfying the General Electives area should be selected from the list of Common Courses, Arizona Transfer Pathway Guides, and/or University Transfer Guides in order for the courses to apply in the major upon transfer.

The list of Common Courses for each major is included in the Arizona Transfer Pathway Guides. University Transfer Guides are also available for the Arizona public universities. These guides, both statewide and institutional, are accessible on the following web site: [www.aztransfer.com](http://www.aztransfer.com)

Students must select MCCCD courses that are transferable to the university or universities to which the student plans to transfer, as elective credit or better according to the Arizona CEG within the AZCAS. For appropriate course selection, students should consult with an advisor.

For some majors, students must demonstrate 4<sup>th</sup> semester proficiency at the 202 course level to satisfy the Non-English Language Requirements. Students should consult the Arizona Transfer Pathway Guides and/or the University Transfer Guides to determine this requirement for the major at the university to which they intend to transfer. If required, it is recommended that students choose Maricopa courses as electives to meet this requirement as part of the Associate in Science degree.

Students who are undecided on a major or university should consult an advisor. Not all majors have common courses, so it is recommended that students consult with an advisor for a list of common courses or assistance with selecting appropriate electives.

**Associate in Science Total Credits:**

**60-64**