

**Maricopa Community Colleges (MCCCD)  
2020-2021 Associate in Arts (AA) Degree**

**Description**

The Maricopa County Community College District Associate in Arts (AA) degree requires a minimum of 60 semester credits for the program of study; minimum total credits vary by specific emphasis (for example, Associate in Arts, Emphasis in Psychology). Refer to the Program (Degree) Search at <https://curriculum.maricopa.edu/> for credit minimums for individual degree programs by emphasis. A minimum grade point average of 2.0 and grades of “C” or higher are required to earn the degree. The AA degree is governed by the [MCCCD General Academic Policies for Associate Degrees Designed for University Transfer](#).

The Associate in Arts degree includes the following components:

- I. Program Prerequisites (if applicable, for versions with an emphasis only)
- II. Required Courses (for versions with an emphasis only)
- III. Restricted Electives (for versions with an emphasis only)
- IV. Arizona General Education Curriculum for Arts (AGEC-A)
- V. MCCCD Additional Requirements (Oral Communication and Critical Reading)
- VI. General Electives (if needed to reach minimum credits for degree)

**Purpose of the Degree**

The Associate in Arts (AA) 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 in the Liberal Arts or programs of study other than business or science. 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 Arts (AA) will apply to general university graduation requirements of the majors that align with the AA degree; however, students need to be aware of any specific requirements of their intended major at the university to be sure they select courses that will meet them. Information regarding the articulation of the AA with majors at the Arizona public universities can be accessed via the following website: [www.aztransfer.com](http://www.aztransfer.com)

**Degree Requirements**

The requirements for the Associate in Arts (AA) follow. No versions of the Associate in Arts require fewer than a minimum of 60 credits; however, minimum credits for the AA vary by specific emphasis. Refer to the Program (Degree) Search at [curriculum.maricopa.edu](http://curriculum.maricopa.edu) for credit minimums by emphasis. The following websites identify the courses that apply to the different General Education Core and Awareness Areas: [AGEC-A](#) and the [AGEC matrix](#). Courses available for both Areas during a current or upcoming semester can also be found using the “Find a Class” tool on [maricopa.edu](http://maricopa.edu) and on each MCCCD college’s website.

**Requirements**

**Credits**

<b>I. Program Prerequisites</b> .....	<b>Number varies</b>
Program prerequisites for the Associate in Arts degree vary by specific emphasis, and are not required for the version of the degree without a specific emphasis. Refer to the Program (Degree) Search at <a href="http://curriculum.maricopa.edu">curriculum.maricopa.edu</a> for specific courses and credit minimums by emphasis.	
<b>II. Required Courses</b> .....	<b>Number varies</b>
Required (major-specific) courses for the Associate in Arts degree vary by specific emphasis, and are not required for the version of the degree without a specific emphasis. Refer to the Program (Degree) Search at <a href="http://curriculum.maricopa.edu">curriculum.maricopa.edu</a> for specific courses and credit minimums by emphasis.	

\*FYC may be met with fewer than 6 credits if student has transfer credit from ASU, NAU or UAZ for a single course that meets FYC in full.

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<b>III. Restricted Electives.....</b>	<b>Number varies</b>
<p>Restricted electives for the Associate in Arts degree vary by specific emphasis, and are not required for version of the degree without a specific emphasis. Refer to the Program (Degree) Search at <a href="http://curriculum.maricopa.edu">curriculum.maricopa.edu</a> for specific courses and credit minimums by emphasis.</p>	
<b>IV. Arizona General Education Curriculum--Arts (AGEC-A).....</b>	<b>up to 44</b>
<p>The AGECA requires a minimum of 35 credits (32 if FYC is met by single transfer course)*, however, prerequisite/required/restricted elective courses may also meet AGECA requirements and credits count once toward the total for the degree. Therefore, the AGECA may be met with fewer than 35 credits (fewer than 32 if FYC is met by single transfer course)* as long as all requirements listed in this section (IV) are completed.</p>	
<p><b>A. Core Areas:</b></p> <p>Some courses may be met by Required Courses or Restricted Electives. Some of these courses also have Awareness Areas designations and can be used to satisfy [C], [G] and/or [H] requirement(s) as well as their respective Core Area, Required Course(s) or Restricted Elective(s). AGECA designations are subject to change. Courses may meet more than one requirement but are only counted once toward the total credits for the degree. See <a href="#">AGEC matrix</a> for each course's value(s) in the semester it is taken.</p>	
1. First-Year Composition [FYC].....	<b>6*</b>
ENG101 OR ENG107.....	(3)*
AND ENG102 OR ENG108.....	(3)*
2. Literacy and Critical Inquiry [L].....	<b>3</b>
3. Mathematical Applications [MA].....	<b>3-6</b>
<p>Requires a course in college mathematics (MAT140, MAT141, MAT142, MAT145, MAT146) or college algebra (MAT150, MAT151, MAT152, MAT155, MAT156) or pre calculus (MAT187) or higher [MA]-approved general education course.</p>	
4. Computer/Statistics/Quantitative Applications [CS].....	<b>3</b>
5. Humanities, Arts and Design [HU].....	<b>6</b>
<p>Students are encouraged to choose course work from more than one discipline.</p>	
6. Social-Behavioral Sciences [SB].....	<b>6</b>
<p>Students are encouraged to choose course work from more than one discipline.</p>	
7. Natural Sciences [SQ/SG].....	<b>8</b>
<p>The lecture courses selected for Natural Sciences must include or be accompanied by the corresponding laboratory courses for a total of four credits each. Credits for lecture and lab components may be combined or each may carry separate credit. At least four credits must be designated as SQ-Science Quantitative. Eight credits of SG-Science General will not satisfy this requirement.</p>	
<b>B. Awareness Areas.....</b>	<b>0-6</b>
<p>Some courses may be used to satisfy both a Core Area and one or more Awareness Area(s). (See AGECA matrix for current course values.)</p>	
1. Cultural Diversity in the United States [C].....	(0-3)
2. Global Awareness [G] OR Historical Awareness [H].....	(0-3)
<b>V. MCCCD Additional Requirements.....</b>	<b>0-6</b>
<p>As noted below, courses in this area may also be applied toward AGECA Core Area requirements.</p>	
<b>A. Oral Communication.....</b>	<b>(0-3)</b>
<p>COM100 [SB] Introduction to Human Communication OR</p>	

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COM110 [SB] Interpersonal Communication OR	
COM225 [L] Public Speaking OR	
COM230 [SB] Small Group Communication (3 credits) OR	
COM100AA & COM100AB & COM100AC [SB] (3 credits) OR	
COM110AA & COM110AB & COM110AC [SB] (3 credits)	
B. Critical Reading.....	(0-3)
Students may demonstrate proficiency through assessment.	
CRE101 [L] Critical Reading OR equivalent as indicated by assessment	
<b>VI. General Electives.....</b>	<b>0-25</b>
Select courses 100-level or higher if needed to complete a minimum of 60 semester credits but no more than a total of 64 semester credits, which is the maximum number of credits accepted toward most degree programs at Arizona’s public universities. Ideally, students should select courses that meet requirements for their major/area of interest and transfer institution. See General Associate Degree Academic Policies for further details, limitations, and guidelines.	
Maricopa courses and external courses evaluated as Maricopa equivalents, departmental electives (e.g., HISELC for a history elective), or general electives (GENELC) that are numbered 100 level or higher, and completed with a grade of "C" or higher, may be applied in the elective area, regardless of potential transferability to other institutions. It is recommended, however, that students planning to transfer to a baccalaureate-granting institution meet these general elective requirements with courses that are transferable and applicable to their intended university degree. Transfer and major guides are accessible on the following websites: <a href="http://aztransfer.com">aztransfer.com</a> , <a href="http://maricopa.edu/transfer/partners">maricopa.edu/transfer/partners</a> , as well as those of individual universities. For appropriate course selection, students should consult with an academic advisor.	
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>60-64*</b>

\*64 semester credits is the maximum accepted toward most degree programs at Arizona’s public universities. Some exceptions apply; consult with an academic advisor for additional transfer pathways.

\*FYC may be met with fewer than 6 credits if student has transfer credit from ASU, NAU or UAZ for a single course that meets FYC in full.