

# ASSOCIATE IN ARTS DEGREE (AA)

The Associate in Arts degree is often referred to as the university transfer program. (Pending approval by the Higher Learning Commission, NCMC students will be able to earn the entire AA degree on-line beginning in fall 2012.) Students awarded A.A. degrees are assured transfer to Missouri public universities through the Missouri Articulation Agreement and are accepted with junior standing at most Missouri public institutions, having fulfilled freshman and sophomore requirements with a solid foundation for upper class study. Credits earned in this program are accepted at state colleges and universities and many private institutions.

Students receive individualized advisement in the selection of courses in order to meet the requirements of the transfer institutions in the college majors selected. Articulation guides for specific course transfer are available from advisors and the NCMC web site at [www.ncmissouri.edu](http://www.ncmissouri.edu).

**Transfer students not planning to earn the Associate in Arts degree should carefully select courses that meet the general education or transfer requirements of their particular transfer school. A minimum recommendation is that students complete NCMC's 42 credit hour General Education Core.**

## General Education Rationale

General education is the curricular foundation for Associate in Arts Degree students at North Central Missouri College. It encourages students to acquire and use the intellectual tools, knowledge and creative capabilities necessary to study the world as it is, as it has been understood and as it might be imagined. It also furnishes students with skills which enable them to deepen that understanding and to communicate it to others. Through general education, North Central Missouri College equips students for success in their specialized areas of study and for fulfilled lives as educated persons, as active citizens and as effective contributors to their own prosperity and to the general welfare of society.

As knowledge of the world is structured, so must general education be constructed to introduce students to the traditional disciplines of the arts and sciences. As that knowledge is ever changing, so must general education alert students to connections between the traditional disciplines and to the potential for interaction among all branches of knowing, ordering, and imagining the real world. As the real world is diverse, so must general education inform students that the world is understood in different ways and provide them with the means to come to terms, intelligently and humanely, with the diversity. As the diversities of knowing and understanding must be made open and accessible, so students must acquire appropriate investigative, interpretative, and communicative competencies.

# General Education Policy

In order to facilitate the transfer of students among institutions of higher education in the state, the Missouri Department of Higher Education has supported the development of a statewide general education policy that is intended to ensure the portability of general education credit among Missouri's colleges and universities. State-level curricular goals and institutional-level student competencies for general education fall into two categories: academic skills and knowledge.

## 1. Skills Areas

### a. Communicating

To develop students' effective use of the English language and quantitative and other symbolic systems essential to their success in school and in the world. Students should be able to read and listen critically and to write and speak with thoughtfulness, clarity, coherence, and persuasiveness.

### b. Higher-Order Thinking

To develop students' ability to distinguish among opinions, facts, and inferences; to identify underlying or implicit assumptions; to make informed judgments; and to solve problems by applying evaluative standards.

### c. Managing Information

To develop students' abilities to locate, organize, store, retrieve, evaluate, synthesize, and annotate information from print, electronic, and other sources in preparation for solving problems and making informed decisions.

### d. Valuing

To develop students' abilities to understand the moral and ethical values of a diverse society and to understand that many courses of action are guided by value judgments about the way things ought to be. Students should be able to make informed decisions through identifying personal values and the values of others and through understanding how such values develop. They should be able to analyze the ethical implications of choices made on the basis of these values.

## 2. Knowledge Areas

### a. Social and Behavioral Sciences

To develop students' understanding of themselves and the world around them through study of content and the processes used by historians and social and behavioral scientists to discover, describe, explain, and predict human behavior and social systems. Students must understand the diversities and complexities of the cultural and social world, past and present, and come to an informed sense of self and others. (Students must fulfill the state statute requirements for the United States and Missouri constitutions.)

### **b. Humanities and Fine Arts**

To develop students' understanding of the ways in which humans have addressed their condition through imaginative work in the humanities and fine arts; to deepen their understanding of how that imaginative process is informed and limited by social, cultural, linguistic, and historical circumstances; and to appreciate the world of the creative imagination as a form of knowledge.

### **c. Mathematics**

To develop students' understanding of fundamental mathematical concepts and their applications. Students should develop a level of quantitative literacy that would enable them to make decisions and solve problems and which could serve as a basis for continued learning. (The mathematics requirement for general education should have the same prerequisite(s) and level of rigor as college algebra.)

### **d. Life and Physical Sciences**

To develop students' understanding of the principles and laboratory procedures of life and physical sciences and to cultivate their abilities to apply the empirical methods of scientific inquiry. Students should understand how scientific discovery changes theoretical views of the world, informs our imaginations, and shapes human history. Students should also understand that science is shaped by historical and social contexts.

# Associate in Arts (AA) Degree Requirements

**COMMUNICATIONS..... 9 hours**

EN101 English I & EN102 English II .....6

SP175 Speech Communications .....3

**HUMANITIES..... 9 hours**

(Select one course each from three of the four categories.)

1. Literature (except Lit. for Children or Preschool Lit.)

2. Fine Arts

AR104 Art Appreciation

MU109 Music Appreciation

TH111 Introduction to Theatre

3. Humanities/Cultural Studies

HU110 Introduction to Humanities: Pre-Renaissance

or HU111 Humanities: Renaissance to Present

HI101 Western Civilization to 1700

or HI102 Western Civilization since 1700

4. Philosophy/Foreign Language

PH101 Introduction to Ethics

PH102 Introduction to Philosophy

RL101 Introduction to Religion

FL100 Foreign Language or FL110, FL120, FL155

**MANAGING INFORMATION..... 3 hours**

BT160 Microcomputer Applications I

**MATHEMATICS ..... 3 hours**

MT122 College Algebra, MT125 Elementary Statistics

or MT121 Math Concepts

**NATURAL SCIENCE..... 9 hours**

(Must have one course with lab from each area)

1. Life Science

BI110 Ecology

BI100 General Biology

BI101 General Botany

BI103 General Zoology

2. Physical Science

CH107 Intro. to Chemistry

CH110 Chemistry I

PS101 Intro. to Physical Science

PS185 College Physics I

**SOCIAL SCIENCE ..... 9 hours**

(Prefixes: HI, PL, GE, PY, SO, EC)

HI103 American History to 1877

or PL216 National Government.....3

Social Science Requirements .....6

**TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION CORE ..... 42 hours**

(A.A. degree requirements continue on next page.)

# Additional A.A. Degree Requirements

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION ..... 3 hours**

1. PE105 Health Education .....2
2. Physical Education Activity or Freshman Seminar .1

**ELECTIVES .....17 hours**

Elective courses should be chosen from those required and accepted for the anticipated major at the transfer university. Students should work closely with their advisor to plan electives that transfer.

**TOTAL A.A. DEGREE REQUIREMENTS ..... 62 hours**

**IMPORTANT NOTES:** All humanities course selections should be based upon the specific requirements of the anticipated major and transfer school.

A minimum final cumulative grade point average of 2.0 and a minimum of 62 credit hours are required for completion of the A.A. degree.

Developmental Studies classes do not apply toward any degree requirements in any program.

A maximum of six hours in religion courses will be applied toward a degree.

A maximum of two hours of physical education activities will be applied toward any degree.

To enhance your AA degree with transferable course work in specific areas of study, please refer to the transfer guides on the NCMC web site ([www.ncmissouri.edu](http://www.ncmissouri.edu)) and/or consult with your faculty advisor. Course work in specific areas of study will vary with each individual university. Below are possible options for the most common areas of study. For other areas of interest, please contact an NCMC advisor for additional information.

Agriculture & Natural Resources  
 Art  
 Biology  
 Business  
 Chemistry  
 Computer Science  
 Criminal Justice  
 Education  
 English  
 Forestry  
 Health Occupations  
 Journalism  
 Mass Media

Mathematics  
 Parks, Recreation & Tourism  
 Physical Education  
 Political Science  
 Pre-Engineering  
 Pre-Law  
 Pre-Medical  
 Pre-Veterinary  
 Psychology  
 RN to BSN  
 Social Work  
 Speech & Theatre  
 Wildlife & Conservation

**Transfer Programs**

# Associate in Arts in Teaching (AAT)

## Degree Requirements

**COMMUNICATIONS ..... 9 hours**

EN101 English I and EN102 English II .....6  
 SP175 Speech Communications.....3

**HUMANITIES ..... 9 hours**

(Select one course each from three of the four categories.)

1. Literature (except Lit. for Children, Preschool Lit. or Young Adult Lit.)
2. Fine Arts (a selection from this category is required)

AR104 Art Appreciation  
 MU109 Music Appreciation  
 TH111 Introduction to Theatre

3. Humanities/Cultural Studies

HU110 Introduction to Humanities I  
**or** HU111 Humanities II  
 HI101 Western Civilization I  
**or** HI102 Western Civilization II

ED265 Multicultural Education

4. Philosophy/Foreign Language

PH101 Introduction to Ethics  
 PH102 Introduction to Philosophy  
 RL101 Introduction to Religion  
 FL100 Foreign Language **or** FL110, FL120, FL155

**MANAGING INFORMATION ..... 3 hours**

BT160 Microcomputer Applications I

**MATHEMATICS ..... 3 hours**

\*MT122 College Algebra, MT125 Elementary Statistics  
**or** MT121 Math Concepts *\*Refer to transfer school degree requirements*

**NATURAL SCIENCE ..... 9 hours**

(Must have one course with lab from each area)

1. Life Science

BI100 General Biology  
 BI101 General Botany  
 BI103 General Zoology

2. Physical Science

PS101 Intro. to Physical Science  
 CH107 Intro. to Chemistry  
 CH110 Chemistry I  
 PS185 College Physics I

**SOCIAL SCIENCE ..... 9 hours**

HI103 American History I  
 and PL216 National Government.....6  
 PY121 General Psychology.....3

**TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION CORE..... 42 hours**

General education credits should be carefully selected with the help of an advisor whenever possible to meet degree requirements, pre-requisites and planned level and area of teacher preparation.

## Additional A.A.T. Degree Requirements

### **\*REQUIRED TEACHER EDUCATION CORE COURSES .12 hours**

- ED 200 Foundations of Education .....3
- ED 201 Teaching Profession with Field Experience ....3
- ED 270 Educational Psychology .....3
- ED 275 Technology for Teachers P-12 .....3

*\*Must receive a C or better upon course completion*

### **ELECTIVES ..... 8 hours**

- ED 265 Multicultural Education
- ED 283 Health & PE Methods for Elementary Teachers
- ED 285 Education of Exceptional Learners P-12
- \*EN 196 Literature for Children
- \*\*EN 296 Young Adult Literature
- \*GE 106 Introduction to World Geography
- MT 110 Intermediate Algebra (if needed)
- MT 121 Math Concepts
- \*PY 225 Child Psychology
- \*\*PY 226 Adolescent Psychology
- \*Elementary Education*
- \*\*Secondary Education*

Electives may be selected from education electives, content areas or any other courses. They should be carefully selected with the help of an advisor to meet degree requirements, pre-requisites and planned level and area of teacher preparation.

### **TOTAL A.A.T. DEGREE REQUIREMENTS ..... 62 hours**

**IMPORTANT NOTES:** *A minimum final cumulative GPA of 2.5 is required for graduation. (will include grades in transferred-in credits)*

*Students must achieve minimum scores of 235 on each sub-section of the CBASE.*

*Developmental Studies classes do not apply toward any degree requirements in any program.*

*A maximum of six hours in religion courses will be applied toward a degree.*

*A maximum of two hours in physical education activity credit will be applied toward a degree.*