

**EASTERN WEST VIRGINIA COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE
REGULATION NO. AR-3.17**

TITLE: **GENERAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM**

DEFINITION: This regulation applies to the general education goals and curriculum requirements for all associate and certificate degree programs at Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College. This regulation complies with Series 11: Degree Designation, General Education Requirements, New Program Approval and Discontinuance of Existing Programs.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall 2023, Fall 2015, Fall 2012, Replaces AR 3.17 Fall 2012 and BP 3.6, November 29, 2002

STATEMENT:

Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College defines its vision of what it means to be an educated person through the associate and certificate degree programs it establishes. Awarding an associate or a certificate degree is the way by which the College indicates that the student has completed a program of academic development and has achieved a level of performance reflected in student learning outcomes sufficient to move on to upper division collegiate work or to enter directly into specific occupations in the workplace. Each associate and certificate degree program must consist of a coherent and sequenced set of courses that lead to the attainment of the defined outcomes of the learning process. Defined general education curriculum requirements comply with Series 1 1: Degree Designation, General Education Requirements, New Program Approval, and Discontinuance of Existing Programs.

The general education curriculum is the foundation of all certificate in applied science and associate degrees. Through the general education requirements, the College establishes its vision for the common core of learning outcomes that are essential to the definition of an educated person regardless of the field of study undertaken. The general education curriculum demonstrates the College's commitment to provide appropriate and relevant education to enhance the growth and development of learners as they face the challenges of the 21st Century.

SECTION 1: GOALS FOR GENERAL EDUCATION

The Board of Governors establishes as the goals for the general education of all students who seek to earn a certificate in applied science or an associate degree awarded by the College that the students will demonstrate post-secondary competencies and accuracy in:

1.1 Writing

Graduates will demonstrate the ability to produce written work with the following features:

- a controlling idea or thesis;
- supporting evidence;
- accurate, sound analysis or explanation;
- a sense of audience;
- minimal mechanical errors;
- presentation of ideas appropriate to the discipline;
- understanding of genre and style conventions appropriate to the discipline;
- correct documentation appropriate to the discipline.

1.2 Oral Communication

Graduates will demonstrate the ability to engage in effective oral communication by being able to deliver a presentation or engage in a dialogue centered on discipline-specific content illustrating the following features:

- clear purpose;
- content that supports the purpose adapted to the audience/group and discipline;
- structure that supports the purpose:
 - ▶ In the case of a presentation, structure is an intentional design, with a clear beginning, middle, and end;
 - ▶ In the case of dialogue, structure involves balancing participation and engaging in active listening;
- information and knowledge used in an accurate and ethical manner;
- when applicable, correct documentation appropriate to the discipline;
- delivery that supports purpose.

1.3 Critical Thinking

Graduates will demonstrate the ability to use critical thinking skills to answer questions, solve problems, and resolve issues by producing work with the following features:

- sufficient valid evidence;
- sufficient breadth and depth of analysis;
- consideration of opposing evidence and alternate points of view;
- conclusions drawn from an accurate assessment of the evidence;
- arguments expressed clearly and precisely.

1.4 Digital Literacy

Graduates will demonstrate the ability to use digital literacy skills to know where there is a need for information by:

- determining the information needed;
- accessing the information needed;
- evaluating the information and its sources;
- using the information effectively;
- and accessing and using the information ethically and legally.

1.5 Quantitative Literacy

Graduates will demonstrate the ability to use quantitative literacy skills to answer questions, solve problems, and resolve issues by producing work with the following features:

- providing explanation of information in mathematical form;
- representing information in mathematical form;
- providing calculations;
- understanding application and analysis;
- addressing assumptions;
- and communicating quantitative information.

1.6 Global Literacy

Graduates will demonstrate an understanding of global diversity by answering questions or presenting information (oral or written) with the following features:

- being self-aware;
- understanding multiple perspectives;
- adapting to cultural diversity;
- addressing personal and social responsibility;
- understanding global systems;
- and applying knowledge to contemporary global contexts.

1.7 Ethics

Graduates will demonstrate an understanding of ethical reasoning by answering questions or presenting information (oral or written) with the following features:

- being self-aware;
- understanding different ethical perspectives and concepts;
- recognizing ethical issues;
- applying ethical perspectives and concepts;
- and evaluating different ethical perspectives and concepts.

SECTION 2: GENERAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

2.1 To achieve the goals for general education, Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College establishes the following requirements for all associate degrees, and certificate degree programs.

2.1.1 The General Education Curriculum will consist of a coherent and sequenced set of courses, including an evaluation procedure that assesses the learning outcomes of the goals for general education. Courses will be organized in categories of: Communications, Humanities, Social Sciences, Natural Sciences, Mathematics, Information Sciences, and the Arts.

2.1.2 Each degree and certificate program will include an appropriate percentage or standard number of semester hours dedicated to the general education competencies. The following are the minimum number of semester hours required in each of the degree and certificate program areas:

Degree Program	Minimum Number of General Education Semester Hours
Associate in Arts	45 semester hours
Associate in Science	35 semester hours
Associate in Applied Science	15 semester hours
Certificate	6 semester hours

4.2 The Associate in Arts (AA.) degree prepares students to transfer to an upper division baccalaureate degree program and gives emphasis to those majoring in the arts, humanities, social sciences, and similar areas. A minimum of forty-five (45) semester hours of general education shall be required for completion of the associate in arts degree. The required distribution of the curriculum sequence shall be:

Communications	9 semester hours
Humanities	6 semester hours
Social Sciences	12 semester hours
History	3 semester hours
Natural Sciences	4 semester hours
Mathematics	3 semester hours
Information Sciences	3 semester hours
General Education Electives	<u>5 semester hours</u>
Total	45 semester hours

2.3 The Associate in Science (AS.) degree prepares students to transfer to an upper division baccalaureate degree program and gives emphasis to those majoring in engineering and technology, natural sciences, mathematics, and similar areas. A minimum of thirty-five (35) semester hours of general education shall be required for completion of the associate in science degree. The required distribution of the curriculum sequence shall be:

Communications	9 semester hours
Humanities	3 semester hours
Social Sciences	6 semester hours
Natural Sciences	8 semester hours
Mathematics	6 semester hours
Information Sciences	<u>3 semester hours</u>
Total	35 semester hours

2.4 The Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree is designed to lead the individual directly to employment into a specific career. A minimum of fifteen (15) semester hours

of general education shall be required for completion of the associate in applied science degree. The required distribution of the curriculum sequence shall be:

Communications	3 - 6 semester hours
Social Sciences	3 - 6 semester hours
Mathematics/Science	6 semester hours
Information Sciences	<u>3 semester hours</u>
Total	15 - 21 semester hours

2.5 The Certificate degree program (C.P.) is designed for direct employment into a specific career. A minimum of six (6) semester hours of general education shall be required for completion of the certificate in applied science degree. The required distribution of the curriculum sequence shall be:

Communications	3 semester hours
Mathematics	3 semester hours
Information Sciences	<u>3 semester hours (recommended)</u>
Total	6 - 9 semester hours



Dr. Thomas Striplin, President

04/19/2023

Date