

Arizona General Education Curriculum (AGEC) - A, B, S

Description

The Maricopa County Community College District Arizona General Education Curriculum (MCCCD AGEC) is a 35-38 semester-credit general education certificate that fulfills lower-division general education requirements for students planning to transfer to any Arizona public community college or university. Generally, the MCCCD AGEC transfers as a block without loss of credit.

In most cases, all courses used to satisfy the MCCCD AGEC will apply to graduation requirements of the university major for which the AGEC was designed.

For students planning to pursue an associate degree or transfer to an Arizona public community college or university, the AGEC A is a component of the MCCCD Associate in Arts, the AGEC B is a component of the MCCCD Associate in Business, and the AGEC S is a component of the MCCCD Associate in Science.

Purpose of the AGECS

There are three types of MCCCD AGECS. They are the AGEC A, the AGEC B, and the AGEC S. Designed to articulate with different academic majors, their requirements vary accordingly. Additional information on academic majors at the Arizona public universities can be accessed via the following website: www.aztransfer.com

1. The **AGEC A** is designed to satisfy requirements in many liberal arts majors as well as other majors that articulate with the Associate in Arts (e.g., social sciences, fine arts, humanities). AGEC A requires a minimum of college mathematics or college algebra to satisfy the Mathematics [MA] requirement. AGEC A Mathematics requirement is less stringent than the AGEC B and AGEC S. AGEC A and AGEC B Natural Sciences requirements are less stringent than AGEC S.
2. The **AGEC B** is designed to satisfy requirements in business majors that articulate with the Associate in Business. AGEC B requires a minimum of brief calculus to satisfy the Mathematics [MA] requirement.
3. The **AGEC S** is designed to satisfy requirements in majors with more prescriptive mathematics and mathematics-based science requirements. AGEC S articulates with the Associate in Science. AGEC S requires a minimum of the first course in a calculus sequence to satisfy the Mathematics [MA] requirement, and a minimum of eight credits of either university chemistry, university physics or general biology to satisfy the Natural Sciences [SQ/SG] requirement. In addition, students must select six to eight additional credits of math and/or science appropriate to the major.

Academic Policies that Govern the AGEC A, B, S:

- Requires 35-38 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; A minimum of 60 semester credits in courses numbered 100 and above to be completed with a grade of "C" or better; On an exception basis, P-grades may be allowed in the AGEC 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 AGEC 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 AGEC;
- Uses the following policies to help students complete the required Core and Awareness Areas without exceeding the 35-38 semester credits
 1. Courses can satisfy a Core area and one or two Awareness areas simultaneously.
 2. A course cannot be used to satisfy more than one Core area requirement in the AGEC A and B.
 3. A course can be used to satisfy the L and SB or L and HU requirements simultaneously in the Core area for the AGEC S.
- Follows the general education policy below:
General Education Designations (example: (FYC), [SB], [HU], etc.) Effective fall 2000 the course evaluation and/or the general education designation as listed in the Arizona CEG (Course Equivalency Guide) 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. Given that curriculum is dynamic at both MCCCD and the institutions to which MCCCD students transfer, students have the option to petition for course evaluations and/or general education designations.
- Require courses that transfer as equivalent courses, departmental elective credit (XXXXDEC), or general elective credit (Elective) at all Arizona public universities according to the Arizona CEG (Course Equivalency Guide). The course evaluation and/or general education designation as listed in AZCAS is valid for the term in which the student is awarded credit on the transcript;

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- Require that a minimum of 12 semester credits of course work be taken at any of the MCCCDC colleges;
- Include both courses and their modular equivalents, either the course or the modular equivalents will satisfy the AGEC;
- Accept one of the courses that is cross-referenced with other courses;
- Provide for exemption from Arizona university admission requirements for: Students who complete the AGEC A, AGEC B, or AGEC S with a minimum 2.5 on a 4.0=A scale, or students who complete an associate or higher degree from a regionally accredited post-secondary institution with a minimum 2.0 on a 4.0=A scale for Arizona residents and a minimum 2.5 on a 4.0=A scale for non-residents.
- AGEC Requirements

The 35-38 semester credits required for each of the three AGECs follow. See the list entitled [MCCCDC Courses That Can Be Used to Satisfy MCCCDC AGEC A, AGEC B and/or AGEC S](#) for specific course information via the following website: www.maricopa.edu/academic/ccta/

The list identifies the courses in alpha-order by prefix as well as the different Core Areas and Awareness Areas where the course will apply.

	Credits
A. Core Areas:	35
1. First-Year Composition (FYC)	6
2. Literacy and Critical Inquiry [L] AGEC A & AGEC B: Select a course that satisfies the [L] requirement (3) AGEC S: Recommend selecting a course that satisfies (L and SB) OR (L and HU) or (L and COM) or (L and CRE101) requirements simultaneously (0-3)	0-3
3. Mathematical Studies [MA/CS] The Mathematics [MA] requirement differs for AGEC A, AGEC B, and AGEC S.	4-6

To complete the Mathematical Studies requirement for AGEC A and AGEC B, select one course to satisfy Mathematics [MA], and a second course from Computer/Statistics/Quantitative Applications [CS]. AGEC S does not require the [CS] area.

AGEC A requires;

- Mathematics [MA] (3 credits) AND (Requires a course in college mathematics (MAT142) or college algebra (MAT 150, MAT 151, MAT152) or pre calculus (MAT 187) or any other mathematics course designated with the MA general education value and for which college algebra is a pre-requisite.)
- Computer/Statistics/Quantitative Applications [CS] (3 credits)

AGEC B requires;

- Mathematics [MA] (3 credits) AND (Requires a course in brief calculus (MAT212) or a higher level mathematics course (MAT216, MAT220, or MAT221 or any course for which these courses are prerequisites).
- Computer/Statistics/Quantitative Applications [CS] (3 credits) CIS105 Survey of Computer Information Systems

AGEC S requires;

- Mathematics [MA] (4 credits) AND Requires a calculus course (MAT220 or MAT221) OR any mathematics course for which MAT220 or MAT221 are prerequisites OR if pursuing a degree at ASU in Life Sciences select MAT251 Calculus for Life Science.

4. Humanities and Fine Arts [HU] 6
AGEC A and AGEC B: Students are encouraged to choose courses from more than one discipline for a total of six semester credits. AGEC S: Recommend selecting a course that satisfies (L and HU) requirements simultaneously.

5. Social and Behavioral Sciences [SB] 6
AGEC A and AGEC B: Students are encouraged to choose courses from more than one discipline for a total of six semester credits. AGEC S: Recommend selecting a course that satisfies (L and SB) requirements simultaneously.

6. Natural Sciences [SQ/SG] 8
To complete the Natural Sciences requirement: AGEC A and AGEC B require four (4) semester credits of [SQ] and four (4) semester credits of [SG] for a total of eight (8) semester credits, OR eight (8) semester credits of [SQ]. Students cannot take eight (8) semester credits of [SG] to meet the Natural Sciences requirement.

The Natural Sciences requirement differs for AGEC S. AGEC S requires eight (8) semester credits of either university chemistry or eight (8) semester credits of university physics or eight (8) semester credits of general biology appropriate to the major.

The lecture course(s) selected for Natural Sciences must include or be accompanied by the corresponding laboratory course. The lecture and corresponding laboratory course(s) may carry separate credit. Students should consult with an advisor for appropriate course selection. Students should also access the AZ Course Equivalency Guide (CEG) within the AZ Course Applicability System (AZCAS) for information on equivalencies.

7. Subject Options (Subject based on major) (AGEC S) 6-8
Students completing AGEC S, through careful selection of courses that meet the other major or pre-requisite requirements for Science degrees, will meet this requirement. Using a transfer guide, select Mathematics courses above Calculus, and/or Science courses from: Astronomy, Biology, Botany, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Geology, Physical Geography, Physics, Zoology.

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B. Awareness Areas:

Students must satisfy two Awareness areas: Cultural Diversity in United States [C] and either Global Awareness [G] or Historical Awareness [H]. However, it is not necessary for students to exceed thirty-five to thirty-eight semester credits to complete any of the three MCCCDC AGECs 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.

1. Cultural Diversity in the United States [C]
AND
2. Global Awareness [G]
OR
3. Historical Awareness [H]

AGEC Area Requirements Descriptions/Definitions

CORE AREAS

First-Year Composition (FYC)

Courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or better in the First-Year Composition Core area. Courses must emphasize skills necessary for college-level learning and writing skills.

Literacy and Critical Inquiry [L]

Courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or better in the Literacy and Critical Inquiry Core area. In the [L] course, typically at the sophomore level, students gather, interpret, and evaluate evidence and express their findings in writing or speech. This course includes a series of graded written or spoken formal assignments. For AGEC S, students will select a course that satisfies both Literacy and Social & Behavioral Sciences or Literacy and Humanities and Fine Arts requirements simultaneously.

Literacy is defined broadly as communicative competence in written and oral discourse; critical inquiry is defined as the gathering, interpreting, and evaluating of evidence. Building on the proficiency attained in traditional First-Year Composition courses, the Literacy and Critical Inquiry requirement helps students sustain and extend their ability to reason critically and communicate clearly through language.

Mathematical Studies

Courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or better in the Mathematical Studies Core Area. One course must be selected from Mathematics [MA]. In AGEC A and AGEC B, a second course must be selected from Computer/Statistics/Quantitative Applications [CS].

The Mathematical Studies requirement is intended to ensure that students have skill in basic mathematics, can use mathematical analysis in their chosen fields, and can understand how computers make mathematical analysis more powerful and efficient.

First, the acquisition of essential skill in basic mathematics requires the student to complete a course in college algebra or to demonstrate a higher level of skill by completing a course for which college algebra is a prerequisite.

Second, the real-world application of mathematical reasoning requires the student to take a course in statistics or the use of quantitative analysis to solve problems of substance.

Third, the use of the computer to assist in serious analytical work is required. Computers are widely used to study the implications of social decisions or to model physical systems.

Mathematics [MA] AGEC A

The AGEC A Mathematics Core area requires a course in college mathematics, college algebra, pre-calculus, or any other mathematics course for which college algebra is a prerequisite.

Mathematics [MA] AGEC B

The AGEC B Mathematics Core area requires a course in Brief Calculus or a higher level mathematics course.

Mathematics [MA] AGEC S

The AGEC S Mathematics Core area requires the first course in the calculus sequence or any mathematics course for which that course is a prerequisite. MAT251 is required if transferring to a Life Sciences degree at Arizona State University (ASU).

Computer/Statistics/Quantitative Applications [CS]

AGEC A, B [CS] requires: courses that emphasize the use of statistics or other mathematical methods in the interpretation of data and in describing and understanding quantitative relationships, courses that involve the use of computer programming languages or software in the development of skills in analytical thinking. AGEC B specifies CIS105 as the course that meets the [CS] requirement.

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Humanities and Fine Arts [HU]

Courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or better in the Humanities and Fine Arts Core area. Students are encouraged to choose coursework from more than one discipline. The Humanities and Fine Arts Core area enables students to broaden and deepen their consideration of basic human values and their interpretation of the experiences of human beings.

The humanities are concerned with questions of human existence and the universality of human life, questions of meaning and the nature of thinking and knowing, and questions of moral, aesthetic, and other human values. The humanities investigate these questions in both the present and the past and make use of philosophy, foreign languages, linguistics and communications studies, religious studies, literature, and fine arts.

The fine arts constitute the artist's creative deliberation about reality, meaning, knowledge, and values.

Social and Behavioral Sciences [SB]

Courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or better in the Social and Behavioral Sciences Core area. Students are encouraged to choose course work from more than one discipline.

The Social and Behavioral Sciences Core area provides scientific methods of inquiry and empirical knowledge about human behavior, both within society and within individuals. The forms of study may be cultural, economic, geographic, historical, linguistic, political, psychological, or social. The courses in this area address the challenge of understanding the diverse natures of individuals and cultural groups who live together in a world of diminishing economic, linguistic, military, political, and social distance.

Natural Sciences [SQ/SG]

Courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or better in the Natural Sciences Core area.

Courses in the Natural Sciences Core area help the student to develop an appreciation of the scope and limitations of scientific capability to contribute to the quality of society. This Core area emphasizes knowledge of methods of scientific inquiry and mastery of basic scientific principles and concepts, in particular those that relate to matter and energy in living and non-living systems. Firsthand exposure to scientific phenomena in the laboratory is important in developing and understanding the concepts, principles, and vocabulary of science. At least one of the two laboratory courses required in the Natural Sciences Core area must include an introduction to the fundamental behavior of matter and energy in physical or biological systems.

Natural Sciences [SQ] A & B

The AGEC A and B Natural Sciences Core area requires one laboratory course in natural sciences that includes a substantial introduction to the fundamental behavior of matter and energy in physical or biological systems.

Natural Sciences [SG] A & B

The AGEC A and B Natural Sciences Core area requires a second laboratory course in the natural sciences, for example, from anthropology, astronomy, biology, chemistry, experimental psychology, geology, microbiology, physical anthropology, physical geography, physics, plant biology

Natural Sciences S

The AGEC S Natural Sciences Core area requires eight semester credits of either university chemistry or eight semester credits of university physics or eight semester credits of general biology appropriate to the major.

SQ = Natural Science-Quantitative

SG = Natural Science-General

Subject Options (for AGEC S)

Courses in the Subject Options area help the student to be prepared for specific majors in science. 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, courses would be selected from Mathematics courses above Calculus, and/or Science courses from: Astronomy, Biology, Botany, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Geology, Physical Geography, Physics, Zoology.

Awareness Areas

Students must satisfy two Awareness areas: Cultural Diversity in U.S. and either Global Awareness or Historical Awareness. 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]

The contemporary "culture" of the United States involves the complex interplay of many different cultures that exist side by side in various states of harmony and conflict. U.S. history involves the experiences not only of different groups of European immigrants and their descendants, but also of diverse groups of American Indians, Hispanic Americans, African Americans and Asian Americans—all of whom played significant roles in the development of contemporary culture and together shape the future of the United States. At the same time, the recognition that gender, class, and religious differences cut across all distinctions of race and ethnicity offers an even richer variety of perspectives from which to view one. Awareness of cultural diversity

and its multiple sources can illuminate the collective past, present, and future and can help to foster greater mutual understanding and respect.

The objective of the Cultural Diversity area requirement is to promote awareness of and appreciation for cultural diversity within the contemporary United States. This is accomplished through the study of the cultural, social, or scientific contributions of women and minority groups, examination of their experiences in the United States, or exploration of successful or unsuccessful interactions between and among cultural groups.

Global Awareness [G]

Human organizations and relationships have evolved from being family and village centered to the modern global interdependence that is apparent in many disciplines—for example, contemporary art, business, engineering, music, and the natural and social sciences. Many serious local and national problems are world issues that require solutions which exhibit mutuality and reciprocity. These problems occur in a wide variety of activities, such as food supply, ecology, health care delivery, language planning, information exchange, economic and social developments, law, technology transfer, and even philosophy and the arts. The Global Awareness Area recognizes the need for an understanding of the values, elements, and social processes of cultures other than the culture of the United States. The Global Awareness Area includes courses that recognize the nature of other contemporary cultures and the relationship of the American cultural system to generic human goals and welfare.

Courses that satisfy the global awareness option in the requirements are of one or more of the following types:

1. Area studies that are concerned with an examination of culture-specific elements of a region of the world;
2. The study of a non-English language;
3. Studies of international relationships, particularly those in which cultural change is facilitated by such factors as social and economic development, education, and the transfer of technology; and
4. Studies of cultural interrelationships of global scope such as the global interdependence produced by problems of world ecology.

Historical Awareness [H]

The Historical Awareness Area option in the requirements aims to develop a knowledge of the past that can be useful in shaping the present and future. Because historical forces and traditions have created modern life and lie just beneath its surface, historical awareness is an aid in the analysis of present-day problems. Also, because the historical past is a source of social and national identity, historical study can produce intercultural understanding by tracing cultural differences to their origins. Even the remote past may have instructive analogies for the present.

The Historical Awareness Area consists of courses that are historical in method and content. In this area, the term “history” designates a sequence of past events or a narrative whose intent or effect is to represent such a sequence.

The requirement presumes that these are human events and that history includes all that has been felt, thought, imagined, said, and done by human beings. History is present in the languages, art, music, literature, philosophy, religion, and the natural sciences, as well as in the social science traditionally called history.