

Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD)
2023-2024 Arizona General Education Curriculum (AGEC) – A, B, S

Description

The Maricopa County Community College District Arizona General Education Curriculum (MCCCD AGEC) is a 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.

As described below, the AGECs are a component of most MCCCD associate degrees and comparable degrees at other Arizona public community colleges. The AGEC-A defines the general education requirements in the Associate in Arts (AA), Associate in Arts, Elementary Education (AAEE), and the Associate in Arts, Fine Arts (AAFA) degrees. The AGEC-B defines the general education requirements in the Associate in Business-General Requirements (ABUS-GR) and Associate in Business-Special Requirements (ABUS-SR) degrees. The AGEC-S defines the general education requirements in the Associate in Science (AS) degree.

As described in more detail below, all AGECs require designated courses in First Year Composition [FYC], Literacy and Critical Inquiry [L], Mathematical Studies [MA], Social-Behavioral Sciences [SB], Humanities, Design and Fine Arts [HU], and Natural Science [SQ/SG]. Students must satisfy two Awareness areas as well: Cultural Diversity in the U.S. and either Global Awareness or Historical Awareness. In addition, the AGEC-A and AGEC-B require a Computer/Statistics/Quantitative Applications course [CS] that is not required for students pursuing the AGEC-S.

Purpose of the AGECs

AGECs were designed to articulate with different academic majors at the state universities, and their particular requirements vary accordingly. In some major-specific pathways, students are allowed to choose from a broad list of courses to satisfy the AGEC requirements, and for others the courses are more restricted or even specified. Additional information on academic majors at the Arizona public universities can be accessed via the following website: aztransfer.com/tools

1. The **AGEC-A** is designed to satisfy General Education requirements in many liberal arts majors as well as other majors that articulate with an Associate in Arts degree (e.g., social sciences, fine arts, humanities, elementary education). AGEC-A requires a minimum of college mathematics or college algebra to satisfy the Mathematics [MA] requirement.
2. The **AGEC-B** is designed to satisfy requirements in business majors that articulate with the Associate in Business (ABUS-GR, ABUS-SR). 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 such as many in the sciences, technology, engineering and mathematics. AGEC-S requires a minimum of the first course in a calculus sequence to satisfy the Mathematics [MA] requirement, and a minimum of eight (8) credits of either university chemistry, university physics, general biology for majors, or physical and historical geology to satisfy the Natural Sciences [SQ/SG] requirement. In addition, students must select six (6)- to ten (10) additional credits of Subject Options composed of math and/or science appropriate to their major.

Academic Policies that Govern the AGEC A, B, S

- Requires completion of at least 35 credit hours* (for AGEC-A and AGEC-B) and 36 credit hours* (for AGEC-S) in courses numbered 100 and above that have been approved for one or more AGEC designations; a minimum of 12 of those credits must be completed at one or any combination of the MCCCD colleges. See First Year Composition [FYC] notes in the following AGEC descriptions and footer for credit minimum exceptions.*
- All MCCCD courses applied to the AGEC must be completed with a grade of “C” or better.
- All MCCCD courses applied to the AGEC must be accepted for transfer credit as a direct equivalent, departmental elective, or general elective credit at ASU, NAU, and UAZ according to the [Course Equivalency Guide](#) for the academic year in which the course was taken. Courses approved for transfer exclusively toward the Bachelor of Applied Science are ineligible for inclusion in the AGEC.

- A single course can simultaneously count toward one or more Awareness Areas and other AGEC requirements. For example, an approved course in world geography may be used to satisfy [SB] and [G] requirements. While multiple requirements can be met with a single course, the credits for that course are only counted one time toward the required minimum total for the AGEC. Except as detailed below for the AGEC-S, a single course cannot be used to satisfy more than one AGEC requirement, with the exception of Awareness Areas. While multiple requirements can be met with a single course, the credits are only counted one time toward the required minimum for the degree. Except as detailed below for the AGEC-S, a single course cannot be used to satisfy more than one AGEC core requirement other than Awareness Areas. For example, for AGEC-A and AGEC-B, a single course cannot be used to satisfy both [HU] and [SB], but it could be used to meet [HU] and [C], [G] and/or [H].
- Awareness Areas and MCCCDC's Additional Requirements may also be shared with other AGEC Requirements. Optimizing credits in this way is often recommended because some programs and universities limit transferable credits at 64.

Transfer Credit from Institutions Outside of MCCCDC

- Credits transferred from outside of MCCCDC must be completed with a grade of "C" (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) or better. Transfer credit graded pass/fail or pass/no credit may be used to satisfy AGEC requirements if documentation collected by the community college indicates that this was the only grading option available and that the Pass grade ("P") is equivalent to a "C" or better.
- The AGEC (Arizona General Education Curriculum) designations of courses completed at other Arizona public colleges or universities will be applied as listed on [AZTransfer's Course Equivalency Guide](#) (CEG) for the semester(s) in which the course(s) were completed. If a transcript evaluation determines there is no MCCCDC direct equivalency to a course from another Arizona public college or university, applicability to AGEC and/or associate degree requirements will be based on the source institution's AGEC designation for the semester in which the course was completed.
- Courses from private, out-of-state, and/or online institutions (i.e., outside of the Arizona Transfer System composed of Arizona's public community colleges, tribal colleges and universities) will be applied toward AGEC and/or associate degree requirements based on the courses' evaluated MCCCDC equivalence. If courses are not directly equivalent, the credit may be articulated as a departmental elective, and if deemed appropriate, may have a general education designation applied to the course.
- Credit awarded at a Maricopa Community College through prior learning assessment in a non-traditional setting is transferable to other colleges in the MCCCDC district but is not necessarily transferable to other colleges and universities outside of the MCCCDC system. No more than 20 such assessed semester credit hours may be applied toward AGEC.

Completion and Transfer

- Completion of the AGEC with a minimum grade point average of 2.0 for Arizona residents and 2.50 for non-residents (on a 4.0 scale) meets Arizona public university general admission requirements. It does not ensure admission to specific university majors or programs with selective admission processes and/or limited enrollment.

Students planning to transfer to another college or university are urged to refer to university requirements and academic advisors from both institutions to be certain that all their selected coursework is applicable to the requirements of their intended transfer degree. For some majors, the statewide Common Course matrix, AZTransfer Pathway Guides and/or University Transfer Guides posted on the [AZTransfer website](#) can also provide some guidance. For appropriate course selection, students should consult with an academic advisor.

AGEC Requirements

Descriptions and definitions of the requirements for each of the three AGECs follow. The following website identifies the courses that apply to the different requirements within each AGEC for a given academic year: [AGEC matrix](#). AGEC designations are subject to change. It is important to verify a course's AGEC value in the semester it is taken. For convenience, this information is provided for the current and upcoming semester in the "[Find a Class](#)" tool on [maricopa.edu](#) and on each MCCCDC college's website as well as in the AGEC matrix provided by [AZTransfer](#).

Note that for students pursuing an associate degree with a specific emphasis (for example: Associate in Arts, Emphasis in History; Associate in Arts, Fine Arts, Emphasis in Theatre; Associate in Science, Emphasis in Physics), the AGEC course requirements are usually more prescriptive. Students pursuing a major-specific pathway should consult the Program (Degree) Search at

curriculum.maricopa.edu (click on Current Programs) for specific degree and AGEC requirements. Consultation with an academic advisor about course selection is always recommended.

Credits

Arizona General Education Curriculum--Arts (AGEC-A)..... 35 (min.)*

The AGEC-A requires a minimum of 35 credits (32 if [FYC] is met by single transfer course)*; courses applied to meet AGEC-A requirements vary by emphasis.

Refer to the program (Degree) Search at curriculum.maricopa.edu (click on Current Programs) for specific course requirements. The Required Courses and/or Restricted Electives for some areas of Emphasis may also have AGEC designations including one or more of the Awareness Areas ([C], [G] and/or [H]). A single course may meet more than one requirement but its credits are only counted once toward the total for the degree. AGEC designations are subject to change. See [AGEC matrix](#) for each course's value(s) in the semester it is taken.

- A. First-Year Composition [FYC]..... **6***
 - ENG101 OR ENG107..... (3)*
 - AND ENG102 OR ENG108..... (3)*
- B. Literacy and Critical Inquiry [L]..... **3**
- C. Mathematical Applications [MA]..... **3-6**
 - Requires a course in college mathematics (MAT140, MAT141, MAT142, MAT145, MAT146) or college algebra (MAT150, MAT151, MAT152, MAT155, MAT156) or pre-calculus (MAT187/188) or higher [MA]-approved general education course.
- D. Computer/Statistics/Quantitative Applications [CS]..... **3**
- E. Humanities, Arts and Design [HU]..... **6**
 - Students are encouraged to choose course work from more than one discipline.
- F. Social-Behavioral Sciences [SB]..... **6**
 - Students are encouraged to choose course work from more than one discipline.
- G. Natural Sciences [SQ/SG]..... **8**
 - 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 credits. At least four (4) credits must be designated as SQ-Science Quantitative. Eight (8) credits of SG-Science General will not satisfy this requirement.
- H. Awareness Areas..... **0-6**
 - The same course(s) may be used to satisfy one or more Awareness Area(s) as well as other AGEC requirements. (See [AGEC matrix](#) for current course values). Credits for such shared courses may only be counted once.
 - 1. Cultural Diversity in the United States [C]..... (0-3)
 - 2. Global Awareness [G] OR Historical Awareness [H]..... (0-3)

*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.

Credits

Arizona General Education Curriculum - Business (AGEC-B)..... 35 (min.)*

The AGEC-B requires a minimum of 35 credits (32 if FYC is met by single transfer course)*,

The Required Courses and/or Restricted Electives for corresponding Associate's degree may also have AGEC designations including one or more of the Awareness Areas ([C], [G] and/or [H]). A single course may meet more than one requirement but its credits are only counted once toward the total for the degree.

- A. First-Year Composition [FYC]..... **6***
 - ENG101 OR ENG107 AND..... (3)*
 - ENG102 OR ENG108..... (3)*
- B. Literacy and Critical Inquiry [L]..... **3**
- C. Mathematical Applications [MA]..... **3-5**
 - MAT212 Brief Calculus OR..... (3)
 - MAT213 Brief Calculus OR..... (4)
 - Higher [MA] designated course..... (3-5)
- D. Computer/Statistics/Quantitative Applications [CS]..... **3**
 - CIS105 Survey of Computer Information Systems
- E. Humanities, Arts and Design [HU]..... **6**
 - Students are encouraged to choose course work from more than one discipline.
- F. Social-Behavioral Sciences [SB]..... **6**
 - ECN211 Macroeconomics AND ECN212 Microeconomics
- G. Natural Sciences [SQ/SG]..... **8**
 - The lecture courses selected for Natural Sciences must include or be accompanied by the corresponding laboratory courses for a total of four (4) credits. Credits for lecture and lab components may be combined or each may carry separate credit. At least four (4) credits must be designated as SQ-Science Quantitative. Eight (8) credits of SG-Science General will not satisfy this requirement.
- H. Awareness Areas..... **0-6**
 - The same course(s) may be used to satisfy one or more Awareness Area(s) as well as other AGEC requirements. (See [AGEC matrix](#) for current course values). Credits for such shared courses may only be counted once.
 - 1. Cultural Diversity in the United States [C]..... (0-3)
 - 2. Global Awareness [G] OR Historical Awareness [H]..... (0-3)

*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.

Credits

Arizona General Education Curriculum--Science (AGEC-S)..... 36 (min.)*

The AGEC-S requires a minimum of 36 credits (33 if FYC is met by single transfer course)*; courses applied to meet AGEC-S requirements vary by emphasis.

Refer to the program (Degree) Search at curriculum.maricopa.edu (click on Current Programs) for specific course requirements. The Required Courses and/or Restricted Electives for some areas of Emphasis may also have AGEC designations including one or more of the Awareness Areas ([C], [G] and/or [H]). A single course may meet more than one requirement but its credits are only counted once toward the total for the degree.

Some courses have been approved for more than one AGEC designation (see AGEC matrix). For the AGEC-S only, a single course with an [L] designation may be used to satisfy a second AGEC requirement (as well as any approved Awareness Areas). Only courses with [L] designations may be shared in this way.

- A. First-Year Composition [FYC]..... **6***
 - ENG101 OR ENG107..... (3)*
 - AND ENG102 OR ENG108..... (3)*
- B. Literacy and Critical Inquiry [L]..... **0-3****

Students pursuing AGEC-S and/or AS degree are strongly encouraged to choose an [L] course that also has [HU] or [SB] designation or to use CRE101 or COM225 from the Maricopa Additional Requirements Area to satisfy the [L] requirement. The [L] course selected may also have been approved to satisfy one or more Awareness Areas ([C], [G], [H]). Thus, a single [L] course could potentially meet another AGEC requirement as well as one or more Awareness areas.
- C. Mathematical Applications [MA]..... **4-5**

Requires the first semester of calculus courses designed for scientists and engineers (MAT220 or MAT221) or any other [MA] designated course for which Calculus I is a prerequisite.
- D. Humanities, Arts and Design [HU]..... **6**

A single course approved for both [L] and [HU] designations may be used to satisfy both requirements. This policy is unique to AGEC-S and to [L] courses. A course approved for both [HU] and [SB] can be counted for one or the other designation, not both. AGEC designations are subject to change. See [AGEC matrix](#) for each course's value(s) in the semester it is taken.
- E. Social-Behavioral Sciences [SB]..... **6**

A single course approved for both [L] and [SB] designations may be used to satisfy both requirements. This policy is unique to AGEC-S and to [L] courses. A course approved for both [SB] and [HU] can be counted for one or the other designation, not both. AGEC designations are subject to change. See [AGEC matrix](#) for each course's value(s) in the semester it is taken.
- F. Natural Sciences [SQ/SG]..... **8-10**

Students must complete eight (8) credits of General Chemistry, University Physics, General Biology for Majors, or Physical and Historical Geology. Consult specific requirements of university transfer major or associate degree with corresponding emphasis. for guidance.

 - [(CHM150 or CHM151) & CHM151LL] or CHM150AA or CHM151AA General Chemistry I
 - AND
 - [CHM152 & CHM152LL] or CHM152AA General Chemistry II
 - OR**
 - PHY115 or PHY121 University Physics I
 - AND
 - PHY116 or PHY131 University Physics II
 - OR**
 - BIO181 or BIO181XT General Biology (Majors) I
 - AND
 - BIO182 or BIO182XT General Biology (Majors) II

OR

GLG101IN Introduction to Geology I - Physical or
GLG101 Introduction to Geology I - Physical Lecture and
GLG103 Introduction to Geology I – Physical Lab
AND
GLG102IN Introduction to Geology II – Historical or
GLG102 Introduction to Geology II - Historical Lecture and
GLG104 Introduction to Geology II – Historical Lab

- G. Subject Options - Math/Science..... **6-10**
Students should refer to transfer resources, including academic advisement, transfer guides and/or requirements for associate degree with corresponding area of emphasis, to select six (6)-ten (10) additional math and/or science credits that meet requirements for selected major.

This Math/Science requirement can be met by selecting Mathematics course(s) [MAT] that require Calculus I as a prerequisite and/or Computer Science course(s) [CSC] and/or additional Science courses from the following disciplines: Astronomy, Biology, Botany, Chemistry, Engineering, Environmental Science, Geology, Physical Geography, Physics, Zoology (MCCCD prefixes AST, BIO, CHM, ECE, EEE, ENV, GLG, GPH, and/or PHY)
- H. Awareness Areas..... **0-6**
The same courses may be used to satisfy one or more Awareness Area(s) as well as other AGECE requirements (see [AGEC matrix](#) for current course values).
1. Cultural Diversity in the United States [C]..... (0-3)
 2. Global Awareness [G] OR Historical Awareness [H]..... (0-3)

*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.

**0 only if shared with HU or SB

Description of AGECE Designations

First-Year Composition (FYC)

First-Year Composition courses emphasize skills necessary for college-level expository writing, including correct grammar and punctuation, logical organization of ideas, and identification of supporting documentation.

Literacy and Critical Inquiry [L]

In the [L] course, students typically at the sophomore level, express their findings in writing or speech. This course includes a series of graded written or spoken formal assignments.

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 [L] requirement sustains and extends students' ability to thoughtfully use and critically analyze written and/or spoken language.

Mathematical Applications [MA]

The Mathematical Studies requirement is intended to ensure that students have requisite skill in mathematics appropriate for their discipline and can apply mathematical analysis in their chosen fields.

Computer/Statistics/Quantitative Applications [CS]

AGECE-A and AGECE-B require a course that emphasizes the use of statistics, other mathematical methods, computer programming languages and/or software in the interpretation of data and in describing and analyzing quantitative relationships.

Humanities, Arts and Design [HU]

The study of the humanities and the disciplines of art and design deepen awareness of the complexities of the human condition and its diverse histories and cultures. Courses in the humanities are devoted to the production of human thought and imagination, particularly in philosophical, historical, religious and artistic traditions. Courses with an emphasis in fine

arts and design are devoted to the study of aesthetic experiences and the processes of artistic creation. They may also feature a design emphasis in which material culture is studied as a product of human thought and imagination.

Social-Behavioral Sciences [SB]

Social-Behavioral Sciences provide scientific methods of inquiry and empirical knowledge about human behavior, both within society and within individuals. This area of emphasis may include study of such disciplines as anthropology, economics, history, political science, psychology, or sociology. The courses in this area address the challenge of understanding the diverse natures of individuals and cultural groups who live together in a complex and evolving world.

Natural Sciences [SQ/SG] In addition to an understanding of basic scientific principles and concepts, courses in the Natural Sciences are designed to help students appreciate, from firsthand laboratory and/or field research experience, the nature of science as a process that embraces curiosity, inquiry, testing, and communication to better understand natural phenomena. At least one of the two natural science courses must include an introduction to the fundamental behavior of matter and energy in physical or biological systems.

AWARENESS AREAS

Students must satisfy two Awareness areas: Cultural Diversity in the U.S. and either Global Awareness or Historical Awareness. Courses can satisfy other AGECE requirements and one or two Awareness areas simultaneously. Therefore, no additional semester credits are required to satisfy the two Awareness areas provided courses selected are approved for those designations (see [AGECE matrix](#)).

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 of European immigrants and their descendants, 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
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, natural sciences, as well as in the social science traditionally called history.