

Chapter 4 – Academic Affairs

AP 4100 Graduation Requirements for Degrees and Certificates

References:

Title 5 Sections 55060 and 55270 et seq.

Credit Degrees and Certificates

The Mt. San Antonio College Catalog contains the most recent information on the requirements for the Associate of Science Degrees, Associate of Arts Degrees, Associate Degrees for Transfer, **Baccalaureate of Science Degree**, multiple degrees, skills certificates, certificates of achievement, and credit for prior learning. The College Catalog is updated annually in collaboration with the Academic Senate for currency and correctness.

Associate of Arts or Associate of Science Degree

~~For the Associate in Arts or Associate in Science degree, a student must demonstrate competence in reading, in written expression, and in mathematics and must satisfactorily complete at least 60 semester units of college work.~~

~~A definition of “college work” that provides that courses acceptable toward the associate degree include those that have been properly approved pursuant to Title 5 Section 55002(a), or, if completed at other than a California community college, would reasonably be expected to meet the standards of that section.~~

~~The work must include at least 18 semester units in general education, at least 18 semester units in a major listed in the Community Colleges “Taxonomy of Programs,” and at least 12 semester units of study in residence; exceptions to the residence requirement can be made by the Board when an injustice or undue hardship would result.~~

~~The general education requirements must include a minimum of work in the natural sciences, the social and behavioral sciences, the humanities, ethnic studies, and language and rationality.~~

Mt. San Antonio College offers both Associate of Science (A.S.) and Associate of Arts (A.A.) degrees. In general, the Associate of Science degrees are two-year occupational degrees that prepare students for a variety of career and technical fields. The Associate of Arts degrees, while not specifically intended for transfer, are two-year Liberal Arts and Sciences degrees that provide broad exploration of a specific area of emphasis.

For the Associate of Arts or Associate of Science Degree, students must meet the following graduation requirements:

- **Sixty (60) degree-appropriate units with a letter grade of “C” or better or “P” in each course.**

- A Mt. San Antonio College “degree” total grade point average, and “all college” total grade point average of 2.0.
- The residency requirement for Mt. San Antonio College can be met with a minimum of 12 units completed in residence at Mt. San Antonio College.
- General Education Requirements:

At least 30 semester units are required, which shall include courses in each of the General Education areas:

- Communication in the English Language,
- Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning,
- Arts and Humanities,
- Social, Political, and Economic Institutions,
- Lifelong Understanding and Self-Development,
- Ethnic Studies, and
- Physical Well-Being. The Physical Well-Being requirement is met by completing at least one physical education activity course with the following prefixes: DNCE, KINA, KINF, KINI, KINL, KINS, or KINX. Or

California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC): The courses must include at least 21 semester units of general education. General education must include coursework in:

- English Composition, Oral Communication, and Critical Thinking,
- Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning,
- Arts and Humanities,
- Social and Behavioral Sciences,
- Natural Sciences, and
- Ethnic Studies.

Other Information for Awarding Associate Degrees

- If a student accumulates units beyond those required for the degree that lowers the student’s cumulative grade point average below 2.0, the College may compute the grade point average based solely on those courses used to satisfy the degree requirements, provided that the coursework used to compute the grade point average fulfills all major or area of emphasis and general education requirements.
- Courses that meet or exceed the standards of the California Community Colleges completed at institutionally accredited institutions shall be counted toward associate degree unit requirements. A course may not be counted in more than one general education area, even if it is approved in multiple general education areas. Students may use the same course to meet a local general education requirement and to satisfy a general education requirement at the California State University or the University of California if that segment accepts the course for this purpose.

- Students may receive credit for knowledge or skills acquired through the College's procedures for awarding Credit for Prior Learning.
- Students who have been awarded a bachelor's degree from an institutionally accredited institution shall be deemed to have fulfilled the general education course requirements for the associate degree.
- Students may petition to have noncredit courses counted toward the satisfaction of requirements for an associate degree.
- Students who intend to transfer shall be advised of limitations transfer institutions may place on the transferability of credits, based on institutional accreditation, course modality, and any other relevant factors.

Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT)

The Associate of Arts for Transfer and Associate of Science for Transfer degrees are designed to provide students with a seamless transition for transfer with junior standing within the California State University (CSU) system.

To earn an Associate Degree for Transfer degree, a student must complete a minimum of 60 CSU transferable units that consist of the Cal-GETC or IGETC pattern or CSU GE breadth and a major of at least 18 units or more.

Students must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 in all CSU-transferable coursework to receive an Associate Degree for Transfer, and all courses in the major must be completed with a C or better.

Students earning an Associate Degree for Transfer will not be required to complete any other local graduation requirements.

Baccalaureate Degree

To obtain a baccalaureate degree, a student must complete the following requirements:

- A. Complete a combination of lower-division and upper-division coursework totaling a minimum of 120 semester units to include the following:
 1. A minimum of 24 semester units of lower-division major courses.
 2. A minimum of 34 semester units of upper-division major courses.
 - a. Mt. San Antonio College courses designated as upper-division are applicable only to the baccalaureate degree and may not be used to satisfy associate degree requirements.
 - b. All courses designated as an upper-division major requirement must be completed with a minimum grade of "C" (or "P") for each course in the major.
 3. Lower-division general education coursework (37-39 semester units). Students may satisfy this requirement through one of the following:
 - a. Completion of California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC);
or

- b. Completion of a bachelor's degree from an institution accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education.
- 4. Nine semester units of upper-division general education courses.
- B. Complete a minimum of 12 Mt. San Antonio College units of study.
- C. Maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0; courses completed with a "P" may be used toward meeting baccalaureate degree requirements.

Certificates of Achievement and Other Credit Programs

For a certificate of achievement, a student must successfully complete a course of study or curriculum that consists of 16 or more semester units of degree-applicable credit coursework. The certificate of achievement shall be designed to demonstrate that the student has completed coursework and developed capabilities relating to career or general education.

Shorter credit programs that lead to a certificate may be established by the College.

Content and assessment standards for certificates shall ensure that certificate programs are consistent with the mission of Mt. San Antonio College, meet a demonstrated need, are feasible, and adhere to guidelines on academic achievement.

Certificates for which California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office approval is not sought may be given any name or designation deemed appropriate, except for certificate of achievement, certificate of completion, or certificate of competency.

The College may obtain approval of a direct assessment competency-based program from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.

Noncredit Certificates

The Mt. San Antonio College Catalog and Schedules of Classes contain the most recent information on the requirements for the Career Development and College Preparation (CDCP) Certificates, including Certificates of Completion and Certificates of Competency. Certificates are offered in a variety of noncredit programs through the School of Continuing Education. For the Secondary Education Certificate, students must complete 160 high school credits with a minimum of 20 residency credits to be taken at Mt. San Antonio College. High school credits may be granted for previous equivalent courses taken at accredited institutions per AP 4051 Course Equivalencies and Substitutions. The College Catalog is updated annually in consultation with the Academic Senate for currency and correctness.

Reviewed: May 14, 2013

Reviewed: December 6, 2014

Reviewed: June 9, 2015

Reviewed: May 10, 2016

Revised: May 10, 2023