

## **AR 4100 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR DEGREES**

District policies and regulations regarding the most recent general education, degree and certificate requirements shall be published in the College catalog, College website, and schedule of classes.

The following guidelines define the conditions under which Santa Monica College will award degrees and certificates. Coursework acceptable toward 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. There shall be no limit on the number of degrees and/or certificates that may be awarded to a student per AR 4100.1. The College will recognize academic excellence as defined in AR 4100.3.

Ethnic studies shall be offered at the College and requirements pertaining to graduation shall be published in the college catalog and college website.

A student with external college coursework shall have their courses evaluated by a counselor to determine applicability toward SMC degrees and certificates. Coursework completed at an **regionally institutionally** accredited institution to meet major/area of emphasis shall be evaluated by the appropriate Department Chair or designee. Exceptions shall be clearly stated on the College catalog and on "major sheets". Coursework from ~~foreign~~ **non-U.S. institutionally accredited** institutions is defined in AR 4100.5.

### **1) Associate Degrees**

An associate degree, Associate of Arts (AA) or Associate of Science (AS), will be conferred upon a student who satisfies the requirements of this section:

#### **a. Unit Requirement:**

Completion of at least 60 degree-applicable semester units. To convert quarter units to semester units, divide the total number of quarter units by 1.5.

**Courses that meet or exceed the standards of the California Community Colleges completed at other institutionally accredited institutions shall be counted toward associate degree unit requirements.**

b. GPA Requirement:

A minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 in degree-applicable coursework (includes transfer coursework, if applicable). **The District can calculate GPA solely on courses that satisfy degree requirements when a student earns over 60 units.**

c. Residency Requirement:

12 units completed in residency at Santa Monica College. A petition for Special Consideration for an exception to the residency requirement may be requested through Admissions and Records to alleviate an injustice or undue hardship on the student.

d. Major Requirement:

Completion of coursework with minimum grades of "C" or "P" must be earned in each course required in the major/area of emphasis. Any course taken on a "Pass/No Pass" basis with a grade of "P" shall count toward the major/area of emphasis units provided a "P" is equivalent to a "C" or better per Title 5, Section 55063(a)(2).

Completion of at least 18 semester or 27 quarter units of study in a single discipline or related disciplines, as listed in the community colleges "Taxonomy of Programs," or in an area of emphasis involving lower division coursework which prepares students for a field of study or for a specific major at the University of California or the California State University.

Courses in the major/area of emphasis may also satisfy a general education ~~and/or global citizenship/ethnic studies~~ requirement.

e. Global Citizenship Requirement:

Completion of one global citizenship course with a minimum grade of "D" or better or "P" at SMC. Any course taken at a ~~regionally/institutionally~~ accredited **institution college or university** on a "Pass/No Pass" basis with a grade of "P" shall count toward meeting the global citizenship requirement provided a "P" is equivalent to a "D" or better.

f. **Ethnic Studies Requirement:**

**Completion of one global ethnic studies course with a minimum grade of "D" or better or "P" at SMC. Any course taken at a institutionally accredited institution on a "Pass/No Pass" basis with a grade of "P" shall count toward meeting the ethnic studies requirement provided a "P" is equivalent to a "D" or better.**

g. English **Composition** Requirement:

Written expression may be satisfied in the following ways:

- i. Earning a “C” or better or “P” in an English Composition course at SMC or equivalent course from an **regionally institutionally** accredited **institution** ~~College or University~~ or another SMC course approved by the Curriculum Committee, per Title 5, Section 55063.
- ii. **Earning a “C” or better or “P” in a subject other than an English Composition course that is an approved course from an institutionally accredited institution meeting a written expression requirement which must be baccalaureate-level and include expository and argumentative writing.**
- iii. Score of 3 or higher on an AP English exam.
- iv. Score of 50 or higher on a CLEP English/College Composition exam.
- v. Upper division courses in English may be used to satisfy competency requirements for the degree.
- vi. Possession of an Associate degree, Bachelor’s degree or higher degree from an **regionally institutionally** accredited **institution** ~~College or University~~.

h. Math **Competency Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning** Requirement:

Math **competency Concepts and Quantitative reasoning** may be satisfied in the following ways:

- i. Earning a “C” or better or “P” in a mathematics course at the level of Intermediate Algebra or equivalent or higher-level math course from a **regionally institutionally** accredited **institution** ~~College or University~~ or another mathematics course at the same level or higher at SMC, or another course approved by the Curriculum Committee.
- ii. **Earning a “C” or better or “P” in a subject other than Math that is an approved course from an institutionally accredited institution meeting a quantitative reasoning requirement including logic, statistics, computer languages and related disciplines approved by the Curriculum Committee. (does not need to have Elementary Algebra as a prerequisite for a course to be approved).**
- iii. Satisfactory score on the Santa Monica College Math Proficiency Exam or Guided Math Self Placement and the completion of a 3-unit course approved by Curriculum Committee. A student may retest for the Math Proficiency Exam after a two-week waiting period.
- iv. Score of 3 or higher on an AP Calculus or Statistics exam.
- v. Score of 4 or higher on an IB Higher Level Mathematics exam.
- vi. Score of 50 or higher on a CLEP College Algebra, College Algebra-Trigonometry, Trigonometry or Calculus exam.

- vii. Upper division courses in Math may be used to satisfy competency requirements for the Associate degree.
- viii. Possession of an Associate degree, Bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally **institutionally** accredited **institution** ~~College or University~~.

i. General Education Requirements:

A student must complete one of the following general education patterns:

- SMC local General Education (SMC GE);
- California State University General Education Breadth (CSU GE); or
- Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC-UC) or (IGETC-CSU) **or**
- **CalGETC.**

1) The SMC local General Education pattern consists of:

- i. A minimum of ~~18~~ **21** semester units in general education, including ~~a global citizenship local course requirement and~~ courses in each General Education sub-area identified in Title 5 regulations as: Natural Sciences, Social and Behavioral Sciences, **Arts and Humanities, Oral Communication and Critical Thinking,** Language and Rationality and ~~Global Citizenship~~ **Ethnic Studies. Global Citizenship and History/Political Science Requirement? Additional units from required 18 to 21 (24 or 27?)**
- ii. **Courses in general education cannot count in more than one area, even if the course is approved in multiple general education areas.**
- iii. Per California Education Code, Section 66055.8, a student admitted to the SMC registered nursing program who has previously earned a Baccalaureate or higher degree from ~~an~~ **regionally institutionally** accredited institution ~~of higher education~~ is not required to undertake any coursework other than the coursework that is unique and exclusively required to earn a nursing degree ~~from that institution~~. Students need not complete additional local general education courses.
- iv. **A student with an associate, baccalaureate or higher degree from an institutionally accredited institution is not required to undertake any coursework other than the coursework that is unique and exclusively required for the**

major. Students need not complete additional local general education courses.

A student with a non-U.S. degree that evaluated the coursework by one of the recognized agencies accepted by SMC that affirms that the degree is equivalent to an Associate, Baccalaureate or higher degree equivalent to an institutionally accredited institution or coursework meeting or exceeding the requirements of comparable SMC required courses is not required to undertake any coursework other than the coursework that is unique and exclusively required for the major and the English Competency requirement. (What about a non-U.S. institution where the language of instruction is English? or course specific requirements for GE's?)

- 2) Alternatively, a student may satisfy general education requirements by completing either the CSU GE or IGETC or CalGETC pattern in full, ~~plus the SMC global citizenship/ethnic studies requirement (see 4.e).~~
  - i. General education courses may also satisfy major/area of emphasis, ~~and/or global citizenship/ethnic studies~~ requirements.
  - ii. Per SB 1440 requirements, students earning Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADT) are exempt from satisfying any local general education requirements (e.g., global citizenship).
  - iii. The use of upper division coursework on the CSU GE Breadth, CalGETC and IGETC is governed by CSU Executive Order 1100 and by IGETC Standards, respectively.
  - iv. Coursework from non-U.S. accredited institutions may only be used when pursuing the local GE requirements (also see AR 4100.5).
  - v. The following general education requirements for SMC degrees must be satisfied at a ~~U.S. regionally~~ institutionally accredited institution College or University. However, courses taken outside of the U.S. thought to meet these requirements will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the appropriate Department Chair (or designee).
    - ~~• Area II, Social Science, Group A~~
    - Area IV, Language and Rationality, Group A

- i. Students who intend to transfer shall be advised of limitations that transfer institutions may place on the transferability of credits, based on institutional accreditation, course modality, and any other relevant factors.

## 2) **Associates Degrees for Transfer (ADT) to California State University (CSU)**

The Associate in Arts for Transfer (AA-T) and Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T) degrees are designed to provide a clear pathway to a CSU major and baccalaureate degree.

- a. Students awarded an AA-T or AS-T are required to complete no more than 60 semester or 90 quarter units after transfer to earn a baccalaureate degree (unless the major is designated a “high unit” major).
- b. Students awarded an AA-T or AS-T degree are guaranteed admission to the CSU system and given priority admission consideration to their local CSU campus, and to a program that is deemed similar to their major. This priority does not guarantee admission to specific majors nor to all CSU campuses.
- c. Some majors and CSU campuses may require a higher GPA or specific courses for admission. Students shall meet with a counselor to find out which CSU campuses accept this degree and review options/requirements for transfer.
- d. This degree may not be the best option for students intending to transfer to a UC or to a particular University or College that is not part of the CSU system.
- e. The degree is issued by Admissions and Records and is annotated on the student’s transcript at the conclusion of the evaluation cycle for the relevant term.

An AA-T or an AS-T will be conferred upon a student who satisfies the following requirements:

- i. Unit Requirement:  
completion of at least 60 CSU semester units.
- ii. GPA Requirement:  
a minimum GPA of 2.0 in CSU applicable units. See AR 4225 Credit Course Repetition, excluding substandard coursework from the degree applicable GPA which has been repeated at another institution.
- iii. Residency Requirement:

completion of at least 12 units in residency at Santa Monica College.

- iv. Major Requirement:  
completion of at least 18 semester units required for the major/area of emphasis at a ~~U.S. regionally~~ **institutionally** accredited **institution** ~~college or university~~ with a grade of “C” or better, or with a “P” if the course was taken on a Pass/No Pass basis, and the “P” is equal to a “C” or better.
- v. General Education Requirements:  
completion of the CSU GE, or IGETC-CSU/**CaIGETC** pattern or IGETC-UC (not applicable for CSU transfer) that satisfy general education requirements as prescribed in each pattern with courses taken at a ~~U.S. regionally~~ **institutionally** accredited **institution** ~~college or university~~.

### 3) **Baccalaureate Degree**

A Bachelor of Science Degree in Interaction Design **or Cloud Computing** will be conferred upon a student who satisfies the following requirements:

Requirements include the following:

- a. Unit Requirement:  
Completion of at least 120 CSU semester units. To convert quarter units to semester units, divide the total number of quarter units by 1.5. **Courses that meet or exceed the standards of the California Community Colleges completed at other institutionally accredited institutions shall be counted toward associate degree unit requirements.**
- b. GPA Requirement:  
A minimum CSU grade point average (GPA) of 2.0.
- c. Residency Requirement:  
30 units completed in residency at Santa Monica College. A petition for Special Consideration for an exception to the residency requirement may be requested through Admissions and Records to alleviate an injustice or undue hardship on the student.
- d. Major Requirement:  
Completion of coursework with minimum grades of “C” or “P” must be earned in each course required in the major/area of emphasis. Any course taken on a

“Pass/No Pass” basis with a grade of “P” shall count toward the major/area of emphasis units provided a “P” is equivalent to a “C” or better per Title 5, Section 55063(a)(2).

All upper division requirements for the major must be completed at Santa Monica College. Any course substitution must be approved by the Department Chair.

e. Global Citizenship/**Ethnic Studies** Requirement:

Completion of one global citizenship/**Ethnic Studies** course with a minimum grade of “D” or better or “P” at SMC. Any course taken at an ~~regionally/institutionally~~ **institutionally** accredited ~~college or university~~ **institution** on a “Pass/No Pass” basis with a grade of “P” shall count toward meeting the global citizenship/**ethnic studies** requirement provided a “P” is equivalent to a “D” or better.

Courses in the global citizenship/**ethnic studies** area may also satisfy a general education and/or a major/area of emphasis requirement.

f. General Education Requirements:

i. Complete one of the following general education patterns:

- CSU GE for Interaction Design B.S. or
- IGETC CSU pattern for Interaction Design B.S.
- **CalGETC**

ii. ~~Foreign~~ coursework from a non-U.S. **institutionally** accredited institution can be used for IGETC/CSU GE. Students who have satisfactorily completed courses from a ~~foreign nation's~~ **non-U.S. institutionally** accredited **institution** university may be able to apply the course credits toward a degree at Santa Monica College. Students should consult a counselor before requesting to have credits evaluated by an approved agency. Course descriptions and syllabi may be required (see AR 4100.5 for specifics).

iii. Complete an additional 9 semester units of prescribed upper division general education coursework per Title 5, Section 55063 as listed on the Advisement Guide Sheet for Interaction Design Bachelor of Science.



- iv. The use of upper division coursework on the CSU GE **Breadth, CalGETC and IGETC** is governed by CSU Executive Order 1100 and by IGETC Standards, respectively.
- v. Courses in the major/area of emphasis may also satisfy a general education requirement.

#### 4. **Honorary Degrees**

See BP 4110 Honorary Degrees

#### 5. **Catalog Rights**

See AR 4000 Catalog Rights

Related AR's:

- AR 4100.1 Number of Degrees & Certificates Awarded to a Student
- AR 4100.2 Graduation Requirements for Certificates & Certification of General Education
- AR 4100.3 Recognition of Academic Excellence
- AR 4100.4 Institutional Accreditation Requirement of Coursework
- AR 4100.5 Transfer Credit from Non-U.S. Institutions
- AR 4100.6 Other College Credit & Non Credit Allowed & Not Allowed
- AR 4100.7 Transcripts and Test Scores
- AR 4100.8 Petitioning for Degrees and Certificates
- AR 4100.9 Commencement
- AR 4100.10 Updating Diplomas, Transcripts and Other Records Based on Name or Gender Change**

Reference: Education Code Sections 66055.8, 66746-66749, 70901-**02**, 78040-78043, **78213**;  
Title 5 Sections, 40402-40403, 55002, 55009, 55022, **55050**, 55052, **55064**,  
55070-72, 55250, 55270, 56032-56044 and ~~55060~~, **55061** et seq.  
Baccalaureate Degree Program Handbook

Revised: 4/29/2003, 7/22/08, 5/17/11, 12/3/13, 3/1/17, 5/5/22

***NOTE: SMC AR 4111.5 Submission of Official Transcripts and Test Scores approved on December 11, 2001 and revised on December 9, 2015; AR 4111.6 Transfer Credit from Foreign Institutions for a SMC Degree/Certificate approved on April 29, 2003 and revised on December 3, 2013, in May 2014, and on February 7, 2016; AR 4350 Graduation Requirements approved on April 29, 2003 and revised on July 22, 2008; May 17, 2011; and December 3, 2013; AR 4351 Catalog Rights approved on June 11, 2002 and revised on June 7, 2011 and April 28, 2015; AR 4352 Recognition of Academic Excellence***

*approved on May 4, 2004; AR 4353 Adjustment of Graduation Requirement for Students with Disabilities approved on May 2, 2006; AR 4354 Career and Development Certificates of Completion approved on December 12, 2006 and revised on November 2, 2010 and April 7, 2015; AR 4354.1 IGETC Certificate of Achievement approved on November 2, 2010; AR 4354.2 CSUGE Certificate of Achievement approved on November 2, 2010; AR 4355 Graduation Proficiency Assessments approved on November 14, 2006; AR 4356 Number of Degrees and Certificates Awarded to a Students approved on November 25, 2014; and AR 5310 Graduation Requirements with no date.*

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**Revised:** July 22, 2008 (for AR 4350); November 2, 2010 (for AR 4354, AR 4354.1, and AR 4354.2); May 17, 2011 (for AR 4350); June 7, 2011 (for AR 4351); December 3, 2013 (for AR 4350); May 2014 (for AR 4111.6); April 7, 2015 (for AR 4354); April 28, 2015 (for AR 4351); December 9, 2015 (for AR 4111.5); February 7, 2016 (for AR 4111.6)

### Dual Enrollment

Expansion of dual enrollment opportunities has been identified as a promising strategy to support access to California Community Colleges, advance higher education degrees, and reduce students' time to completion. With the arrival of Chancellor Christian, community college districts have been engaged in expanding equitable dual enrollment across the state. In collaboration with campus leaders engaged in this work, the Chancellor's Office identified two regulatory barriers to dual enrollment that were addressed in recent action taken by the Board of Governors:

1. Regulation was revised to clarify that **parental or guardian consent for student dual enrollment is not needed for each course**. Once given, parental or guardian consent is effective until it is revoked. This clarification will eliminate substantial administrative burden on parents, students, and community college districts associated with maintaining and updating consents.
2. Regulation was revised to remove from students and families the burden of providing high school transcripts or social security numbers. While community college districts may still gather this information, districts should coordinate with K12 partner schools/districts to obtain this information. Importantly, this regulatory change makes clear that high school transcripts and social security numbers cannot be used as a condition for student access to dual enrollment. This is particularly important for students who may not feel comfortable engaging or may not know how to engage school/district administration to request a high school transcript, **and undocumented students who do not have a social security number**.

We are aware that there are other policy barriers that need to be addressed (much of which is in education code). In addition to these regulatory revisions, the system can expect the Chancellor's Office to explore potential legislative changes and additional regulatory changes to improve access and success for dual enrollment students.

### Minimum Standards for the Associate's Degree

The Board of Governors also approved revisions to Title 5, sections 55060 through 55064, governing the requirements for the associate degree. The Chancellor's Office and the California Community Colleges Curriculum Committee (5C) spent two years reviewing and revising these regulations, completing a holistic review of the regulations to align with the new CalGETC singular general education pattern, to eliminate or **lessen administrative barriers for students**, and to simplify and streamline the language used. This regulatory action is the culmination of that work, which included field vetting with the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC), Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC), California Community Colleges Chief Instructional Officers (CCCCIO), California Community Colleges Chief Student Services Administrators (CSSO), and Articulation Officer Regional Representatives. Additionally, these revisions were supported by the CCC faculty body at their Spring 2023 plenary via Resolution 06.05 'Support Revised Title 5 Associate Degree Requirements' ([bit.ly/3O5wJ6h](https://bit.ly/3O5wJ6h)).

A number of revisions were made including:

- Removing the requirement of Elementary Algebra as a prerequisite for a course to be approved to meet the mathematics competency;
- Clarifying definitions of course "completion" (student receives credit) and course "satisfactory completion" (student receives a "C" or better or a "P");
- **Allowing (not requiring) districts to calculate Grade Point Average (GPA) solely on courses that satisfy degree requirements when a student earns over 60 units (for local degrees);**
- Clarifying that a course may be used by a student to meet a general education area requirement, a major/area of emphasis requirement, and a competency demonstration;
- Adding language from Section 55064 regarding the **use of noncredit courses to fulfill credit requirements as a form of credit for prior learning;**
- **Removing references to specific disciplines** and adding language focusing on the competencies students should be able to demonstrate (i.e., **written expression and quantitative reasoning**);
- Aligning association degree course requirements with the CalGETC pattern;
- Clarifying that Ethnic Studies courses are Baccalaureate-level courses (not to be confused with courses being above or below transfer-level);
- Clarifying that students who have been awarded a bachelor's degree from an 'institutionally-accredited institution' (new U.S. Department of Education nomenclature) shall be deemed to have fulfilled the general education course requirements for the associate degree; and
- **Specifying that 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.**

In all, these regulatory revisions **seek to increase the number of students completing an associate's degree and reduce the number of units students collect in pursuit of their degree by maximizing students' use of credits.**

Once approved by the state, the Chancellor's Office will disseminate additional guidance.

#### **§ 55060. Philosophy and Criteria for the Associate Degree and General Education.**

(a) District governing boards shall adopt and maintain a policy that states their goals for offering associate degrees and their specific philosophy on general education. In developing this policy, governing boards shall consider the following policy of the Board of Governors:

The Associate Degree provides a framework within which students complete patterns of learning experiences designed to develop capabilities and insights to support their academic and career goals. Among these capabilities and insights are competencies that are germane to all aspects of higher education and comprise a "general education" curriculum, such as the ability to think critically and to communicate clearly and effectively both orally and in writing, to use quantitative reasoning, understand the modes of inquiry of the major disciplines, to be aware of other cultures and times, to achieve insights gained through experience in thinking about ethical problems, and to develop the capacity for self-understanding.

Furthermore, general education introduces students to the variety of means through which people comprehend the modern world. It reflects the conviction of colleges that those who receive their degrees must have mastered principles, concepts, and methodologies both unique to and shared by the various disciplines. A general education program should create coherence and integration among the separate requirements and involve students actively in examining values inherent in proposed solutions to major social problems.

**(b) District governing boards shall establish criteria to determine which courses may be used to implement their goals for the associate degree and their philosophy of general education.**

**Oct 2023**

**§55061. Associate Degree Course Requirements.**

District governing boards may only approve associate degrees that meet the following course requirements:

(a) A minimum of 60 semester units (90 quarter units) of degree-applicable lower division credit courses, including courses that apply to the major or area of emphasis in career technical fields and courses in composition, reading, and mathematics or quantitative reasoning not more than one level below transfer. Below transfer level course requirements must align with Education Code section 78213.

(b) A minimum of 18 semester units (27 quarter units) of focused study in a major or interdisciplinary area of emphasis.

(1) A "major" is a focused program of study within a specific discipline, which may include some coursework outside the primary discipline. Programs designed to provide transfer preparation must be designed to meet specific lower-division requirements in comparable baccalaureate majors.

(2) An "area of emphasis" is an interdisciplinary program of study encompassing a broad range of courses from multiple related academic disciplines, providing the student with an academic pathway broader than a specific major but more focused than general education.

(c) A minimum of 21 semester units (28-31.5 quarter units) of general education in the areas described below.

(1) English Composition, Oral Communication, and Critical Thinking (minimum of 6 semester/8 quarter units) including:

(A) English Composition (minimum of 3 semester/4 quarter units). Courses fulfilling this requirement must be baccalaureate-level and include expository and argumentative writing.

(B) **Oral Communication and Critical Thinking** (minimum of 3 semester/ 4 quarter units). Courses fulfilling this requirement must be baccalaureate-level and may include oral communication and critical thinking courses.

(2) Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning (minimum of 3 semester/ 4 quarter units). Courses fulfilling this requirement must be at least college-level and may include mathematics or quantitative reasoning courses, including logic, statistics, computer languages, and related disciplines.

(3) Arts and Humanities (minimum of 3 semester/ 4 quarter units). Courses in the humanities study the cultural activities and artistic expressions of human beings. Such courses develop students' awareness of how people throughout the ages and in different cultures respond to themselves and the world around them in artistic and cultural creation, and develop

students' aesthetic understandings and abilities to make value judgments. Courses fulfilling

this requirement may include introductory or integrative baccalaureate-level courses in the visual and performing arts, art history, foreign languages, literature, philosophy, religion, and related disciplines.

(4) Social and Behavioral Sciences (minimum of 3 semester/ 4 quarter units). Courses in the social and behavioral sciences focus on people as members of society and develop awareness of the methods of inquiry used by the social and behavioral sciences. They stimulate critical thinking about how people act and have acted in response to their societies and promote appreciation of how societies and social subgroups operate. Courses fulfilling this

requirement may include introductory or integrative baccalaureate-level courses in cultural anthropology, cultural geography, economics, history, political science, psychology, sociology, and related disciplines.

(1) Natural Sciences (minimum of 3 semester/ 4 quarter units). Courses in the natural sciences examine the physical universe, its life forms, and its natural phenomena, helping students appreciate and understand the scientific method and the relationships between science and other human activities. Courses fulfilling this requirement may include introductory or integrative baccalaureate-level courses in astronomy, biology, chemistry, general physical science, geology, meteorology, oceanography, physical geography, physical anthropology, physics, and other scientific disciplines.

(2) Ethnic Studies (minimum of 3 semester/4 quarter units). Courses fulfilling this requirement may include baccalaureate-level courses in the four autonomous disciplines within Ethnic Studies: Black Studies: African American Studies: Africana Studies: Native American Studies: Chicano/a/x: Latino/a/x Studies/La Raza Studies: and Asian American Studies.

(b) "Integrative baccalaureate-level courses" draw broad connections between multiple perspectives and methodologies and demonstrate relationships within or between disciplines.

**§55062. Conditions for Awarding the Associate Degree.**

(a) District governing boards shall confer the associate degree upon students who have fulfilled the course requirements of section 55061. and who have met the following conditions:

(1) Satisfactory completion of at least 12 semester units (18 quarter units) in residence within the college district. Governing boards shall adopt policies that permit students to obtain waivers of this requirement in order to alleviate injustice and undue hardship.

(2) Satisfactory completion of each course counted toward the major or area of emphasis requirement with a grade of "C" or better. or of "P" if the course is taken on a "pass-no pass" basis:

(3) Completion of a minimum 21 semester units (or 28-31.5 quarter units) general education pattern pursuant to section 55061. or completion of the requirements for an approved intersegmental lower-division general education pattern used for transfer to the University of

**California or the California State University:** and

(4) Completion of the requirements for the associate degree with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 in the degree-applicable courses. If units accumulated beyond those required for the degree lower a student's cumulative grade point average below 2.0, colleges 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 fulfill all major/area of emphasis and general education requirements.

(b) Courses that meet or exceed the standards of the California Community Colleges completed at other institutionally accredited institutions shall be counted toward associate degree unit requirements.

(c) Courses may meet multiple requirements, including general education, a major or area of emphasis, and additional requirements stated in section 55061 when courses are locally approved to meet multiple requirements. However, **one course may not be counted in more than one general education area**, even if the course 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.

(d) Students may receive credit for knowledge or skills acquired through a district's procedures for awarding credit for prior learning.

(e) 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.

(f) The governing board of each community college district shall establish procedures by which a student may petition to have completion of a noncredit course counted toward satisfaction of the requirements for an associate degree.

(g) 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.