III. LIBERAL ARTS DEGREE

Associate in Arts (AA) Degree Program

Honolulu Community College’s Associate in Arts (AA) Degree is a two-year liberal arts degree designed to provide students with (1) skills and perspectives fundamental to undertaking higher education; and, (2) a broad exposure to different domains of academic knowledge.

Sixty (60) semester credits of courses numbered at the 100 and 200 levels are required for the degree. Requirements include a General Education core of 31 credits:

Graduation Proficiency:

- Written competence will be demonstrated by either completion of ENG 100 or higher or another approved course in the written Communication category.
- Computational competence will be demonstrated by placement in MATH 100 and completion of MATH 100 or another approved course in the Symbolic Reasoning category.

12 credits of Foundation courses in three areas:
1. Written Communication;
2. Symbolic Reasoning; and
3. Global and Multicultural Perspectives; and,

19 credits of Diversification courses in three areas:
1. Arts, Humanities, and Literatures;
2. Natural Sciences; and,

Students are required to take Focus courses to enhance their knowledge and skills in:
1. Writing;
2. Understanding the cultural diversity in Hawai‘i, the Pacific and Asia; and,
3. Analyzing and deliberating on ethical problems.

In addition, students are required to take 3 credits of Speech to improve their speaking and communication skills.

Program Learning Outcomes for the AA degree

The University College Divisions of Honolulu Community College are committed to providing the first two years of a traditional baccalaureate education by offering high-quality general education in liberal arts and sciences.

The student will be able to:
1. Communicate effectively by means of listening, speaking, reading, and writing in varied situations and understanding basic quantitative information (mathematical skills).
2. Apply symbolic reasoning skills to solve problems, evaluate arguments and chains of reasoning, and interpret information.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the life processes, individual development, thinking process, and behavior as well as an understanding of the natural environment of the planet and learn to utilize natural resources without damaging the environment.
4. Demonstrate a comprehension and skill with research methods and scientific inquiry.
5. Display knowledge of different groups and organizations in societies and respect for varied cultural values.
6. Demonstrate a greater ethical understanding and reasoning ability about contemporary ethical issues.
7. Identify and articulate in a reasoned manner the roots and causal basis of contemporary issues.
8. Demonstrate a knowledge of one or more art forms and the role that the arts play in history and culture.

Transferring to Another College or University

Transferring with an AA Degree to UH-Mānoa, UH-Hilo, or UH-West O‘ahu: Students who earn an Associate in Arts (AA) degree from Honolulu CC are accepted as having completed the General Education requirements at UH- Mānoa, UH-Hilo, and UH-West O‘ahu (UH Executive Policy ES.209, effective Fall 1994).
All courses taken for an AA degree are transferable within the UH System. However, some programs and majors may require additional coursework beyond those required for the AA degree. For example, some programs require competency in a second language in addition to English.

Students should consult with a Liberal Arts Academic Counselor, for example, Pre-Business or Pre-Education, for assistance in planning which courses will fulfill graduation requirements for the transfer institution's Bachelor's degree program. Counselors can assist students in selecting a major with courses that have already been taken that are transferable.

Students should be aware of application deadlines for schools they plan to transfer to. For UH-Mānoa, priority deadlines are February 1 for the Fall semester and September 1 for the Spring semester; final deadlines are May 1 for the Fall semester and October 1 for the Spring semester. International applicants must meet the priority deadlines. Some programs at UH-Mānoa have earlier deadlines.

**Transferring to UH-Mānoa and UH-Hilo Without an AA Degree:** Students may transfer to UH-Mānoa or UH-Hilo before receiving an AA Degree, as long as they have completed 24 transferable credits (numbered 100 and above) by the time of application with a grade-point average (GPA) of 2.0 (residents) or 2.5 (non-residents) for all transferable credits from all colleges attended. NOTE: Some programs at UH Mānoa or UH Hilo may have additional admission requirements or may require a GPA higher than 2.0 or 2.5.

While the Honolulu CC GPA is not used in calculating cumulative GPA at four-year campuses, it is considered for admissions purposes. “D” grades from the UH System are accepted for general admissions to UH Mānoa; however, they may not be accepted as graduation requirements in some programs.

Students who do not have 24 transferable credits are subject to the same admission requirements as entering freshmen at UH-Mānoa and UH-Hilo, such as satisfactory high school transcripts and official scores of the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or the American College Test (ACT).

**Transferring to Other Institutions:** Students may transfer courses from Honolulu CC to colleges and universities outside the UH System in Hawai‘i and on the Mainland. The institution to which the student transfers determines the courses that will transfer. In Hawai‘i, Honolulu CC has articulation agreements with Hawai‘i Pacific University and Chaminade University.

For more detailed information on how to apply and transfer to other colleges or universities, contact the college or university directly or see a Honolulu CC Liberal Arts Counselor for assistance. Application deadlines for individual schools vary.

**Honolulu Community College AA Degree Prerequisites and Requirements:**

**Program Prerequisite:** ENG 100 + ENG 100S or ESL 23 or ENG 100 + 100T or ESL 13 & 14 OR Placement in ENG 100 or higher; Placement in MATH 100 or higher.

**General Requirements for the AA Degree:**

1. Minimum required credits: 60
2. To be eligible for the AA, students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 (“C”) or higher. (The AA GPA is based on all courses numbered 100 or higher.) See additional academic requirements in **PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS**.
3. All courses must be numbered 100 or above.
4. Two courses taken as Writing Intensive (W), and passed with a grade of “C” or higher. Students are encouraged to take a third Writing Intensive course, preferably in a different subject area, while at Honolulu CC. ENG 100 with a grade of “C” or higher is a prerequisite for Writing Intensive courses.
5. At least one course in the following two Focus areas: (1) Hawaiian, Asian, and Pacific Issues; (2) Ethical Issues.
6. At least one course must be taken in Speech.
7. To graduate with an AA degree from a University of Hawai‘i Community College, a student must have earned a minimum of 12 credits of program courses in the degree/major from that college. Exceptions to the policy, to reduce the number of required credits, may be made on a case-by-case basis by the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, or designee, in consultation with the appropriate campus personnel, at the degree-granting college.

**Cost of Textbooks/Supplies:**
The cost for books is estimated to be approximately $200-$250 per semester for full-time Liberal Arts majors.
Course Requirements for the AA Degree:

Liberal Arts students are strongly encouraged to complete the Foundation Requirements of ENG 100 and Symbolic Reasoning early in their academic program. It is also important for students to stay “on track” with course selections appropriate for the major they plan to enter following their AA degree at Honolulu CC. Students may check with a Liberal Arts Counselor, when necessary, to be sure they are taking courses for the intended transfer program.

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Note: Enrollment in most transfer level courses requires placement in ENG 100 + 100S or ESL 23.

Note: Electives are any courses numbered 100 or higher and make up the balance of credits needed to fulfill the 60 credit total required for the Associate in Arts degree. Students will save time and effort by selecting electives that satisfy program prerequisites for the intended Bachelor’s degree. Students may see a Counselor for assistance in selecting Elective credits appropriate for their major.

Note: Not all classes are offered every semester or every year. Students should check Class Availability online and/or speak with a Counselor when selecting courses.

1. Foundations Requirement for the AA Degree: 12 Credits

Foundation courses include courses in Written Communication, Symbolic Reasoning, and Global-Multicultural Perspectives. Because these courses are intended to give students skills and perspectives that are fundamental to undertaking higher education, students are encouraged to take their Written Communication, Symbolic Reasoning, and Global-Multicultural Perspectives courses in their first year. Foundation courses approved to date are listed below.

Note: Courses taken to fulfill the Foundations Requirement may not be used to fulfill requirements in other categories (i.e., Diversification or Focus Requirements).

- **Written Communication (FW) Requirement: 3 Credits.**
  Courses designated as FW introduce students to the rhetorical, conceptual, and stylistic demands of writing at the college level. The courses provide instruction in composing processes, search strategies, and composing from sources. It also provides students with experience in the library and on the Internet as well as enhancing skills in accessing and using various types of primary and secondary materials.
  
  ENG 100 or ENG 100 + 100S or ENG 100 + 100T

- **Symbolic Reasoning (FS) Requirement: 3 Credits.**
  Courses designated as FS expose students to the beauty and power of formal systems, as well as to the clarity and precision of these systems. FS courses focus not solely on computational skills; students also learn the concept of proof as a chain of inferences; apply formal rules or algorithms; and engage in hypothetical reasoning. An FS course aims to develop the ability of students to use appropriate symbolic techniques in the context of problem solving and in the presentation and critical evaluation of evidence.
  
  Students placing into MATH 100 or higher are required to complete one of the following approved courses in the Symbolic Reasoning category:
  
  MATH 100, 103, 115, 135, 140, 203, 205
  PHIL 110
  
  Recommended Preparation: Math prerequisites should be completed within the last two (2) years.

- **Global & Multicultural Perspectives (FG) Requirement: 2 Courses, 6 Credits, from two groups.**
  Courses designated as FG provide thematic treatments of global processes and cross-cultural interactions from a variety of perspectives. Students gain a sense of human development from prehistory to modern times through consideration of narratives and artifacts from diverse cultures. At least one component of each of the two courses covers the indigenous cultures of Hawai‘i, the Pacific, and Asia.
  
  Group FGA: ANTH 151; HIST 151
  Group FGB: AMST 150; HIST 152, GEOG 102
  Group FGC: MUS 107; REL 150
2. **DIVERSIFICATION REQUIREMENT FOR THE AA DEGREE: 19 CREDITS.**

The diversification requirement is intended to assure that every student has a broad exposure to different domains of academic knowledge while, at the same time, allowing flexibility for students with different goals and interests. Diversification courses approved to date are listed below.

**Note:** Diversification courses must come from different departments than the courses students used to satisfy the Foundations Global & Multicultural Perspectives requirement.

a. **Arts (DA), Humanities (DH), & Literatures (DL) Requirement: 6 Credits, from two different groups.**

   **Group 1: The Arts (DA)**

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<tr>
<th>Mainly Theory:</th>
<th>Mainly Practice:</th>
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<tr>
<td>ART 101</td>
<td>ART 107D, 111, 113, 112, 123, 213</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUS 106</td>
<td>MUS 121D, 121Z, 122D, 122Z, 253</td>
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<tr>
<td>THEA 101, 201</td>
<td>SP 151, 251, 290</td>
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   *(Any combination of one-credit courses that totals three-credit hours will be considered the equivalent of a one-semester course.)*

   **Group 2: Humanities (DH)**

   - AMST 201, 202
   - ANTH 135 *(cross-listed as SSCI 125)*
   - ASAN 100, 241 *(cross-listed as HIST 241), 242 (cross-listed as HIST 242)*
   - HIST 231, 232, 241 *(cross-listed as ASAN 241), 242 (cross-listed as ASAN 242), 246, 250, 281, 288, 296M, 297B
   - HWST 107, 282, 285
   - PHIL 100, 101, 102, 109, 120, 255
   - REL 151, 201, 210
   - SSCI 125 *(cross-listed as ANTH 135)*

   **Group 3: Literature and Language (DL)**

   - EALL 271 *(cross-listed as ENG 271), 272 (cross-listed as ENG 272)*
   - HWST 270
   - JOUR 268 *(cross-listed as ENG 268),

b. **Natural Sciences Requirement: 6-7 Credits, one Biological Science (DB), one Physical Science (DP), and one Laboratory (DY).**

   **Group 1: Biological Sciences (DB)**

   - AG 100
   - BIOL 100, 103/103L, 123, 124/124L, 171/171L, 172/172L
   - BOT 101/101L, 130/130L
   - FSHN 185
   - MICR 130, 140 *(lab)*
   - PHYL 141/141L *(cross-listed as ZOOL 141/141L), 142/142L (cross-listed as ZOOL 142/142L)*
   - PSY 230
   - SCI 101, 295V *(DY)*
   - ZOOL 101 *(lab incl.), 141/141L (cross-listed as PHYL 141/141L), 142/142L (cross-listed as PHYL 142/142L), 200/200L

   **Group 2: Physical Sciences (DP)**

   - ASTR 110/110L
   - ATM 101/101L
   - BIOL 100L
   - CHEM 141, 142
   - CHEM 100/100L, 105 *(lab incl.), 105C, 105E (lab incl.), 151/151L, 161/161L, 162/162L, 272/272L
   - GEOG 101/101L
   - GG 101/101L, 103
   - HWST 281/281L
   - ATMO 101/101L
   - OCN 102, 180, 201/201L
PHYS 100/100L, 105 (lab incl.), 122 (lab incl., cross-listed as SCI 122), 151/151L, 152/152L, 170/170L, 272/272L, 274
SCI 122 (lab incl., cross-listed as PHYS 122), 295V (DY)

c. Social Sciences (DS) Requirement: 6 Credits, 3 credits each from 2 different disciplines.

ANTH 150, 200,
ASAN 250 (cross-listed as POLS 250)
BOT 105 (cross-listed as HWST 105)
ECON 120, 130, 131
FAMR 230
GEOG 122
HWST 105 (cross-listed as BOT 105)
JOUR 150
LING 102
POLS 109, 120, 130, 250 (cross-listed as ASAN 250)
PSY 100, 180, 212, 220, 225, 240, 250, 260, 270
SOC 100, 214, 218, 231, 251, 257
SP 181
WS 151, 230

3. Focus Requirements for the AA Degree:
The three Focus Requirements for Honolulu CC’s AA degree identify three skills and discourses essential to General Education: writing; Hawaiian, Asian, and Pacific issues; and, ethical analysis and deliberation.

Courses fulfilling focus requirements may come from across the curriculum. Any course in the AA degree curriculum may be given these designations, except for Foundation courses (FW, FS, and FG courses). Specific course sections are approved for Focus Designations by a faculty committee of the General Education Board and are identified on the Honolulu CC website (www.honolulu.hawaii.edu) Class Availability link by WI-, H-, and HCC-E- before the course titles. (i.e. ENG 250 WI-American Literature)

For a list of Focus courses offered each semester, see the Honolulu CC Registration Guide (www.honolulu.hawaii.edu/registration).

- Writing Intensive (WI): 2 Courses Required. Courses designated WI- before the course title are designed to provide students with opportunities to develop writing skills in a variety of subject areas. Since Writing Intensive courses provide a range of writing experiences, students are encouraged to select courses in different subject areas. This allows students to meet this Focus requirement while also fulfilling Diversification requirements. Students planning to transfer to UH-Mānoa (which requires two of five Writing Intensive courses at the 300 or 400 level) are encouraged to take a third Writing Intensive course while at Honolulu CC. Courses designated WI- fulfill the WI-focus requirement at any UH campus.

- Hawaiian, Asian, and Pacific Issues (H): 1 Course Required. Courses designated H- before the course title are designed to increase a student’s understanding of Hawaiian, Asian, and Pacific issues and to foster multicultural understanding and respect. Courses designated H- fulfill the H-focus requirement at any UH campus.

- Contemporary Ethical Issues (E): 1 Course Required. Courses designated HCC-E- before the course title are designed to give students tools for the development of responsible deliberation and ethical judgment. Courses designated HCC-E- fulfill the E-focus requirement at Honolulu CC, but not at UH Mānoa. UH-Mānoa requires a 300-level E-focus course for graduation.

4. Speech Requirements for the AA Degree: 3 Credits
The Speech requirement is intended to provide for the development of clear and effective oral communication skills. Speech courses approved to date are listed below.

SP 151, 181, 251,
Liberal Arts: Degree Programs

Hawaiian Studies

The Hawaiian Studies Associate in Arts will provide pathways, support, and recognition for students who are pursuing an AA at Honolulu Community College which is a two-year liberal arts degree that provides students with, 1) skills and perspectives fundamental to undertaking higher education; and, 2) a broad exposure to different domains of academic knowledge. This program will also ensure that students will enter a baccalaureate Hawaiian Studies program with the skills and knowledge required to promote success in the Hawaiian Studies major. The AA in Hawaiian Studies has comparable foundation, and diversification requirements to the Honolulu CC AA in Liberal Arts. It includes an expanded set of graduation requirements that, 1) provides students with a foundational introduction to the study of Hawaiian knowledge, cultural understanding, and values through exposure to origins, language, environment, craft, history, politics and culture; and, 2) supports the development and training of students toward the use of Hawaiian based knowledge and methods in the workforce and other areas of inquiry such as science, humanities, the arts, social sciences, and other professional endeavors.

For more information on requirements, see Hawaiian Studies in the LIBERAL ARTS DEPARTMENTS section.

Natural Sciences

The Natural Science Associate of Science is a two-year liberal arts degree program that will prepare students to transfer to baccalaureate STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) programs with recognized and supported pathways. With concentrations in Biological Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Engineering students have the opportunity to apply fundamental concepts and techniques in their chosen field of study, such as biology, chemistry, geology, engineering, etc. Upon successful completion of the program, students are able to analyze data using the most current technology, apply mathematical, physical and chemical concepts and techniques to scientific issues, and communicate scientific ideas and principles.

For more information on requirements, see Natural Sciences in the LIBERAL ARTS DEPARTMENTS section.
Liberal Arts: Academic Subject Certificates (ASC)

Asian Studies
Honolulu Community College offers students the opportunity to study the language, culture, history, politics, economics, and religion of Asia in an interdisciplinary program leading to an Academic Subject Certificate in Asian Studies. This academic credential is designed to provide students with an extension of the AA degree and when included on student transcripts, can be the first step toward employment in a variety of professional and academic fields related directly or indirectly to Asia.

To receive this credential, the student must complete 30 credits of Asian Studies-related coursework. In addition, a student must show competency in an Asian language equivalent to or better than having finished the second year of a college language course (i.e. JPN 202). A student can show competency through a transcript showing the student has finished the second year of an Asian Language course with a “C” or higher, or a certificate or letter showing the results of a placement test at a recognized university or college language testing facility. Native speakers of an Asian language can show competency by certifying their native speaker status. A grade of “C” or higher must be earned for all courses required in the certificate.

For more information on requirements, see Asian Studies in the LIBERAL ARTS DEPARTMENTS section.

Communication
Honolulu Community College offers its students the opportunity to study Communication in a program leading to an Academic Subject Certificate in Communication. This academic credential is included on student transcripts and can be the first step toward employment in a variety of professional and academic fields related directly or indirectly to Communication.

To receive this credential, the student must complete courses in Communication, Journalism, Public Relations and Speech. A grade of “B” or higher must be earned in COM 201, and a grade of “C” or higher must be earned for all other courses required in the certificate.

For more information on requirements, see Communication in the LIBERAL ARTS DEPARTMENTS section.

Psychology
Honolulu Community College offers its students the opportunity to study Psychology in a program leading to an Academic Subject Certificate in Psychology. This academic credential is included on student transcripts and can be the first step toward employment in a variety of professional and academic fields related directly or indirectly to Psychology.

To receive this credential, the student must complete Survey of Psychology, Survey of Research Methods, Statistical Techniques, and one course each from three of four areas: Experimental, Psychobiology, Developmental, and Social or Personality. In addition, students must complete one elective course in Psychology. A grade of “C” or higher must be earned for all courses required in the certificate.

For more information on requirements, see Psychology in the LIBERAL ARTS DEPARTMENTS section.
Liberal Arts: Pre-Professional Course Sequences

Pre-Business Administration Courses
Honolulu Community College offers most of the lower division courses required for the first two years of the Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) degree at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa (UH Mānoa). For more information regarding the BBA degree, please visit www.shidler.hawaii.edu.

Pre-Business Administration Course Offerings at Honolulu CC Include:

- General Education Requirements
- Pre-Business Core Courses
  - ENG 100 or ENG 100 (with 100S)
  - SP 151 or SP 251
  - ACC 201
  - ACC 202
  - MATH 203 or MATH 205
  - ECON 130
  - ECON 131
  - ICS 101
  - The following courses are applicable to the BBA degree:
    - BLAW 200
    - ENG 209
    - PSY 100 or SOC 100 (recommended prerequisites to BUS 315 in the Business Core)
- Arts and Humanities courses
- Natural Science courses
- Foreign Language 101, 102, 201, 202 (Graduation Requirement)

Pre-Education Courses
Honolulu Community College offers lower division courses required for the Bachelor of Education (BEd) degree at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. Please see a Liberal Arts Counselor for information regarding specific requirements for Elementary Education majors and for Secondary Education majors in various teaching areas. For more information regarding the BEd degree, visit www.coe.hawaii.edu.

Pre-Nursing Courses
Honolulu Community College offers most of the lower division courses required for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree programs at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo, and other four-year colleges, as well as Kapi‘olani Community College’s Nursing program. See a Liberal Arts Counselor for information regarding specific courses required by the various nursing programs.

Lower Division Social Work Courses
Honolulu Community College offers all the knowledge-based courses required for admission into the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree program at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. In addition, some courses overlap with the General Education Core at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. Interested students should contact their Liberal Arts Counselor for transfer information. For more information regarding the BSW degree program, please visit www.hawaii.edu/sswork/bsw.html.