



Title

General Education Policy

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Policy Number: HCCP 5.213
Effective Date: May 11, 2024
Prior Dates Amended: April 27, 2012
Review Date: April 4, 2029

I. Purpose

It is the purpose of this policy to: (1) Establish a philosophy and rationale for General Education as a part of Board of Regents' approved credentials offered by Honolulu Community College; and (2) Establish a framework for General Education for degrees offered by Honolulu Community College ("HonCC" or "College").

II. Related Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines

- [Board of Regents Policy, RP 5.213, General Education](#)
- [UHCC Policy 5.200 General Education in All Degree Programs](#)

III. Policy

Honolulu Community College offers instruction in a wide range of disciplines in the arts and sciences that lead to Associate in Arts degrees, as well as numerous career-focused technical programs that culminate in Associate Applied Science, Associate in Technical Studies, or Associate in Sciences degrees, or Certificates of Completion, or Certificates of Achievement.

It is the policy of Honolulu Community College that all associate degrees have a component of General Education that is in alignment with University of Hawai'i ("UH" or "University") and University of Hawai'i Community Colleges ("UHCC") system policies, as well as meeting the expectations of our various accreditors. The College's General Education requirements follow the UHCC framework.

The goal of General Education is to develop well-rounded individuals who are prepared to navigate a diverse, complex, and ever-changing world, with knowledge, skills, and values that extend beyond their chosen majors and career paths. The specific requirements that students are expected to fulfill to complete the component of General Education shall be clearly described in the College Catalog.

A. Associate in Arts Degree

The Associate in Arts (“AA”) degree and its various components has been designed to meet the lower division General Education requirements and hallmarks established by the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa and endorsed individually by the Faculty Senates of the University of Hawai‘i Community Colleges. The specific Honolulu Community College AA degree requirements are detailed in Attachment A.

B. Associate in Science (“AS”), Associate in Applied Science (“AAS”), and Associate in Technical Studies (“ATS”) Degrees

Career preparation programs offered by the University of Hawai‘i Community Colleges have been oriented to accomplish the outcomes that include program requirements designed to build upon the student successful attainment of learning foundation skills. All of the degree applicable credits are expected to be at a level beyond those established as learning foundation skills.

The goal of relevant general education is to prepare students to adapt to changes in their environment and to instill a desire for life-long learning. The acceptance of the inevitability of change and the development of coping skills and attitudes to meet the growing demands of the family, the workplace, and society as a whole will contribute to the individual's well-being.

The specific Honolulu Community College degree requirements for all Career and Technical Education (“CTE”) associate degrees are detailed in Attachment B.

C. General Education Framework

The General Education framework includes:

- General Education Categories and requirements for each category;
- Identification of means by which requirements of each category may be met (e.g., placement testing, course completion, assessment of attainment of student learning outcomes); and
- Identification of courses that may be used to satisfy the requirements of a given category as well as a process by which new or other courses could also be approved for that purpose.

IV. Responsibilities

The Committee on Programs and Curricula (“CPC”) and its relevant subcommittees oversees the General Education framework. The CPC is a committee under the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

Each dean and division chair, in consultation with the faculty and the advisory bodies from each of the programs within their respective divisions, shall ensure that program prerequisites are set at an appropriate level, and that General Education requirements are published.

The Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs shall periodically review the degree requirements of each associate degree program to assure the published requirements are consistent with the established policy.

V. Attachments

A. Attachment A – Associate in Arts Degree Requirements

B. Attachment B – Career and Technical Education Associate Degrees Requirements

VI. Approval

Chancellor Approval Date: May 11, 2024