

**Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD)  
2023-2024 Associate In Science (AS) Degree**

**Description**

The Maricopa County Community College District Associate in Science (AS) degree requires a minimum of 60 semester credits for the program of study; minimum total credits vary by specific emphasis (for example, Associate in Science, Emphasis in Physics). Refer to [curriculum.maricopa.edu](http://curriculum.maricopa.edu) and click on Current Programs to search for the corresponding area of emphasis for credit minimums. A minimum grade point average of 2.0 (4.0 scale) and grades of “C” or better are required in all courses to earn the degree. The AS degree is governed by the MCCCD General Academic Policies for Degrees Designed for University Transfer.

The Associate in Science degree includes the following components:

- I. Program Prerequisites (as specified by emphasis area)
- II. Required Courses
- III. Restricted Electives (as specified by emphasis area)
- IV. Arizona General Education Curriculum for Science (AGEC-S)
- V. MCCCD Additional Requirements (Oral Communication and Critical Reading)
- VI. General Electives (if needed to reach minimum credits for degree)

**Purpose of the Degree**

The Associate in Science (AS) degree is designed for students planning to transfer to four-year colleges and universities. In general, the components of the degree meet requirements for majors with more stringent mathematics and mathematics-based science requirements. Generally, the degree will transfer as a block without loss of credit to Arizona’s public universities and other institutions with district-wide articulation agreements. It does not, however, guarantee acceptance into particular university majors/programs with a limited number of students. Students should consult with their transfer institution for any specific admission requirements (e.g., GPA, letters of reference, work experience).

In most cases, courses used to satisfy the MCCCD Associate in Science (AS) will apply to general university graduation requirements of the majors that align with the AS degree; however, students need to be aware of any specific requirements of their intended major at the university to be sure they select courses that will meet them. Information regarding the articulation of the AS with majors at the Arizona public universities can be accessed via the following website: [aztransfer.com/tools](http://aztransfer.com/tools)

It is recommended that students select courses that meet more than one general education and/or awareness area requirement. Doing so will maximize the number of math and science electives the student can take as part of the Associate in Science degree.

**Special Academic Policies that Govern the Associate in Science Degree**

- The AGECS does not require a course with [CS] Computer/Statistics designation.
- Unlike the AGECA and AGECS, the same course is allowed to satisfy the ([L] and [HU]) or ([L] and [SB]) areas for the AGECS. The credits for such a “shared” course are only counted once toward the required minimum for the degree.

**Degree Requirements**

The requirements for the Associate in Science (AS) follow. The AS degree requires at least 60 credits; however, minimum credits for the AS may vary for a specific area of emphasis. Refer to [curriculum.maricopa.edu](http://curriculum.maricopa.edu) and click on Current Programs to search for the corresponding area of emphasis and credit minimums. The following websites identify the courses that apply to the different General Education Core and Awareness Areas: [AGECS](#) and the [AGEC Matrix](#).

**Requirements****Credits**

<b>I. Program Prerequisites.....</b>	<b>Number varies</b>
Program prerequisites for the AS degree vary by specific emphasis, and are neither required for all emphases nor for the general AS degree without a specific emphasis. Refer to <a href="http://curriculum.maricopa.edu">curriculum.maricopa.edu</a> and click on Current Programs to search for the corresponding area of emphasis for specific courses required and credit minimums.	
<b>II. Required Courses.....</b>	<b>Number varies</b>
Students must complete FYE 101 (1) or FYE 103 (3) and select the required courses for the specific AS degree emphasis. Refer to <a href="http://curriculum.maricopa.edu">curriculum.maricopa.edu</a> and click on Current Programs to search for the corresponding area of emphasis for specific courses required and credit minimums.	
<b>III. Restricted Electives.....</b>	<b>Number varies</b>
Restricted electives for the AS degree vary by specific emphasis and are not required for the general AS degree without a specific emphasis. Refer to <a href="http://curriculum.maricopa.edu">curriculum.maricopa.edu</a> and click on Current Programs to search for the corresponding area of emphasis for specific courses required and credit minimums.	
<b>IV. Arizona General Education Curriculum—Science (AGEC-S).....</b>	<b>up to 56</b>
The AGEC-S requires a minimum of 36 credits (33 if FYC is met by single transfer course)*. Courses applied to meet AGEC-A requirements vary by emphasis. Refer to <a href="http://curriculum.maricopa.edu">curriculum.maricopa.edu</a> and click on Current Programs to search for the corresponding area of emphasis for specific courses required and credit minimums.	
Any prerequisite/required/restricted elective courses that also have one or more AGEC designation(s) may be applied toward both requirements. Credits for such shared courses are only counted once toward the total credits for the degree.	
AGEC designations are subject to change. See <a href="#">AGEC matrix</a> for each course's value(s) in the semester it is taken. Some of the courses have been approved for more than one designation. Notes below will show how such courses may be used to meet multiple degree requirements.	
A. First-Year Composition [FYC].....	<b>6*</b>
ENG101 OR ENG107.....	(3)*
AND ENG102 OR ENG108.....	(3)*
B. Literacy and Critical Inquiry [L].....	<b>0-3**</b>
Students 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. It may also have been approved to satisfy one or more Awareness Areas ([C], [G], [H]). (AGEC designations are subject to change. See <a href="#">AGEC matrix</a> for each course's value(s) in the semester it is taken.)	
C. Mathematical Applications [MA].....	<b>4-5</b>
The AGEC-S requires the first semester of a calculus sequence 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].....	<b>6</b>
For the AGEC-S, a single course with both [HU] and [L] designations may satisfy both Areas. Note that some [HU] courses also have Awareness Areas designations and can be used to satisfy [C], [G] and/or [H] requirement(s) as well as their respective Core Area(s). (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**

For the AGECS, a single course with both [SB] and [L] designations may satisfy both Areas. Note that some [SB] courses also have Awareness Areas designations and can be used to satisfy [C], [G] and/or [H] requirement(s) as well as their respective Core Area(s). (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) to ten (10) credits of General Chemistry, University Physics, General Biology for Majors, or Physical and Historical Geology. Consult specific requirements of university transfer major for guidance or refer to [curriculum.maricopa.edu](http://curriculum.maricopa.edu) and click on Current Programs to search for the corresponding area of emphasis.

[(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 and transfer guides, to select six (6)- ten (10) additional math and/or science credits that meet requirements for the 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 course(s) may be used to satisfy one or more Awareness Area(s) as well as other AGECE requirements. (See <a href="#">AGECE matrix</a> 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)
<b>V. MCCC Additional Requirements.....</b>	<b>0-6</b>
Some courses in this area have [SB] and [L] designations and may also be applied to the corresponding AGECE requirements. See the <a href="#">AGECE matrix</a> on <a href="#">aztransfer.com/tools</a> for course designations.	
A. Oral Communication.....	(0-3)
COM100 [SB] Introduction to Human Communication OR	
COM110 [SB] Interpersonal Communication OR	
COM225 [L] Public Speaking OR	
COM230 [SB] Small Group Communication (3 credits) OR	
COM100AA & COM100AB & COM100AC [SB] (3 credits) OR	
COM110AA & COM110AB & COM110AC [SB] (3 credits)	
B. Critical Reading.....	(0-3)
CRE101 [L] Critical Reading OR equivalent as indicated by assessment	
<b>VI. General Electives.....</b>	<b>0-28</b>
Select courses 100-level or higher if needed to complete a minimum of 60 semester credits but no more than a total of 64 semester credits, which is the maximum number of credits accepted toward most degree programs at Arizona's public universities. Ideally, students should select courses that meet requirements for their major/area of interest and transfer institution. MCCC has established recommended courses and sequencing to align with various "Emphasis Areas" in one of nine different "Fields of Interest." See <a href="#">maricopa.edu/degrees-certificates</a> for links to these transfer pathways.	
Maricopa courses and external courses evaluated as Maricopa equivalents, departmental electives (e.g., HISELC for a history elective), or general electives (GENELC) that are numbered 100 level or higher, and completed with a grade of "C" or higher, may be applied in the elective area, regardless of potential transferability to other institutions. It is recommended, however, that students planning to transfer to a baccalaureate-granting institution meet these general elective requirements with courses that are transferable and applicable to their intended university degree. Transfer and major guides are accessible on the following websites: <a href="#">aztransfer.com/tools</a> , <a href="#">maricopa.edu/degrees-certificates/transfer/pathways-partners</a> as well as those of individual universities. For appropriate course selection, students should consult with an academic advisor.	
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>60-64***</b>

\*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)

\* 64 semester credits is the maximum accepted toward most degree programs at Arizona's public universities. Some exceptions apply; consult with an academic advisor for additional transfer information.