

**Academic Affairs****1 AP 4025 PHILOSOPHY AND CRITERIA FOR ASSOCIATE DEGREE  
2 AND GENERAL EDUCATION****3 References:**

4 Title 5, Section 55061;  
5 ACCJC Accreditation Standard 2

6 Each Associate Degree offered by the College shall be published in the College Catalog.  
7 Further, the purpose of the degrees and their requirements shall be explained in the  
8 catalog. Each degree will contain a pattern of general education and major courses and  
9 will lead students through patterns of learning that develop capabilities and insight  
10 including communication, mathematical calculations, modes of inquiry, awareness of  
11 culture and times, ethical considerations, and self understanding. The programs of the  
12 College are consistent with the institutional mission, purposes, demographics, and  
13 economics of its community.

14 Associate degrees shall be submitted through the following procedure:

- 15 16 • Department proposing the degree shall submit through the CMS the forms required  
in the approval process to the dean for approval or non approval;
- 17 18 • If the degree is career/technical in nature, the faculty shall submit the proposal to  
the regional consortium for review;
- 19 • The proposal will be forwarded to the Curriculum Committee;
- 20 21 • If approved by the Curriculum Committee, the degree is submitted to the Board of  
Trustees for approval; and
- 22 23 • The degree will be forwarded to the State Chancellor's Office for approval. If  
approved, the degree will be offered to students and published in the catalog.

24 The philosophy of general education coursework as created by the Curriculum Committee  
25 and approved by the Faculty Senate, shall be published in the College Catalog. Courses  
26 approved by the Curriculum Committee for inclusion into the general education  
27 requirements shall be evaluated by the Curriculum Committee as meeting this philosophy  
28 as well as the criteria for approval of general education coursework. Coursework shall  
29 be approved which additionally introduces students to the variety of means through which  
30 people comprehend the modern world. Content will introduce the student to major areas  
31 of knowledge and provides an opportunity for students to develop intellectual skills,

32 technological literacy, affective and creative capabilities, social attitudes, and an  
33 appreciation for cultural diversity.

34 Courses submitted for general education shall be approved as a separate action by the  
35 Curriculum Committee if they meet the criteria outlined in the preceding paragraphs.

36 Office of Primary Responsibility: Vice President, Academic Affairs

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**Date Approved:** August 20, 2007

**Date Revised:** June 18, 2008; January 27, 2025

**Date Reviewed:** January 16, 2019