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Owner Sheena Brown:
Dean of
Academic Affairs
Area 3000 Instruction
Policy 3013
Numbers

3013 Degree Requirements

Cochise College is committed to maintaining the highest academic standards, thereby enabling students to transfer to colleges and universities nationwide and to successfully enter the world of work.

The college grants degrees to students who fulfill the established requirements of the Associate of Arts (AA), Associate of Arts in Elementary Education (AAEE), Associate of Business (ABUS), Associate of Science (AS), Associate of General Studies (AGS), Associate of Applied Science (AAS), Bachelor of Applied Science in Leadership, Management, and Operations (BAS-LMO), and Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN-NUR) degrees. The college reserves the right to award degrees and certificates to students who have not submitted an on-line graduation application.

Courses and degree programs must be approved through the college's curriculum process, as stated in Administrative Policy 3003 Curriculum Development and its accompanying procedures.

The college catalog contains current general education requirements and degree requirements.

Catalog Requirements

A student maintaining continuous enrollment in any public community college or public university in Arizona may graduate from Cochise College by meeting the requirements in the college catalog in effect at the time of that student's initial enrollment, or by meeting the requirements in any single Cochise College catalog in effect during any subsequent academic year (fall, spring, summer) of that student's continuous enrollment. Although a student's initial catalog assignment is the academic catalog in effect at the time of initial enrollment, a student's catalog year can change as a result of the following:

- A student who fails to maintain continuous enrollment or changes program of study shall be assigned the current year catalog.
- A student who requests a different catalog year shall be limited to subsequent academic year catalogs.

- A student whose academic catalog has expired, as described below, shall be assigned the next academic year catalog.

Continuous enrollment is defined as being enrolled during consecutive academic years in which course credit is earned. Noncredit and audited courses do not count toward continuous enrollment. For the purpose of determining a student's catalog requirements, continuous enrollment is limited to the five (5) academic years prior to the student's current year of enrollment. The five-year continuous enrollment limit moves forward with the student into year six and beyond. Re-enrollment is required of any student who has been absent from Cochise College for two (2) or more semesters, as stated in Administrative Policy 4001 Admissions.

Grade and Cumulative Grade Point Average Requirements

Students earning an Associate of Arts, Associate of Arts in Elementary Education, Associate of Business, Associate of Science, Associate of General Studies, Associate of Applied Science, Bachelor of Applied Science in Leadership, Management, and Operations, or Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree must complete all degree coursework with a grade of C or better. Program specific grade requirements may also apply. To receive any degree, a student must also have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or higher.

Residency Requirements

Students must complete a minimum of 16 lower-division (100- and 200-level courses) residency credits to earn an associate degree. Students must complete at least 30 residency credits, including a minimum of 18 upper-division (300- and 400-level courses) credits to earn a bachelor's degree. Residency credit is defined as any Cochise College credited course despite modality.

A minimum of eight (8) credits in the AGEC component of any transfer degree must be completed in residency at Cochise College. Under special circumstances, exceptions may be granted.

Developmental Courses

Any course numbered 099 and below cannot be used to fulfill any catalog requirement for graduation.

Quick Start Courses

A student may not use a Quick Start course (198 or 298) to fulfill any catalog requirement for graduation except through petition to the appropriate academic dean. If a Quick Start course later becomes a permanent course, a student may petition the college registrar to insert a comment in the student's transcript denoting the change in course number.

Other Institutional and Programmatic Accredited Courses

Courses from other Institutional and Programmatic Accrediting Bodies (IPAB) may not be used to satisfy any component of any transfer degree. **Per the Department of Education (2020), National Accrediting Bodies are now known as Institutional and Programmatic Accrediting Bodies.*

Prior Learning Assessment

A maximum of 30 credits of an associates degree and 60 credits of a bachelors degree may be satisfied by prior learning assessment as stated in Administrative Policy 4020 Evaluation of Transcripts/Retention of Student Records.

Transfer Associate Degree Programs

Transfer degrees include the Associate of Arts (AA), Associate of Arts in Elementary Education (AAEE), Associate of Business (ABUS), and Associate of Science (AS) degrees. They are designed for transfer to Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University, and the University of Arizona.

Transfer degree programs consist of coursework at the 100 level or higher, including general education requirements, core curriculum, electives, and in some cases, non-English language requirements. All courses within a transfer degree program must be transferable to all three universities.

1. Arizona General Education Curriculum (AGEC): Arizona public community and tribal colleges and universities have agreed upon a common structure for transfer of general education curriculum. The certified AGECE fulfills the lower-division general education requirements at all Arizona public universities. The AGECE block is transferable to any Arizona public community or tribal college, or university.
2. General education requirements for transfer degrees consist of a minimum of 35 credits selected from the appropriate general education course list.

Other Associate Degree Programs

Other degrees include the Associate of General Studies (AGS) and the Associate of Applied Science (AAS). The AGS degree is designed to be a general studies degree with no area of emphasis. While the AAS degree is designed to prepare students for employment in a specific career upon graduation, some universities offer AAS to BAS (or other bachelor's degree) transfer pathways.

AGS degrees

Associate of General Studies degree programs consist of coursework at the 100 level or higher, including general education requirements, electives, and, in some cases, core curriculum.

General education requirements for AGS degrees consist of a minimum of 35 credits selected from the appropriate general education course list.

AAS degrees

Associate of Applied Science degree programs consist of coursework at the 100 level or higher, including general education requirements, core curriculum, and, in some cases, electives.

General education requirements for AAS degrees consist of a minimum of 15 credits selected from the appropriate general education course list.

Bachelor Degree Programs

The Bachelor of Applied Science Leadership, Management, and Operations (BAS-LMO) degree is designed to broaden career prospects for students in various fields, including first responders and military services. The Bachelor of Science Nursing (BSN-NUR) degree is designed for nurses holding an unencumbered Arizona RN license and associate degree in nursing to pursue educational advancement while continuing their professional practice.

BAS-LMO degree

The Bachelor of Applied Science Leadership, Management, and Operations degree program consists of general education, concentration, core curriculum, and elective requirements. General education requirements for the BAS-LMO degree consist of a minimum of 18 lower-division credits selected from the appropriate general education course list and 15 required upper-division credits.

BSN-NUR degree

The Bachelor of Science Nursing program consists of lower-division general education, concentration, and core curriculum requirements. General education requirements for the BSN-NUR degree consist of a minimum of 24 lower-division credits and 15 required upper-division credits.

Course Substitutions and Non-Course Waivers

An academic/career counselor or advisor, or in some cases, the degree audit staff, shall petition the appropriate academic dean for course substitutions and the chief academic officer for any non-course waivers through the degree audit software. The degree audit systems manager or technician shall apply approvals to the student's degree audit. If approved, the request shall become part of the student's graduation application file.

Additional Degrees

Candidates for each additional degree at Cochise College must complete the following:

- all requirements for the additional degree
- sixteen Cochise College credits that have not been used to satisfy requirements toward any previously earned Cochise College associate's degree.

Approval Signatures

Step Description	Approver	Date
Final Approval	Crystal Wheeler: Executive AdminiAssist President/ Governing Board	03/2025
Employee Senate (or assigned committee)	Wendy Davis: VP for Administration	02/2025
ADCAB	Wendy Davis: VP for Administration	02/2025
	Sheena Brown: Dean of Academic Affairs	02/2025

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