

Glendale Community College District

4025

Board Policy

PHILOSOPHY AND CRITERIA FOR ASSOCIATE DEGREE AND GENERAL EDUCATION

It is the policy of the Glendale Community District to award Associate Degrees that represent more than an accumulation of units. The degree symbolizes a successful attempt on the part of the college to lead students through patterns of learning experiences designed to develop certain capabilities and insights.

Among these are the ability to think and to communicate clearly and effectively both orally and in writing; to use mathematics; to understand the modes of inquiry of the major disciplines; be aware of other cultures and times; to achieve insights gained through experience in thinking about ethical problems; and to develop the capacity for self-understanding. In addition to these accomplishments, the students shall possess sufficient depth in some field of knowledge to contribute to lifetime interest.

Central to an Associate Degree, General Education is designed to introduce students to the variety of means through which people comprehend the modern world. It reflects the conviction that those who receive degrees must possess in common certain basic principles, concepts and methodologies both unique to and shared by the various disciplines. College educated persons must be able to use this knowledge when evaluating and appreciating the physical environment, the culture and the society in which they live. Most importantly, General Education should lead to better understanding.

In establishing or modifying a general education program, the college shall encourage coherence and integration among the separate requirements. It is also desirable that general education programs actively involve students in examining values inherent in proposed solutions to major society problems.

The District shall establish procedures to assure that courses used to meet general education and associate degree requirements meet the standards in this policy. The procedures shall provide for appropriate Academic Senate involvement.

Reference:

- Title 5, Section 55805; Accreditation Standard II. A. 3

Adopted: 4/16/01

Revised: 4/21/08