

Liberal Arts Major

Associate in Arts Degree

The Associate degree in Liberal Arts is designed for students who wish to have a broad knowledge of the liberal arts and sciences plus additional coursework in an Area of Emphasis. Within this major, students who plan on transferring to a university can typically satisfy most of their general education requirements as well as many pre-major requirements for transfer. Visit www.assist.org for more information.

Requirements:

► **Complete the VVC General Education pattern and all other graduation requirements.**

► **Choose an Area of Emphasis:**

Complete a minimum of 18 units from ONE of these three areas of emphasis below.

■ Mathematics/Science Emphasis

These courses emphasize the natural sciences which examine the physical universe, its life forms and its natural phenomena. Courses in Math emphasize the development of mathematical and quantitative reasoning skills beyond the level of intermediate algebra. Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the methodologies of science as investigative tools. Students will also examine the influence that the acquisition of scientific knowledge has on the development of the world's civilization.

► **Complete at least 18 units from the following, with at least one course in math AND one in science, with at least TWO courses in any ONE subject.**

AGNR 123, 170; ANTH 101, 101L; ASTR 101; BIOL 100, 107, 118, 201, 202, 203, 210, 211, 221, 231; CHEM 100, 201, 202, 206, 207, 281, 282; GEOG 101, 101L, 130; GEOL 101; HLTH 102; MATH 104, 105/H105, 116, 120/H120, 132, 226/226H, 227/227H, 228/228H, 231, 270; OCEA 101; PSCI 101; PHYS 100, 201, 202, 203, 204, 221, 222; PSYC 109, 215

Note: All courses shown transfer to CSU; courses in **bold** transfer to *both* CSU and UC.

*Cross-listed courses are the same course listed under different departments:
ENGL 116 = TA 116; PHIL 114 = POLS 114;
PHIL 117 = RLST 117.

■ Arts and Humanities Emphasis

These courses emphasize the study of cultural, literary, and humanistic activities and artistic expression. Students will evaluate and interpret the ways in which people through the ages in different cultures have responded to themselves and to the world around them in artistic and cultural creation. Students will also learn to value aesthetic understanding and incorporate these concepts when constructing value judgments.

► **Complete at least 18 units from the following, with at least TWO courses in any ONE subject.**

ANTH 106; ART 101, 102, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 112, 113, 114, 120, 122, 125, 150; CART 133; CMST 105 (Intercultural); ENGL 102/102H, 109, 116*, 220, 225, 230, 231, 232, 234, 235, 240, 241, 245, 246, 247; HIST 103, 104, 115, 117/H117, 118/H118, 130, 131, 155, 157; KIN 103 (History of Dance); MUSC 100, 101, 102, 103, 116, 117, 118, 131, 202, 204; PHIL 101, 108, 114*, 117*, 120, 121; POLS 114*; RLST 101, 105, 106, 110, 111, 115, 117*; TA 101, 102, 104, 107, 110, 116*

Languages: ASL 122, 123, 124, 125; FREN 101, 102, 103, 104; SPAN 101, 101A, 101B, 102, 103, 104

■ Social/Behavioral Science Emphasis

These courses emphasize the perspectives, concepts, theories and methodologies of the social and behavioral sciences. Students will learn about themselves and others as members of a larger society. Topics and discussion to stimulate critical thinking about ways people have acted in response to their societies will allow students to evaluate how societies and social subgroups operate.

► **Complete at least 18 units from the following, with at least TWO courses in any ONE subject.**

AGNR 175, 178; AJ 101; ANTH 101, 102, 103, 105, 106; CHDV 100, 106; CMST 105 (Intercultural); ECON 101, 102; GEOG 101, 102, 103, 104; GUID 101, 105, 107; HIST 103, 104, 115, 117/H117, 118/H118, 130, 131, 155, 157; KIN 104; PHIL 114*; POLS 101, 102/102H, 103, 104, 110, 112, 113, 114*, 206, 211; PSYC 101, 110, 111, 121, 125, 133, 204, 213; RLST 113, 115; SOC 101, 102, 103, 107

Underlined courses fulfill the VVC Global Citizenship competency.

Thinking of Transferring to a University?

▶▶ How Transfer Works

Generally, if you start at a community college, where you complete your lower division general education (GE) and any required pre-major preparation, you can then transfer to a university as a junior, with an associate's degree in hand - and about half of your bachelor's degree already completed.

▶▶ Universities You Could Transfer To

California has two public university systems: the University of California (UC) and the California State University (CSU). There are many private universities as well - not to mention all the schools that are out-of-state. How do you choose where to apply? It takes some research, and there are many sources that can help you.

▶▶ VVC's Transfer Center - www.vvc.edu/transfer - 760 245-4271, x 2139

Your most important resource is the VVC Transfer Center, located in Building 55, over the lake. In it you will find lots of information about universities, and you can make an appointment to see a transfer counselor as well as representatives of several universities that visit us regularly. You'll also find catalogs from campuses all over the state and many from out-of-state as well.

For more information about transferring, visit these websites:

- www.assist.org - The ASSIST site helps you explore majors at all 33 UC and CSU campuses. We have formal, course-to-course equivalency agreements with many of the UC and CSU campuses, and ASSIST shows you VVC courses required for various majors.
- www.californiacolleges.edu/ - CaliforniaColleges.edu covers UC, CSU and independent colleges, and provides virtual campus tours, student-campus matching assistance, information on financial aid, and admissions planners for first-year and transfer students.
- admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/transfer - This site explains what you'll need to do to transfer and how you can make smart course choices now that will maximize your chances of being admitted to UC.
- www.universityofcalifornia.edu - The University of California, Office of the President, offers this site for information about UC. It also provides links to each of the ten UC campuses.
- www.calstate.edu - Provides information about California State University's educational programs, systemwide policies and initiatives, historical and general information, admission requirements and procedures. Here you'll also find links to all 23 CSU campuses. This is where students can apply to the CSU system.
- www.aiccu.edu - This is the official website of the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities. Visit this site for information on independent (non-UC or CSU) schools.

Bachelor's Degrees in the High Desert

And don't forget - there are some well-regarded private universities that offer bachelors and other programs right here in the High Desert. Ask in the Transfer Center for the "Local Bachelor's Degree Opportunities" sheet. It is also available on the Transfer Center website. You can meet with their representatives in the Transfer Center to learn about your options and requirements.

Be Careful of Unaccredited Schools

There are many outfits that purport to run a college or university - typically but not exclusively online. Don't be fooled if they tell you they are "accredited." The question to ask is, WHO accredits them? You want an institution that is *regionally* (not nationally) accredited. See a counselor for more details.