ASSOCIATE OF ARTS (AA)
The Associate of Arts (AA) degree provides a solid foundation in mathematics and written and oral communication, the natural and social sciences, the humanities and fine arts. The AA degree prepares students for career advancement and baccalaureate programs and to better understand their world.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES
Students graduating with an Associate of Arts degree from MSC will be able to:
- Communicate effectively with diverse audiences (individual, group, or public) using a variety of verbal and nonverbal communication strategies;
- Respond effectively to writing assignments using appropriate genres and standard written English;
- Use library and electronic research responsibly and appropriately;
- Identify, describe, and evaluate the aesthetic, historical and philosophical aspects of material culture, including artistic expressions, language, and texts;
- Apply critical thinking skills to identify the premises and conclusions of arguments, evaluate their soundness, and recognize common fallacies;
- Use appropriate mathematical language and symbols to develop and communicate solutions, and demonstrate quantitative and analytical skills and knowledge;
- Articulate the fundamentals, developments, and impacts of one or more scientific disciplines; and develop and analyze evidence-based conclusions about the natural and social world.

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

Admission Requirements
Complete the Admission to Certificate and Associate Degree Programs Requirements located in Chapter 6, "Academic Standards and Regulations."

General University Requirements
Complete the General Education Requirements for Associate of Arts Degrees located at the beginning of this chapter.

General Education Requirements
Complete the General Education Requirements for Associate of Arts Degrees outlined on this page.

Degree Requirements
All courses must be at the 100-level or above. At least 20 credits of the required 60 credits must be at the 200-level. If a student intends to complete the Associate of Arts degree and then continue on to a baccalaureate degree, consult the Advising Note for AA Students Who Plan to Pursue a Baccalaureate Degree on the following page.

General Education Requirements

1. Oral Communication Skills ........................................ 3
   COMM A111 Fund. of Oral Communication (3)
   COMM A235 Small Group Communication (3)
   COMM A237 Interpersonal Communication (3)
   COMM A241 Public Speaking (3)

2. Written Communication Skills ...................................... 6
   ENGL A111 Methods of Written Comm. (3)
   and one of the following:
   ENGL A211 Academic Writing About Literature (3)
   ENGL A212 Technical Writing (3)
   ENGL A213 Writing in the Social/Ntral Sciences (3)
   ENGL A214 Persuasive Writing (3)
   CIOS A260A Business Communications (3) †

3. Humanities and Fine Arts .......................................... 9
   Three courses from the GER Classification List. At least one course each from the Humanities and Fine Arts areas.

4. Mathematical and Natural Sciences ............................... 9
   MATH A105 Intermediate Algebra (3) †
   Or one course from the Quantitative Skills area of GER Classification List (3)
   Two Natural Science courses from the Natural Sciences area of GER Classification List. (3+3) (6) *

5. Social Sciences .......................................................... 6
   Two Social Science courses (from two different disciplines) from the Social Sciences area of GER Classification List.

Degree Completion Requirements

6. Electives .............................................................. 27 *

7. Total Minimum Credits .............................................. 60

† Please Note: CIOS A260A and MATH A105 do not meet the General Education Requirements for the baccalaureate degree.

* Advising Note for AA Students Who Plan to Pursue a Baccalaureate Degree:
AA students who plan to pursue a baccalaureate degree must take care in planning their curriculum. Please see an academic counselor and take note of the following:

- UAA baccalaureate students are required to complete 12 credits of Basic College-Level Skills from the Oral Communication, Written Communication, and Quantitative Skills areas of the General Education Classification List prior to completing 60 total degree applicable credits.

- Students with 60 credits or more who have not completed the Baccalaureate 12 credit Basic College-Level Skills requirement will have one full academic year to fulfill this requirement, after which they will be allowed to take additional courses as degree-seeking students. MATH A105 and CIOS A260A do not count toward completing the baccalaureate GER requirements.

- Students who have taken two Natural Science courses as part of their AA program should be aware that a 1-credit science laboratory is required for the baccalaureate degree.

- Students who plan to apply AA credits to a UAA baccalaureate (4-year) degree, and who know the program or major they are going to transfer into, should consult the General Education Requirements for their specific program or major. Programs often require specific GER courses for their majors. Students planning to transfer should use AA electives to fulfill prerequisites and requirements for their anticipated major.

- Students who plan to apply AA credits to a UAA baccalaureate (4-year) degree, and who do not know which program or major they wish to pursue, should plan as follows:

  1. Oral Communication Skills ........................................ 3
     COMM A111 Fund. of Oral Communication (3)
     COMM A235 Small Group Communication (3)
     COMM A237 Interpersonal Communication (3)
     COMM A241 Public Speaking (3)

  2. Written Communication Skills ...................................... 6
     ENGL A111 Methods of Written Comm. (3)
     and one of the following:
     ENGL A211 Academic Writing About Literature (3)
     ENGL A212 Technical Writing (3)
     ENGL A213 Writing in the Social/Ntral Sciences (3)
     ENGL A214 Persuasive Writing (3)
     CIOS A260A Business Communications (3) †

  3. Humanities and Fine Arts .......................................... 9
     One course from the Fine Arts area of the GER Classification List (3)
     Two courses from the Humanities area of the GER Classification List (6)

  4. Mathematical and Natural Sciences ............................... 10
     One MATH/STAT course from the Quantitative Skills area of GER Classification List (3)
     Two Natural Science courses from the Natural Sciences area of GER Classification List, including a lab course (7)

  5. Social Sciences .......................................................... 6
     Two Social Science courses (from two different disciplines) from the Social Sciences area of GER Classification List.

Since the AA degree requirements are different from the 4-year degree requirements, AA students who pursue a baccalaureate degree may be required to take additional courses to satisfy the General Education Requirements for the 4-year degree after declaring their major.