

Lower Division Core Requirements for General Education

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to delineate the specific general education requirements for the lower division core.

II. Scope

This policy applies to the lower division core of all Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, Associate of Science in Teaching, and Associate of Applied Science degrees at Dyersburg State Community College (DSCC).

III. Policy

The lower division general education core is common to all Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) institutions and consists of a 41- hour minimum requirement in transfer degrees. Each academic category in the core is defined by a goal and learning outcomes. In order to satisfy a general education category requirement, the institution must be able to document that the required minimum number of learning outcomes for a specific category are met by the selected course(s).

Associate Degrees (A.A. *, A.S., and A.S.T.)	
Communication	9 hours **
Humanities and/or Fine Arts	9 hours ***
Social/Behavior Sciences	6 hours
History	6 hours
Natural Sciences	8 hours
Mathematics	3 hours
Total	41 hours

*Foreign language courses will be an additional requirement for the A.A. degree as presently prescribed in TBR policy 2:01:00:00, Undergraduate Degree Requirements.

**Six (6) hours of English Composition and three (3) hours in English oral presentational communication.

***One course must be in literature.

Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) Degrees	
English Composition	3 hours
*Humanities and/or Fine Arts	3 hours
*Social/Behavioral Sciences	3 hours
*Natural Science/Mathematics	3 hours
*One additional course from the categories of Communication, Humanities and/or Fine Arts, Social/Behavioral Sciences, or Natural Sciences/Mathematics	3 to 4 hours
Total	15 to 17 hours

*Specific courses satisfying these requirements must be the same courses that satisfy the general education requirement for the Associate (A.A., A.S., and A.S.T.) degrees.

Statement of General Education Outcomes

The General Education Program at Dyersburg State Community College provides a foundation that ensures that its graduates possess the knowledge and skills to be active participants of a continually changing global community. Specifically, the General Education Program provides graduates with the knowledge and skills to:

1. Think critically;
2. Communicate effectively;
3. Apply mathematical and/or scientific processes and principles;
4. Evaluate cultural and/or ethical practices.

IV. Compliance

All A.A., A.S., A.S.T., and A.A.S. degrees must be in compliance with this policy.

V. Definitions

VI. Revision History

Policy written May, 2005. Policy revised October 2012; Policy revised September 2016 and approved by Administrative Council on September 28, 2016; approved by Administrative Council on April 27, 2023