



NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
H. Martin Lancaster, President

November 8, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chief Academic Officers

FROM: Delores A. Parker, Vice President
Academic and Student Services

SUBJECT: Transfer Core Diploma
North Carolina Administrative Code (NCAC)

On October 1, 2006, an amendment to 23 NCAC 02E.0204 became effective which permits colleges to award diplomas for the successful completion of the Associate in Arts (AA) or Associate in Science (AS) general education core. Please reference CC06-224 for the official notice from Legal Services.

Please note that the diploma is an optional offering for each college; however, it is believed that the diploma will encourage students to complete the general education core. The core is the first level of completion that allows transfer students to take advantage of the terms of the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement.

The diploma also serves as a clear indication that the student has successfully completed the general education core. This assists senior institutions in transcript evaluation and is helpful in avoiding the frustration of course-by-course analysis.

Each Associate in Arts and Science curriculum standard and pre-major will be revised to include a statement similar to the highlighted sentence on the attached standard. The process for offering the diploma will be similar to that for offering a diploma from an approved Associate in Applied Science degree. Colleges will not be obligated to file an electronic program of study with the System Office as long as the AA, AS, or appropriate pre-major has been approved by the System Office. Only courses on the approved higher-level degree should be utilized for the diploma.

If you have questions, please contact Jennifer Frazelle, Director of Program Services, at (919) 807-7120 or frazellej@nccommunitycolleges.edu.

DAP/jf

Attachment

c: Presidents
Dr. Judith Mann
Ms. Jennifer Frazelle
Ms. Glynda Lawrence

CC06-261
Email

**CURRICULUM STANDARD
ASSOCIATE IN ARTS [A10100] PROGRAM**

The Associate in Arts degree shall be granted for a planned program of study consisting of a minimum of 64 and a maximum of 65 semester hours of college transfer course. (Ref. 23 NCAC 2E.0204) Within the degree program, the institution shall include opportunities for the achievement of competence in reading, writing, oral communication, fundamental mathematical skills, and the basic use of computers.

Courses are approved for transfer through the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement. Community college graduates who have earned 64 semester hours of academic credit in approved transfer courses with a grade of "C" or better in each course and an overall GPA of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale will receive at least 64 semester hours of academic credit upon admission to a university. Courses may also transfer through bilateral agreements between institutions. Courses offered through bilateral agreements may not transfer to all receiving institutions.

GENERAL EDUCATION CORE (44 SHC)*

The general education core includes study in the areas of humanities and fine arts, social and behavioral sciences, natural sciences and mathematics, and English composition.

English Composition (6 SHC)

Humanities/Fine Arts (12 SHC)**

Four courses from at least **three** of the following discipline areas are required: music, art, drama, dance, foreign languages, interdisciplinary humanities, literature, philosophy, and religion. **At least one course must be a literature course.**

Social/Behavioral Sciences (12 SHC)

Four courses from at least **three** of the following discipline areas are required: anthropology, economics, geography, history, political science, psychology, and sociology. **At least one course must be a history course.**

Natural Sciences/Mathematics (14 SHC)

Natural Sciences (8 SHC):

Two courses, including accompanying laboratory work, from the biological and physical science disciplines are required.

Mathematics (6 SHC):

At least one course in introductory mathematics is required; the other course may be selected from among other quantitative subjects, such as computer science and statistics.

OTHER REQUIRED HOURS (20-21 SHC)*

One semester hour of credit may be included in a sixty-five semester hour credit associate in arts program. The transfer of the sixty-fifth hour is not guaranteed. A minimum of 20 SHC of college transfer general education, elective, and/or pre-major courses is required.

Total Semester Hours Credit (SHC) in Program: 64-65

A college may award a diploma under the A10100 for completion of the entire general education core as outlined.

***Students must meet the receiving university's foreign language and/or health and physical education requirements, if applicable, prior to or after transfer to the senior institution.**

****3 SHC in Speech/Communication may be substituted for 3 SHC in Humanities/Fine Arts. Speech/Communication may not substitute for the literature requirement.**