



Associate of Arts in General Studies Degree Program

The Academic Teaching Philosophy of American Baptist College

The goal of education at American Baptist College is to articulate intellectual performance in a way that prepares students to develop lives that are ready to be lived in human virtue and public service. Our educational curriculum synthesizes Christian-centered spirituality and higher learning of the humanities and social sciences that embodies justice performed through service.

General Studies Program Mission Statement

The mission of the General Studies Program at American Baptist College is to help students develop the moral, intellectual curiosity, abilities, and knowledge required for lifelong learning. The College will accomplish this aim through a curriculum and matriculation program that builds character development, ethical reasoning, and social justice leadership among students.

General Studies Program Design

The Associate of Arts (A.A.) degree is a sixty-hour program designed to give students the opportunity to explore a variety of fields, including psychology, history, literature, social science, human services, math and computers. Students are required to take a variety of courses in order to become better prepared to enroll in a bachelor's degree program. This 2 year degree program is designed for students who have not decided on a particular field of study or career path yet. The Associate of Arts in General Studies also prepares graduates to enter the workforce, through the acquisition of writing and interpersonal skills, use of online technology, a grasp of general concepts for critical thinking and problem solving; all of which can prepare them for careers in fields as diverse as customer service, office management, teaching assistants, community workers, and sales.

American Baptist College

Revised and Approved by Vice President of Academic Affairs – November 2011

Student Learning Outcomes

American Baptist College is committed to ensuring its graduates obtain the knowledge and skills necessary to function as educated individuals, responsible citizens, and life-long learners who can use Christian-centered values in leading their communities to seek social justice.

The student, after completing the course work will:

- Demonstrate critical thinking skills through effective analysis, synthesis, and evaluation;
- Master written and verbal communication;
- Exhibit technological fluency;
- Evidence an appreciation of human diversity;
- Practice servant leadership; and
- Embrace the pursuit of life-long learning.

Associate of Arts Curriculum

The requirements to fulfill the curriculum for the Associate of Arts are included under the core courses curriculum and as necessary students can also take enhancement courses.

Section One - Enhancement Courses. Enhancement courses are not required and do not count toward a degree and are offered to assist students with developing and improving the fundamental reading, writing, math and study skills necessary to be successful in college. Students may take up to 30 hours of Enhancement Courses.

Section Two - Core Courses. Core courses are required and count towards the Associate of Arts degree. These courses are organized into six (6) Core Clusters: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Math and Natural Science, Fine Arts and Modern Language, Foundation Studies and Electives. Students must complete 60 hours of Core Courses.

Total hours to complete for Associate of Arts degree is 60 semester credit hours.

Please note:

1. Students *will not* be able use one course to satisfy all three requirements. A course can only be used to satisfy one area of requirement.
2. The classes listed here as substitutions/equivalent classes *are not exhaustive*; and probably do not represent all the classes that have been offered here at American Baptist College. Any class on a student's transcript not listed here should be brought to the attention of the Academic Dean for approval.

ENHANCEMENT COURSES (Non-Credit)

These courses are optional, non-credit and do not count toward a degree. Students can take up to 30 hours. Enhancement course numbers begin with the number “0” and end in “E”.

Course Number	Course Title	Semester and Year	Final Grade	Transfer Credit or Substitute

Enhancement Courses

- BU 095E Computers A or B
- EN 070E Strategies for College Reading I
- EN 071E Strategies for College Reading II
- EN 098E College Writing I
- EN 099E College Writing II
- GS 010E Basic Math
- GS 020E Learning and Support Math

CORE COURSES

(60 Semester Credit Hours)

Core courses are required and count towards the Associate of Arts degree. These courses are organized into six (6) Core Clusters: 1) Humanities, 2) Social and Behavioral Sciences, 3) Math and Natural Science, 4) Fine Arts and Modern Language, 5) Foundation Studies and 6) Electives.

1). Humanities Core Courses Cluster

A total of seven (7) Humanities Core Courses are required in English (4 courses) and Introduction to Christian Faith (3 courses).

A. Four (4) English Courses = 12 credit hours

Course Number	Course Title	Semester and Year	Final Grade	Transfer Credit or Substitute
EN 101	English Composition I (Required)			
EN 102	English Composition II (Required)			

English Core Courses (select two (2)):

- EN 201 Intro Literature
- EN 304 African, African American & Caribbean Literature
- EN 212 Fundamentals of Speech
- EN 310 Spiritual Autobiography

B. Three (3) Intro to Christian Faith Courses = 9 credit hours

Course Number	Course Title	Semester and Year	Final Grade	Transfer Credit or Substitute
OT 101	Old Testament Survey (Required)			
NT 102	New Testament Survey (Required)			
TH 102	Survey of Christian Doctrine (Required)			

2). Social and Behavior Core Courses Cluster

A total of four (4) Social and Behavior Core Courses are required.

A. Four (4) Courses = 12 credit hours

Course Number	Course Title	Semester and Year	Final Grade	Transfer Credit or Substitute
HI 101	Development of Western Culture (Required)			
PY 101	Introduction to Psychology (Required)			
SO 112	Introduction to Sociology (Required)			
CE 410	Sexuality and the Black Church (Required)			

- Can transfer History, Psychology, and Sociology courses only

3). Math and Natural Science Core Courses Cluster

A total of four (4) Core Courses are required in Math, Health, Science, Business, or Environment.

A. Two (2) Math Courses = 6 credit hours

Course Number	Course Title	Semester and Year	Final Grade	Transfer Credit or Substitute

Math Core Courses (select two (2)):

- GS 202 Integrated Mathematics
- GS 210 Math and Personal Finances

B. One (1) Science Course = 3 credit hours

Course Number	Course Title	Semester and Year	Final Grade	Transfer Credit or Substitute

Science Core Course (select one (1)):

- GS 112 Issues in Science and Religion

C. One (1) Additional Math and Science Course = 3 credit hours

Course Number	Course Title	Semester and Year	Final Grade	Transfer Credit or Substitute

Science or Business Core Courses (select one (1)):

- GS 312 Environmental Theology
- BU 200 Business Finance and Math
- BU 307A or B Basic Computer
- Can transfer Math & Science and Business & Computers courses only

4). Fine Arts and Modern Language Core Courses Cluster

A total of two (2) Core Courses are required in Photography, Music, & Foreign Language

A. Two (2) Art and Language Courses = 6 credit hours

Course Number	Course Title	Semester and Year	Final Grade	Transfer Credit or Substitute

Any Art or Language Core Courses (select two (2)):

- ML 101 Elementary Spanish
- BL 202 Intro to Biblical Languages and Principles of Exegesis
- BL 311 Elementary New Testament Greek
- BL 321 Elementary Biblical Hebrew
- ART 102 Photography and Art Appreciation
- CM 103 Intro to Church Music
- CM 105 Black Sacred Music
- CM 205 Hymnology
- CM 250 Music Theory
- Can transfer Language and Music courses only

5). Foundational Studies Core Courses Cluster

A total of two (2) Core Courses are required in Foundational Studies

A. Two (2) Foundational Studies Courses = 6 credit hours

Course Number	Course Title	Semester and Year	Final Grade	Transfer Credit or Substitute
PS 103	Foundations of Vocation and Life Call (Required)			
CS 322	Christian Service Internship (Required)			

- **CS322 Christian Service Internship.** The Christian Service Placement offers students the opportunity to reflect and discuss vocational and theological questions necessary for effective leadership. It involves supervised hands-on experience (e.g., interning in a church, homeless or battered women's shelter, prison, social agency, school). Required for all students.

6). Elective Courses Cluster

A total of one (1) Core Courses can be chosen from any Elective course

A. One (1) Elective Courses = 3 credit hours

Course Number	Course Title	Semester and Year	Final Grade	Transfer Credit or Substitute