

Educational Requirements

General Requirements for Graduation

EDUCATIONAL PLANS OF STUDY

Only Educational Plans of Study which have been signed by the student and adviser and filed in the Office of Enrollment Management will be honored. A student's plan of study remains valid only as long as the student remains continuously enrolled at Mesalands Community College after signing the Educational Plan of Study (at least one course per fall and spring semesters). In addition, the College does not guarantee that courses needed for completion of a given Educational Plan of Study will be offered beyond three years from the date of signing for associate degree plans or one year beyond the date of signing for certificate plans.

Official Plans of Study which have been approved by the Curriculum Coordinating Committee and faculty council and filed with the Office of Enrollment Management supercede those in prior catalogs or other College publications.

Transfer students must complete at least 15 credits of any degree or certificate requirements in residence at Mesalands Community College.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE

To be eligible for graduation, a student must complete all Mesalands Community College courses with a CGPA of 2.00 or better.

INDEBTEDNESS TO THE COLLEGE

No degree or certificate will be awarded until all student indebtedness to Mesalands Community College has been satisfied. Library and tool inventories must be cleared, and any other obligations to the College must be satisfied. The student should obtain the appropriate sign-off signatures on the "Petition to Graduate Form" supplied by the Office of Enrollment Management.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENT FOR SUBSEQUENT DEGREES

Students may qualify for more than one Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree by completing the

requirements for the subsequent degree(s) and by earning at least 15 additional collegiate level credits after receiving the previous degree.

This applies to different degrees, not options within a degree. For example, a student may qualify for degrees in both Farrier Science and Diesel Technology, but cannot earn degrees for both Business Administration-General and Business Administration-Accounting since these are simply options under the Business Administration degree. Students may qualify for more than one certificate within a department by completing the requirements with at least 9 additional credits beyond the requirements for the first certificate.

Students may not qualify for more than one Associate of Arts (AA) degree. The AA degree is a single degree with various options and concentrations designed for students anticipating transfer to a four-year college to complete a bachelor's degree.

Petition to Graduate

Students who plan to graduate should submit a completed "Petition to Graduate" form to the Office of Enrollment Management prior to the deadline listed in the institutional calendar. Students should pick up an advisement copy of their transcript and plan of study and must see their adviser and pay graduation fees before submitting the form.

CAAP Testing

Students who plan to graduate with an associate degree, or who will have completed 60 credits by the end of a given semester, must take the Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency (CAAP) when it is scheduled that semester. Students who do not take the CAAP will not be allowed to graduate, nor will their transcripts be released.

Graduation with Honors

At commencement ceremonies, students with high cumulative grade point averages who receive Associate degrees will be recognized for Graduating with Honors.

Summa Cum Laude means a student has graduated with a CGPA of 3.80 or higher. Magna Cum Laude means a student has a CGPA of 3.50 to 3.79. Cum Laude means a student has a CGPA of 3.25 to 3.49.

General Education Philosophy

One of the goals of higher education is to help prepare students with cultural, social, and societal skills which will enable them to participate actively in society. General education courses are intended to introduce students to that body of knowledge which gives meaning and cohesion to society, thus preparing them for life-long learning.

The general education requirements are also intended to prepare the community college student with the academic background and skills to successfully pursue more advanced degrees at colleges and universities and/or to be more successful in a career. To that end, Mesalands Community College has incorporated an institutional core of general education within each degree.

General Education classes solidify the proficiencies and competencies that are essential for all college-educated adults. Offerings include the following:

Art/Music, Communications, Computers, English, History, Philosophy, Foreign Language, Natural and Physical Science, Mathematics, Anthropology, Economics, Sociology, Psychology, Political Science and Religious Studies.

Mesalands Community College recognizes General Education as the foundation for higher education and is committed to its full integration in all of its degree and Applied Science certificate programs.

Mesalands Community College's degree programs are designed to develop competencies in broad areas of general education complemented by a concentration in career and applied science courses. Upon successful completion of any degree at Mesalands Community College, a student should be able to:

Communicate effectively, including:

- present ideas orally according to standard usage
- present ideas in writing
- demonstrate application of information technology

Scientific and mathematical reasoning including:

- demonstrate mathematical principles
- demonstrate scientific reasoning
- apply scientific methods to the inquiry process

Think critically including:

- read and analyze complex ideas
- locate, evaluate, and apply research information
- evaluate and present well-reasoned arguments

Program Objectives

All degree and certificate programs of study have identified program objectives. Program objectives measure the competencies that students will possess and demonstrate upon graduation. These program objectives/competencies reflect the knowledge, skills, and professional dispositions valued by workplace employers and other stakeholders.



General Education Core Offerings for the Associate of Arts Degree*

COURSE NUMBER	COURSE NAME	CREDITS
ACS 100	Student College Success	3
COM 102	Public Speaking	3
ENG 102	English Composition	3
ENG 104	English Composition and Research	3
MATH 110 or higher	College Algebra or higher	4
CIS 101	Introduction to Computers	4
Select Two Courses	Laboratory Science	8
Select Two or Three Courses	Social/Behavioral Science	6-9
Select Two or Three Courses	Humanities/Fine Arts	6-9
Total Core*		40-44

*Refer to degree plans for specific General Education requirements

General Education Core Offerings for the Associate of Applied Science Degree*

COURSE NUMBER	COURSE NAME	CREDITS
ACS 100	Student College Success	3
ART 101	Art Appreciation	3
COM 102	Public Speaking	3
ENG 102	English Composition	3
ENG 104	English Composition and Research	3
MATH 101 or higher	Basic Algebra or higher	4
CIS 101	Introduction to Computers	4
Select One Course	Laboratory Science	4
Select Two Courses	Social Science/Humanities	6
Total Core*		24-37

* Refer to degree plans for specific General Education requirements.

Mesalands Community College Curriculum Requirements

Degrees and Certificates	Program Length	General Education Credits	Field of Study Credits	Total Credits
Associate of Arts Degree	2 Years or 4 Semesters	43	22-26	64-73
Associate of Applied Science Degree	2 Years or 4 Semesters	23-32	32-52	64-83
Applied Science Certificate	1 Year or 2 Semesters	9-13	23-31	32-44
Occupational Certificate	1 Semester	0	11-19	11-19

Educational Programs

Mesalands Community College is authorized by the New Mexico Higher Education Department to offer programs leading to Associate of Arts and Associate of Applied Science degrees.

The College also offers programming that leads to certificates. The educational goals emphasize preparing students

for transfer to a four-year, degree-granting institution, gainful employment, and to allow them to upgrade their skills and knowledge for career advancement. These goals promote an interest in life-long learning for the student. The following table denotes the degree and/or certificate awarded by each program:

Program	Degree	Certificate
Agri-Business	X	
Animal Science		
Beef Science	X	
Equine Science	X	
Automotive Technology	X	
Building Trades	X	
Business Administration		
Business Information Systems	X	
General Business	X	
Accounting	X	
Management Info. Systems	X	
Business Office Technology		
General Office	X	
Software Applications Specialist	X	
Diesel Technology	X	
Education		
Bilingual	X	
Early Childhood Education	X	
Elementary	X	
Secondary	X	
Farrier Science	X	X
Fine Arts		X
Sculpture/Bronze	X	
2-Dimensional	X	

Program	Degree	Certificate
General Studies		
Occupational Option	X	
Human Services		
Criminal Justice	X	
Social Work	X	
Liberal Arts		X
Communications	X	
University Studies	X	
Artistic Silversmithing Certificate		X
Natural Sciences		
Geology	X	
Paleontology	X	
Physical Science		
Pre-Engineering	X	
Pre-Medical Arts		
Pre-Dentistry	X	
Pre-Medicine	X	
Pre-Veterinary	X	
Pre-Nursing		X
Professional Technical Writing		X
Public Administration		
Law Enforcement	X	
Wind Energy Technology	X	X

