

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.

APPLICATION FOR GRADUATION

Students who plan to graduate should submit a completed "Application for Graduation" form to the Office of Enrollment Management prior to the deadline as listed in the institutional calendar. Students should pick up an advisement copy of their transcript, Plan of Study, current schedule, pay graduation fees, and schedule an appointment with their advisor. Graduation fees are identified under the section of this handbook entitled "Fees."

ACT NATIONAL CAREER READINESS CERTIFICATE (NCRC) TESTING

The NCRC is an industry recognized, portable, evidence-based credential that documents essential skills needed for workplace success and includes assessment of applied mathematics, reading for information, and locating information. Students who plan to graduate with a degree and are enrolled in English 299, are required to take the NCRC testing when it is scheduled that semester.

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
COM 102	Public Speaking	3
ENG 102	English Composition	3
ENG 104	English Composition and Research	3
MATH 110 or STAT 213	College Algebra or Statistical Methods	4
Select Two Courses	Laboratory Science	8
Select Two Courses	Social/Behavioral Science	6
Select Two Courses	Humanities/Fine Arts	6
Total Core*		33

*Refer to degree plans for specific General Education requirements

*Computer competency assessment required

GENERAL EDUCATION CORE OFFERINGS FOR THE ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE*

COURSE NUMBER	COURSE NAME	CREDITS
COM 102	Public Speaking	3
ENG 102	English Composition	3
MATH 101 or higher	Basic Algebra or higher	4
CIS 101	Introduction to Computers	4
Select One Course	Laboratory Science	4
Select One Course	Social Science/Humanities	3
Total Core*		21

* Refer to degree plans for specific General Education requirements.

* ACS 100 Student College Success (Required for students testing into pre-collegiate courses).

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	33	27-30	63
Associate of Applied Science Degree	2 Years or 4 Semesters	21	39	60
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	
Allied Health	X	
Nurse's Aide		X
Phlebotomy		X
Animal Science	X	
Artistic Silversmithing		X
Building Trades	X	
Business Administration		
General Business	X	
Business Office Technology		
General Office	X	
Education		
Bilingual	X	
Early Childhood Education	X	
Elementary	X	
Secondary	X	
Farrier Science	X	X
Fine Arts		
New Media/Graphic Design	X	
2-Dimensional	X	
3-Dimensional	X	
Metal Casting		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	
Natural Sciences		
Geology	X	
Paleontology	X	
Physical Science		
Pre-Engineering	X	
Pre-Medical Arts		X
Pre-Dentistry	X	
Pre-Medicine	X	
Pre-Veterinary	X	
Pre-Nursing		X
Public Administration		
Law Enforcement	X	
Technical and Professional Writing		X
Wind Energy Technology	X	X

