

General Education

Gavilan's general education (GE) requirements introduce students to a variety of means through which they comprehend and interact with the modern world. The GE requirements are central both to the college's mission and to its associate's degrees.

Completion of the GE requirements will develop students' abilities to think and communicate clearly, both orally and in writing; to use mathematics and employ the scientific method; to understand the modes of inquiry in major disciplines; to be aware of other cultures and other eras; to apply critical thinking to ethical and social issues; and to develop the capacity for self understanding and improvement. The student will also develop a depth of knowledge in a specific field of interest. In completing the requirements, students will come to understand basic principles, concepts and methodologies that may be unique to a specific discipline or universal in the quest for knowledge.

General Education Learning Outcomes

AREA A Communications in the English Language

After completing courses in Area A, students will be able to do the following:

- ▶ Receive, analyze, and effectively respond to verbal communication.
- ▶ Formulate, organize and logically present verbal information.
- ▶ Write clear and effective prose using forms, methods, modes and conventions of English grammar that best achieve the writing's purpose.
- ▶ Advocate effectively for a position using persuasive strategies, argumentative support, and logical reasoning.
- ▶ Employ the methods of research to find information, analyze its content, and appropriately incorporate it into written work.
- ▶ Read college course texts and summarize the information presented.
- ▶ Analyze the ideas presented in college course materials and be able to discuss them or present them in writing.
- ▶ Communicate conclusions based on sound inferences drawn from unambiguous statements of knowledge and belief.
- ▶ Explain and apply elementary inductive and deductive processes, describe formal and informal fallacies of language and thought, and compare effectively matters of fact and issues of judgment and opinion.

AREA B Physical Universe and its Life Forms

After completing courses in Area B, students will be able to do the following:

- ▶ Explain concepts and theories related to physical and biological phenomena.
- ▶ Identify structures of selected living organisms and relate structure to biological function.
- ▶ Recognize and utilize appropriate mathematical techniques to solve both abstract and practical problems.
- ▶ Utilize safe and effective laboratory techniques to investigate scientific problems.

- ▶ Discuss the use and limitations of the scientific process in the solution of problems.
- ▶ Make critical judgments about the validity of scientific evidence and the applicability of scientific theories.
- ▶ Utilize appropriate technology for scientific and mathematical investigations and recognize the advantages and disadvantages of that technology.
- ▶ Work collaboratively with others on labs, projects, and presentations.
- ▶ Describe the influence of scientific knowledge on the development of world's civilizations as recorded in the past as well as in present times.

AREA C Arts, Foreign Language, Literature and Philosophy

After completing courses in Area C, students will be able to do the following:

- ▶ Demonstrate knowledge of the language and content of one or more artistic forms: visual arts, music, theater, film/television, writing, digital arts.
- ▶ Analyze an artistic work on both its emotional and intellectual levels.
- ▶ Demonstrate awareness of the thinking, practices and unique perspectives offered by a culture or cultures other than one's own.
- ▶ Recognize the universality of the human experience in its various manifestations across cultures.
- ▶ Express objective and subjective responses to experiences and describe the integrity of emotional and intellectual response.
- ▶ Analyze and explain the interrelationship between self, the creative arts, and the humanities, and be exposed to both non-Western and Western cultures.
- ▶ Contextually describe the contributions and perspectives of women and of ethnic and other minorities.

AREA D Social, Political, and Economic Institutions

After completing courses in Area D, students will be able to do the following:

- ▶ Identify and analyze key concepts and theories about human and/or societal development.

- ▶ Critique generalizations and popular opinion about human behavior and society, distinguishing opinion and values from scientific observation and study.
- ▶ Demonstrate an understanding of the use of research and scientific methodologies in the study of human behavior and societal change.
- ▶ Analyze different cultures and their influence on human development or society, including how issues relate to race, class and gender.
- ▶ Describe and analyze cultural and social organizations, including similarities and differences between various societies.

AREA E Lifelong Understanding and Self-Development

After completing courses in Area E, students will be able to do the following:

- ▶ Demonstrate an awareness of the importance of personal development.
- ▶ Examine the integration of one's self as a psychological, social, and physiological being.
- ▶ Analyze human behavior, perception, and physiology and their inter-relationships including sexuality, nutrition, health, stress, the social and physical environment, and the implications of death and dying.

AREA F Cultural Diversity

After completing courses in Area F, students will be able to do the following:

- ▶ Connect knowledge of self and society to larger cultural contexts.
- ▶ Articulate the differences and similarities between and within cultures.

Additional Associate's Degrees

An Associate of Arts or an Associate of Science degree will be awarded to those currently possessing an associate's degree provided:

1. The second degree major includes a minimum of 18 new units,
2. Courses used to satisfy major requirements for the previous degree(s) are not used to satisfy any of the new 18 major units, and
3. A student completes the last 12 units or has completed a total of 48 units at Gavilan College.

For continuing students, the general education and major requirements for the additional degree are those listed in the college catalog for the academic year in which the student first takes courses for the first degree or any subsequent catalog thereafter.

Continuous attendance is defined as enrollment in at least one regularly transcribed course per year, including summer.

For returning students, the requirements are those listed in the college catalog for the year in which the student returns or any subsequent catalog thereafter.

Gavilan College Graduation Requirements

An associate's degree (A.A. or A.S.) at Gavilan College can be achieved by completing a combination of general education courses and a specific major selected from the Gavilan Catalog. A minimum of 60 degree-applicable units (courses numbered 1-299) are required to earn a degree at Gavilan College.

To be eligible for graduation a student must:

1. Complete a minimum of 60 overall units, to include major course requirements, general education, and electives when necessary to add up to 60 total units. A student may select any of the options below to satisfy the general education requirements:

Option A: Gavilan College AA/AS General Education Pattern.

Option B: The California State University (CSU-GE Breadth) Pattern.

Option C: The Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) Pattern.

* All three patterns above lead to an associate degree. Two are transfer level patterns (CSU-GE Breadth and IGETC), and one designed for those students who may not be interested in transferring to a university. It is possible to complete an AA/AS degree while also preparing for transfer. Consult a counselor for details.

To earn a Certificate a student must complete only major course requirements.

2. Complete all major requirements courses with a grade of "C" or better in each course.
3. Maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 ("C") or higher for all work attempted. A grade of "C" or better is also required in each course in Area A and Area B-4 (mathematics), of the general education pattern.*
4. Complete the last 12 units or have completed 48 units at Gavilan College.
5. Complete a graduation petition for each associate degree, certificate of completion, certificate of achievement and award of achievement they wish to receive. These petitions must be filed with the Admissions and Records office by mid-April for spring or summer graduation and mid-October for fall graduation.

NOTE: Effective fall of 2009, the new Gavilan College graduation requirements will include ENGL 1A (Area A2 of the A.A./A.S. Gavilan College General Education Pattern) and Math 233 (Area B4).

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