



## GOVERNING BOARD POLICIES

**BP 4025 Philosophy and Criteria for Associate Degree and General Education**

At Monterey Peninsula College, courses that are designated to fulfill the general education and depth requirements shall meet the following criteria:

**A. General Education Philosophy**

The awarding of an associate degree is intended to represent more than an accumulation of units. It is to symbolize a successful attempt on the part of the College to lead students through patterns of learning experiences designed to develop certain capabilities and insights. Among these are the ability to think critically and to communicate clearly and effectively both orally and in writing; to use mathematics; to understand the modes of inquiry of the major disciplines; to be aware of other cultures and times; to achieve insights gained through experience in thinking about ethical problems; and to develop the capacity for self-understanding.

In addition to these accomplishments, the associate degree holders shall possess sufficient depth of knowledge in a selected field to contribute to a lifetime of interest in that field.

Central to an associate degree, general education is designed to introduce students to the variety of ways in which people comprehend the modern world. Monterey Peninsula College's general education curriculum reflects the conviction that students who receive associate degrees shall possess knowledge of certain basic principles, concepts, and methodologies both unique to and shared by the various disciplines. College-educated persons must be able to use this knowledge when evaluating and appreciating the natural world, the culture, and the society in which they live. Most importantly, general education shall lead students to a better understanding of their world.

MPC shall assist students by creating coherence and integration among the requirements of the separate disciplines so that students recognize the interrelationships among social, political, cultural, and economic institutions both within and between global societies. Participation in general education programs shall provide students with opportunities to critically examine the values and beliefs inherent in proposed solutions to major societal problems.

At Monterey Peninsula College, the institution's General Education Outcomes specify the ways students will demonstrate knowledge and abilities gained while completing the General Education program.



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### **B. General Education Course Designation Procedures and Requirements**

The Superintendent/President shall establish procedures to assure that courses used to meet general education and associate degree requirements meet the standards in this policy. The procedures shall provide for the appropriate involvement of the MPC Curriculum Advisory Committee and Academic Senate. The General Education requirements shall be published in the MPC Catalog.

See Administrative Procedure 4025 – Philosophy and Criteria for Associate Degree and General Education

**References:** *Title 5 Section 55061*  
*ACCJC Accreditation Standard II.A*

**Formerly Governing Board Policy 3001 – General Education**

**Adopted:** October 25, 2005

**Revised and Adopted:** July 26, 2017; April 28, 2021