

General Studies

The Curriculum

The general studies program allows students to explore courses throughout the college curriculum. The program's curriculum consists of those courses approved for general education credit for the Associate in Arts degree; thus, students who are interested in pursuing the general studies major should consult the general education list in the "Graduation Requirements" section, as well as individual course descriptions that may be of interest.

The Associate Degree Major

The general studies major is ideal in a variety of cases. Many students whose work and/or families make attending school something of a balancing act find the flexibility of the general studies major attractive, since they can put together a program each semester from a range of course offerings, throughout the day and evening. In some cases, the student's desired major does not allow for specialization at the lower-division level. And, often, students beginning their college career and those returning to college after an absence wish to leave their options open rather than specialize too soon. The general studies major is a good choice for any of these reasons. It is also an appropriate degree for students who are planning to pursue a baccalaureate degree at a four-year institution.

If you intend to transfer:

Courses that fulfill major requirements for an associate degree at Irvine Valley College may not be the same as those required for completing the major at a transfer institution offering a baccalaureate degree. If you plan to transfer to a four-year college or university, you should (1) refer to the transfer section of this catalog, (2) consult the catalog of your prospective transfer institution (see the IVC Transfer Center for assistance), and (3) schedule an appointment with an IVC counselor to develop a plan of study before you begin your program. In addition, it may be helpful to meet with the appropriate department faculty at IVC.

If you plan to complete an associate degree:

You must complete the courses described below to fulfill the major requirement for the Associate in Arts (A.A. degree). Refer to page 16 for additional options for fulfilling the major requirement.

GENERAL STUDIES MAJOR

(A.A. degree)

The general studies major must complete the general education requirements for the Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree (see page 21 and, in addition, complete 20 units selected from courses in any and all general education categories.