

Instructional Programs

General Education:	Minimum Number of Semester Hour Credits			
	AA	AS	AA&S	AAA/AAS
I. Communication	6	6	6	3
II. Humanities/fine arts	6	6	6	3
Foreign language (intermediate level)	6	0	0	0
III. Social/behavioral sciences	12	9 ^(b)	9	3 ^(a)
IV. Natural sciences/ Mathematics	8 6	8 6 ^(c)	7 6 ^(c)	0-3 ^(a) 0-3 ^(a)
V. Personal Development	2 ^(d)	2 ^(d)	2 ^(d)	2 ^(d)
VI. Student Development	1	1	1	1
VII. Major field courses and electives (columns 1-3) Occupational/technical courses (column 4)	13	22	24-27	49-53 ^(e)
Minimum total for degree ^(g)	60-63	60-63	60-63	65-69 ^(f)

Note: The VCCS Policy Manual, Section 2-IV-C, defines general education within the VCCS. Accreditation eligibility criteria of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) specify general education requirements and provide additional guidance regarding reading, writing, oral communication and fundamental mathematical skills. Within the framework of the table above, Section 2-IV-C, Section 5.2.0.1, and SACS criteria, colleges must provide "... means by which students may acquire basic competencies in the use of computers." In addition to meeting the semester hour requirements listed above, each college must develop goal statements which include the eight elements found in the General Education statement in Section 2-IV-C of the VCCS Policy Manual.

^(a) While general education courses other than those designed for transfer may be used to meet portions of these requirements, SACS criteria require that general education courses be general in nature and not "... narrowly focused on those skills, techniques, and procedures peculiar to a particular occupation or profession."

^(b) Only six semester hours of social/behavioral sciences are required for engineering majors who plan to transfer to a baccalaureate degree engineering program that requires six or fewer hours in this category, provided that the college/university publishes such requirements in its transfer guide.

^(c) Only three semester hours of mathematics are required for the general studies major.

^(d) Health, physical education, or recreation courses which promote physical and emotional well being.

^(e) AAA/AAS degree students should plan to take at least 30 hours in the major; the remaining hours will be appropriate to the major.

^(f) Credit range for programs in the health technologies is 65-72 semester hour credits; for nursing the credit range is 65-69 semester hour credits.

^(g) All college-level course prerequisites must be included in the total credits required for each program.

Approved Electives

Students planning to transfer to a four-year institution may select humanities or social science electives from any of the following lists of courses. Transfer students should determine which of the following courses the transfer institution will accept. (Some courses may require prerequisites.)