

College of San Mateo Associate Degree General Education Requirements

Associate in ARTS (AA) and Associate in SCIENCE (AS) 9/3/25

2025-2026 Catalog Rights (Academic Year: Fall 2025 – Spring 2026 – Summer 2026)

Catalog Rights:

“Catalog rights” means a student is held to the graduation requirements listed in the CSM catalog at the time enrollment begins. A student may choose to use catalog rights for the year of first enrollment or any subsequent year of continuous enrollment at CSM or Canada or Skyline. Continuous enrollment means attending at least one term (fall, spring or summer) of each academic year. If a student discontinues enrollment and restarts then catalog rights begin with the new enrollment. Catalog rights do not apply to any program that has been inactivated and is no longer offered.

Important information for students!

1. If you plan to transfer to a California State University campus, ask a about the Associate Degrees for Transfer.
2. **Students may choose one of two options to complete AA/AS general education requirements: the local AA/AS GE pattern outlined on this sheet OR Cal-GETC, the transfer general education pattern.**
3. For a course to meet associate degree general education requirements it must be completed at the time it was approved to meet the GE area and appear on the AA/AS GE worksheet or the Cal-GETC worksheet.
4. If a student has completed coursework at colleges/universities outside of the San Mateo County Community College District the student must have OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS from those institutions sent to the following. Electronic transcripts are PREFERRED and can be **sent to transevaluation@smccd.edu OR by mail to ATTN: Transcript Evaluation Services, 1700 W Hillsdale Boulevard, San Mateo, CA 94402.**
5. Use the online College of San Mateo Catalog to find the descriptions for the courses listed below.

Residence:

A minimum of 60 degree applicable semester units is required for the Associate degree. At least 12 units must be completed in residence within the San Mateo County Community College District.

Graduation Requirement:

Information Literacy – This competency requirement can be satisfied with any of the following.

1. Completion, with a grade of “C” or higher, of ENGL C1000 (formerly ENGL 100) or C1000E (formerly ENGL 105) at CSM or SKYLINE taken Fall 2015 or later.
2. Completion with a grade of “C” or “P” in any of these CSM courses – LIBR 100, CIS 110, DGME 100, 102, MATH 145, NURS 242. At Cañada LIBR 100 meet this competency.

Major:

Associate degree major course requirements are listed in the College of San Mateo catalog. A minimum of 18 units is required for the major. Some majors require more than 18 units. Major courses must be completed with a grade of “C” or higher. Courses applied to the major may also meet general education requirements if applicable. A maximum of 12 units from courses in which a student has elected to take a PASS/NO PASS grading option may be applied toward an associate degree. At least 12 units of the major requirements must be completed within the San Mateo Community College District (College of San Mateo, Skyline College, Cañada College).

General Education Requirements: Area 1 – Area 8

Areas 1A, 1B, and 2 must be completed with a grade of “C” or higher. A 2.0 GPA is required for the degree.

AREA 1A

English Composition

1 course (minimum one 3-unit course)

ENGL C1000 (formerly ENGL 100) **ENGL C1000E** (formerly ENGL 105) **ESL 400**

AREA 1B

Oral Communication
& Critical Thinking

1 course (minimum one 3-unit course)

BUS 401 COMM C1000 (formerly COMM 110) 115 130 150 **PHIL 103 210**
ENGL 110 C1001 (formerly ENGL 165)

AREA 2 Mathematical Concepts & Quantitative Reasoning	1 course (minimum one 3-unit course) BUS 113 123 CIS 124 262 400 401 402 PHIL 200 STAT C1000 (formerly MATH 200) MATH 125 130 145 221 222 225 241 242 243 251 252 253 268 270 275 PSYC 121
AREA 3 Arts & Humanities	1 course (minimum one 3-unit course) ANTH 180 ARCH 100 ART 101 102 103 104 105 124 129 204 207 301 347 350 351 401 ASL 100 110 CHIN 111 112 121 122 131 132 134 211 212 COMM 170 171 DANC 100 DGME 215 ENGL 110 161 162 163 ESL 400 401 ETHN 104 105 106 107 265 288 585 FILM 100 120 121 122 123 130 135 140 145 153 200 215 277 GBST 101 102 HIST 100 101 104 106 201 202 260 261 262 310 KINE 200 LIT. 101 105 113 115 150 151 154 155 156 201 202 220 221 231 232 266 277 269 430 MUS. 100 131 202 210 250 275 280 PHIL 100 160 175 244 300 SPAN 110 112 120 122 131 132 140
AREA 4 Social & Behavioral Sciences	1 course (minimum one 3-unit course) ADMJ 100 ANTH 110 180 350 BUS. 100 101 125 203 COMM 130 DGME 100 102 ECON 100 102 ETHN 101 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 122 300 GEOG 110 150 GBST 101 102 HIST 100 101 104 106 201 202 260 261 262 310 KINE 103 107 POLS (formerly PLSC) 100 110 130 150 210 310 C1000 (formerly PLSC200) PSYC C1000 (formerly PSYC 100) 105 106 110 120 200 201 220 225 230 300 301 310 320 330 410 SOSC 310 321 SOCI 100 105 110 121 141 160
AREA 5 Natural Sciences	1 course (minimum one 3-unit course) ANTH 125 ASTR 100 115 125 210 BIOL 100 102 110 130 145 184 210 211 220 221 230 240 250 260 310 311 CHEM 192 210 220 231 232 410 420 ENGR 130 GEOG 100 GEOL 100 OCEN 100 PALN 110 PHYS 100 130 210 220 250 260 270 PSCI 125 126 141 PSYC 105 220
AREA 6 Ethnic Studies	1 course (minimum one 3-unit course) ETHN 101 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 265 288 300 585
AREA 7 Wellness, Kinesiology Activity, and Personal Development	3 semester units with at least 1 unit from Area 7A course options. (1 unit in 7A and 2-3 units in 7B OR all 3 units in Area 7A is acceptable) 7A Wellness and Kinesiology Activity courses – at least 1 unit from Area 7A: ADAP 100 110 140 155 AQUA 109.1-109.4 127.1-127.4 133.1-133.4 135.1-135.4 DANC 116.1-116.4 117.1-117.4 121.1-121.4 128.1-128.4 130.1-130.4 140.1-140.4 151.1-151.4 167.1-167.4 FITN 116.1-116.4 134 201.1-201.4 220 225 226 301.1-301.4 332.1-332.4 334.1-334.4 335.1-335.4 336.1-336.4 INDV 121.1-121.4 251.1-251.4 TEAM 105 111 116 118 119 135 150 158 165 171.1-171.4 180 182 186 192 193 194 202 VAR any VARSITY activity course Area 7A is waived for 1- students who have received an associate's or bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution; 2) VETERANS of the US Armed Forces who have completed Basic Training and submitted their Joint Service Transcript (JST); 3) persons with excused medical reasons that have a medical waiver approved by the College Nurse and filed in the Office of Admissions and Records. In the case of a waiver for 7A, 3 units in 7B is required. 7B Personal Development courses: ACTG 119 BIOL 310 311 BUS 101 201 CIS 110 COUN 103 111 114 115 120 124 128 240 CRER 100 126 127 155 COMM 130 140 150 ETHN 122 123 HSCI 100 GBST 650 IDST 110 KINE 135 136 LCTR 240 LIBR 100 PSYC 320
AREA 8 American History & Institutions, CA State and Local Government (AH&I)	1 course (minimum one 3-unit course) HIST 201 202 260 261 262 310 POLS C1000 (formerly PLSC 200) 210 310

UNIT DEFICIENCY AS A RESULT OF QUARTER TO SEMESTER UNITS CONVERSION: Students who transfer in coursework that involves quarter units should know that there may be UNIT DEFICIENCIES. Discuss with your Counselor.