

**CHAPTER 4: ACADEMIC AFFAIRS  
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE NO.: 4025**

**COLLEGE OF THE SISKIYOU**

**Procedure Manual**

**Title:** Philosophy and Criteria for Associate Degree and General Education

**Adoption Date:**

**Review Date:**

**Revision Date:** 3/2/10; April 9, 2013; March 10, 2015; **February 14, 2017**

**Responsible Office:** Vice President, Instruction

**Responsible Area:** Instruction Office

**Policy Reference:** BP 4025; Title 5 Section 55061; ACCJC Accreditation Standard II.A;

~~As citizens of the world, our students will be confronting complex personal, social, cultural, and political issues. Our purpose is to prepare them to thrive in this world. Students will need a wide variety of skills, understandings, sensitivities, and perspectives from all the academic disciplines; Natural Sciences, Social and Behavioral Sciences, and Humanities and Fine Arts. They will need to understand the basic principles of these academic disciplines, their methods of inquiry, their history, impact on society, and their relationships to each other.~~

~~Our students will also need a set of skills that transcend the traditional disciplines. They will need to think critically, to communicate effectively, to reason using quantitative models, and to maintain their physical and mental well being.~~

~~It is our belief that completion of the College of the Siskiyous' General Education requirements will help to prepare our graduates for life as informed, active, and ethical citizens of this multicultural world.~~

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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 appropriate~~ **rely primarily upon the advice and recommendation** of the Academic Senate ~~involvement~~.

**The College of the Siskiyous ensures that it will lead students who are completing an associate degree through patterns of learning experiences designed to develop the ability to think and**

communicate clearly and effectively, both orally and in writing; use mathematics and understand the modes of inquiry of the major disciplines; develop awareness of other cultures and eras; achieve insights for solving ethical problems; and develop a capacity for self-understanding. In addition, the students who earn an associate degree at College of the Siskiyous will possess sufficient depth in some field of knowledge to contribute to lifetime interest.

The College of the Siskiyous believes that general education should clearly lead students to improved self-understanding as they are introduced to various means through which people comprehend the modern world. General education introduces the content and methodology of the major areas of knowledge and provides an opportunity for students to develop intellectual skills, information technology facility, effective and creative capabilities, social attitudes, and an appreciation for cultural diversity. Collectively, the courses in a general education pattern are designed to introduce students to various means through which people understand the modern world. The goal is to involve students actively in examining values inherent in proposed solutions to major societal problems.

Proposed changes to the philosophy and criteria for Associate degree and general education shall follow the following steps:

1. Curriculum Committee shall review any proposed change from responsible faculty and forward it, with their recommendation, to Academic Senate for review.
2. Academic Senate shall review any proposed change and forward it, with their recommendation, to Instruction Council for review. **Any requested changes shall result in this item being returned to the Academic Senate for reconciliation.**
3. Instruction Council shall review any proposed change and forward it, with their recommendation, to College Council. **Any requested changes shall result in this item being returned to the Academic Senate for reconciliation.**
4. College Council shall review any proposed change and forward it, with their recommendation, to the Superintendent/President.
5. The Superintendent/President, upon accepting the recommendation from College Council, will make a recommendation to the Board.