

# SIERRA COLLEGE ASSOCIATE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS 2025-2026

Sierra College Philosophy for General Education: General education is designed to introduce students to the variety of means through which people comprehend the modern world. General education introduces the content and methodology of the major areas of knowledge: the humanities and fine arts, the natural sciences and the social sciences. The general education program provides the opportunity for students to develop the intellectual skills, information technology facility, affective and creative capabilities, social attitudes and appreciation for cultural diversity that will make them effective learners and citizens.

**Note:** Students who possess a baccalaureate or higher degree completed at a college or university accredited through a CHEA (Council for Higher Education Accreditation) recognized Regional Accrediting Agency will have satisfied Sierra College general education and competency requirements for the Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree. International coursework from non-United States regionally accredited institutions cannot be used to waive Sierra College General Education.

## I. General Education Breadth Requirements

### Area 1 - English Communication

Select two courses (minimum 6 semester units) - one from Group 1A and one from Group 1B or Group 1C:

Code	Title	Units
<b>Group 1A - English Composition</b>		
ENGL C1000	Academic Reading and Writing	
<b>Group 1B - Critical thinking</b>		
COMM 0002	Argumentation and Rhetorical Criticism	
ENGL 0001B	Critical Thinking and Writing about Literature	
ENGL C1001	Critical Thinking and Writing	
PHIL 0004	Introduction to Critical Thinking	
PHIL 0012	Introduction to Symbolic Logic	
<b>Group 1C - Oral Communication</b>		
BUS 0265	Business Communications	
BUS 0266	Introduction to Oral Communication	
COMM C1000	Introduction to Public Speaking	
COMM 0003	Small Group Communication	
COMM 0005	Communication Foundations	
COMM 0008	Interpersonal Communication	
THEA 0010A	Acting I	
THEA 0010B	Acting II	

### Area 2 - Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning

Select one course (minimum 3 semester units) from the following:

Code	Title	Units
BUS 0215	Personal Finance	
MATH 0010	Problem Solving	

MATH 0011	Data Science for All
MATH 0012	College Algebra
MATH 0015	Discrete Mathematics
MATH 0016A	Calculus for Social and Life Sciences
MATH 0016B	Calculus for Social and Life Sciences
MATH 0017	Concepts of Mathematics
MATH 0018	The Nature of Mathematics
MATH 0019	Mathematical Concepts for Elementary School Teachers
MATH 0024	Modern Business Mathematics
MATH 0027	Trigonometry
MATH 0029	Pre-Calculus Mathematics
MATH 0030	Analytical Geometry and Calculus I
MATH 0031	Analytical Geometry and Calculus II
MATH 0032	Analytical Geometry and Calculus III
MATH 0033	Differential Equations and Linear Algebra
MATH 0042	Business Calculus
PSYC 0142	Introduction to Psychological Statistics
SOC 0015	Introduction to Statistics in Sociology
STAT C1000	Introduction to Statistics

### Area 3 - Arts and Humanities

Select one course (Minimum 3 semester units) from Arts or Humanities:

Code	Title	Units
<b>Arts</b>		
AAD 0013	History of Graphic Design	
AAD 0044	Sketching for Design	
AAD 0060	Graphic Design I: Principles and Process	
AAD 0088	History of Filmmaking	
AAD 0089	Documentary Filmmaking	
ART 0002	Two-Dimensional Design Foundations	
ART 0003	Three-Dimensional Design Foundations	
ART 0004A	Drawing I	
ART 0004B	Drawing II	
ART 0005A	Figure Drawing I	
ART 0006C	Color Theory	
ART 0007A	Oil Painting I	
ART 0008A	Watercolor Painting I	
ART 0009A	Acrylic Painting I	
ART 0012A	Sculpture I	
ART 0017	Ceramic Sculpture/Handbuilding	
ART 0018A	Ceramics I	
ART 0018B	Ceramics II	
ART 0019	Figure Sculpture	
ART 0020	Raku Ceramics	
ART 0022	Metal Arts	
ART 0024	Advanced Metal Arts	
ART 0032A	Fiber Arts I	
ART 0033	Art Metal Casting	
ART 0034	Collage and Assemblage	

ART 0040A	Printmaking I	PHOT 0010	History of Photography
ART 0041	Introduction to Jewelry and Metalsmithing	PHOT 0060A	Beginning Photography
ARHI 0101	Art Appreciation	PHOT 0065	Documentary Photography
ARHI 0110	Survey of Western Art I: Prehistory through the Middle Ages	PHOT 0089	Documentary Filmmaking
ARHI 0120	Survey of Western Art II: Renaissance Traditions	THEA 0010A	Acting I
ARHI 0130	Survey of Western Art III: Modern through Contemporary	THEA 0013	Introduction to Theatre
ARHI 0132	History of Women in Art	THEA 0016A	Costume History
ARHI 0134	History of Photography	THEA 0018	Acting for Musical Theatre
ARHI 0140	History of the Arts of Africa, the Americas, and Oceania	THEA 0021	Script Analysis
ARHI 0142	History of Latinx and Chicanx Art	<b>Humanities</b>	
ARHI 0150	History of Asian Art	AAD 0012	Visual Communication
ARHI 0155	History of Islamic Art	COMM 0010	Communication Theory, Methods, and Practice
COMM 0006	Performance of Diverse Literatures	COMM 0012	Visual Communication
ENGL 0018	Creative Writing (Non-Fiction)	COMM 0072	Multimedia Reporting
ENGL 0019	Introduction to Creative Writing	DFST 0001	American Sign Language I
ENGL 0020	Creative Writing (Poetry)	DFST 0002	American Sign Language II
ENGL 0021	Creative Writing (Fiction)	DFST 0003	American Sign Language III
FASH 0012	Fashion History	DFST 0004	American Sign Language IV
HUM 0001	Introduction to Humanities I	ENGL 0001B	Critical Thinking and Writing about Literature
HUM 0002	Introduction to Humanities II	ENGL 0016	Introduction to LGBTIQ Literature
HUM 0003	Introduction to Asian Humanities	ENGL 0017	Introduction to Shakespeare and Popular Culture
MUS 0002	Music Appreciation	ENGL 0024	Introduction to Literary Criticism and Critical Concepts
MUS 0006A	Music Theory I	ENGL 0027	Literature by Women
MUS 0006B	Music Theory II	ENGL 0029	Introduction to Drama as Literature
MUS 0009A	Music Theory III	ENGL 0030A	American Literature - Beginnings through Civil War
MUS 0009B	Music Theory IV	ENGL 0030B	American Literature - Civil War to the Present
MUS 0010	Music Fundamentals	ENGL 0032	Introduction to Poetry
MUS 0011	Introduction and History of Jazz	ENGL 0033	Introduction to Shakespeare (The Drama)
MUS 0012A	Survey of Music History and Literature to 1750	ENGL 0034	Introduction to the Novel
MUS 0012B	Survey of Music History and Literature from 1750 to Present	ENGL 0035	Introduction to the Short Story
MUS 0013	Introduction to Music: History of Rock and Roll	ENGL 0037	American Film Masterpieces
MUS 0024	Introduction to Music Cultures of the World	ENGL 0038	International Film Masterpieces
MUS 0039A	Beginning Voice	ENGL 0040	The Filmed Novel
MUS 0039B	Intermediate Voice	ENGL 0042	The Documentary Film
MUS 0039C	Advanced Voice I	ENGL 0044	Children's Literature
MUS 0039D	Advanced Voice II	ENGL 0045	Young Adult Literature
MUS 0040A	Beginning Piano I	ENGL 0046A	English Literature
MUS 0040B	Beginning Piano II	ENGL 0046B	English Literature
MUS 0040C	Intermediate Piano I	ENGL 0047A	World Literature
MUS 0040D	Intermediate Piano II	ENGL 0047B	World Literature
MUS 0046	Jazz Ensemble	ENGL 0048	Literature of Science Fiction
MUS 0047	Vocal Jazz Ensemble	ESL 0025C	Advanced Reading and Writing
MUS 0048	Concert Choir	ETHN 0030	Introduction to Chicana/o Studies
MUS 0050	Wind Ensemble	ETHN 0050	Ethnic Images in Film
MUS 0054	Symphonic Band	FREN 0001	Elementary French - Level I
		FREN 0002	Elementary French - Level II

FREN 0003	Intermediate French - Level I
FREN 0004	Intermediate French - Level II
GER 0001	Elementary German - Level I
GER 0002	Elementary German - Level II
HIST 0004A	Western Civilization to 1715
HIST 0004B	Western Civilization since 1715
HIST 0017A	History of the United States to 1877
HIST 0017B	History of the United States since 1865
HIST 0018A	The African American Experience in American History to 1877
HIST 0018B	The African American Experience in American History since 1877
HIST 0019A	History of Traditional East Asia
HIST 0019B	History of Modern East Asia
HIST 0020	California History
HIST 0021	Contemporary United States History
HIST 0023	Chicano/Mexican American History
HIST 0024	Russian History - 10th Century to Present
HIST 0025	Native American History
HIST 0026	Women in World History
HIST 0027	Women in American History
HIST 0050	World History to 1500
HIST 0051	World History since 1500
HDEV 0044	Children's Literature
HUM 0005	Classical Roots of the Contemporary Western World
HUM 0009	Introduction to Women, Gender and Religion
HUM 0010	World Religions
HUM 0015	Introduction to Mythology
HUM 0017	Introduction to Atheism
HUM 0020	Introduction to the Hebrew Bible
HUM 0021	Introduction to the New Testament
ITAL 0001	Elementary Italian - Level I
ITAL 0002	Elementary Italian - Level II
LGBT 0002	Queer (LGBTIQ) Film History
MUS 0024	Introduction to Music Cultures of the World
PHIL 0002	Introduction to Philosophy: Ethics
PHIL 0004	Introduction to Critical Thinking
PHIL 0006	Introduction to Philosophy: Knowledge and Reality
PHIL 0010	Philosophy of Religion
PHIL 0013	Introduction to Asian Philosophy
PHIL 0020	History of Ancient Greek Philosophy
PHIL 0021	History of Modern Philosophy
PHIL 0027	Introduction to Philosophy of Women in Western Cultures
PHIL 0030	Introduction to Social and Political Philosophy
PHIL 0060	Introduction to Environmental Ethics
PHIL 0065	Introduction to the Philosophy of Science

SPAN 0001	Elementary Spanish - Level I
SPAN 0002	Elementary Spanish - Level II
SPAN 0003	Intermediate Spanish - Level I
SPAN 0004	Intermediate Spanish - Level II
SPAN 0017	Intermediate Conversational Spanish
THEA 0021	Script Analysis
WMST 0003	Introduction to Women, Gender and Religion

## Area 4 - Social and Behavioral Sciences

Select one course (minimum 3 semester units) from Social or Behavioral Sciences:

Code	Title	Units
<b>Social Sciences</b>		
ADMJ 0050	Introduction to Administration of Justice	
AGRI 0196	Introduction to Sustainable Agriculture	
AGRI 0198	Food, Society and the Environment	
AGRI 0215	Introduction to Agricultural Business and Economics	
ARHI 0132	History of Women in Art	
ARHI 0142	History of Latinx and Chicax Art	
BUS 0260	Introduction to Business	
BUS 0271	Law and Society	
ECON 0001A	Principles of Macroeconomics	
ECON 0001B	Principles of Microeconomics	
ETHN 0014	Introduction to Asian American Studies	
ETHN 0020	Introduction to African American Studies	
ETHN 0030	Introduction to Chicana/o Studies	
ETHN 0045	Federal Indian Law and Policy	
ETHN 0050	Ethnic Images in Film	
ETHN 0053	Introduction to Native American Studies	
FASH 0015	Clothing and Culture	
GEOG 0002	Cultural Geography	
GEOG 0003	Geography of California	
GEOG 0005	World Regional Geography	
HIST 0004A	Western Civilization to 1715	
HIST 0004B	Western Civilization since 1715	
HIST 0017A	History of the United States to 1877	
HIST 0017B	History of the United States since 1865	
HIST 0018A	The African American Experience in American History to 1877	
HIST 0018B	The African American Experience in American History since 1877	
HIST 0019A	History of Traditional East Asia	
HIST 0019B	History of Modern East Asia	
HIST 0020	California History	
HIST 0021	Contemporary United States History	
HIST 0022	American Military History	
HIST 0023	Chicano/Mexican American History	
HIST 0024	Russian History - 10th Century to Present	

HIST 0025	Native American History	COMM 0008	Interpersonal Communication
HIST 0026	Women in World History	COMM 0010	Communication Theory, Methods, and Practice
HIST 0027	Women in American History	COMM 0070	Mass Communication: Media and Society
HIST 0049	The American West	COMM 0071	Newswriting and Reporting Techniques
HIST 0050	World History to 1500	COMM 0072	Multimedia Reporting
HIST 0051	World History since 1500	ESS 0001	Introduction to Environmental Sciences and Sustainability
HUM 0009	Introduction to Women, Gender and Religion	ETHN 0011	Introduction to Ethnic Studies
KIN 0086	Psychology of Sport	GEOG 0003	Geography of California
LGBT 0001	Introduction to LGBT Studies/Queer Theory	HDEV 0001	Human Development Through the Lifespan
PDEV 0006	Career Planning	HDEV 0004	Child, Family, and Community
PDEV 0075	Study of Happiness and Well-Being	HDEV 0009	Child Growth and Development
POLS C1000	American Government and Politics	HDEV 0021	Psychology of Intimate Relationships and Family
POLS 0002	Introduction to Comparative Government	HDEV 0022	The Family
POLS 0003	Introduction to International Relations	HDEV 0025	Teaching in a Diverse Society
POLS 0004	Russian and East European Political Systems	HUM 0003	Introduction to Asian Humanities
POLS 0005	California Politics and Government	NUTF 0010	Principles of Nutrition
POLS 0007	Politics of the Developing World	NUTF 0014	Sports Nutrition
POLS 0008	American Foreign Policy	PSYC C1000	Introduction to Psychology
POLS 0009	Politics of the Middle East	PSYC 0103	Social Psychology
POLS 0012	Terrorism	PSYC 0104	Developmental Psychology
POLS 0016	Introduction to Political Theory	PSYC 0105	Research Methods in Psychology
POLS 0017	Introduction to Political Science Research Methods	PSYC 0106	Psychology of Adjustment
POLS 0027	Women and Politics in a Global Society	PSYC 0107	Abnormal Psychology
PSYC 0180	Cultural Psychology	PSYC 0108	Psychology of Death and Dying
SOC 0010	Feminism and Social Action	PSYC 0110	Psychology of Intimate Relationships and Family
SOC 0027	Sociology of Gender	PSYC 0127	Psychology of Women
WMST 0001	Introduction to Women's Studies	PSYC 0130	Human Sexuality
WMST 0002	Introduction to LGBT Studies/Queer Theory	PSYC 0150	Alcohol, Drugs and Society
WMST 0003	Introduction to Women, Gender and Religion	PSYC 0160	Psychology and Film
WMST 0004	Feminism and Social Action	PSYC 0200	Introduction to Research Methods in Psychology
WMST 0006	Introduction to Disability Studies	SOC 0001	Introduction to Sociology
<b>Behavioral Sciences</b>			
ANTH 0002	Cultural Anthropology	SOC 0002	Social Problems
ANTH 0004	Native Peoples of North America	SOC 0003	Race, Ethnicity and Inequality
ANTH 0005	Introduction to Archaeology	SOC 0004	The Family
ANTH 0006	Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology	SOC 0005	Sociology of Women's Health
ANTH 0007	Native Peoples of California	SOC 0009	Introduction to Crime, Deviance, and Social Control
ANTH 0009	Magic, Witchcraft, Ritual, Myth and Religion	SOC 0047	Introduction to Hip Hop and Social Justice
ANTH 0014	Global Problems	SOC 0110	Introduction to Social Justice
ANTH 0027	Anthropology of Sex, Gender and Sexuality		
BUS 0210	Ethical Studies in Business		
BUS 0215	Personal Finance		
COMM 0003	Small Group Communication		
COMM 0005	Communication Foundations		
COMM 0007	Intercultural Communication		

## Area 5 - Natural Sciences

**Select one course or Course Combination (minimum 3 semester units) from Life or Physical Sciences:**

(To earn an AS degree, an approved laboratory course/combination must be completed. Laboratory courses and lecture/laboratory courses are indicated by an asterisk (\*).

Code	Title	Units		
<b>Life Sciences</b>			ASTR 0002 & ASTR 0011	Introduction to Planetary Systems and Observational Astronomy (*)
AGRI 0156	Introduction to Plant Science (*)		ASTR 0002 & ASTR 0014	Introduction to Planetary Systems and Astrophotography and Imaging (*)
AGRI 0198	Food, Society and the Environment		ASTR 0005	Introduction to Stars, Galaxies, and the Universe
AGRI 0200	Introduction to Animal Science (*)		ASTR 0005 & ASTR 0011	Introduction to Stars, Galaxies, and the Universe and Observational Astronomy (*)
ANTH 0001	Biological Anthropology		ASTR 0005 & ASTR 0014	Introduction to Stars, Galaxies, and the Universe and Astrophotography and Imaging (*)
ANTH 0001 & 0001L	Biological Anthropology and Biological Anthropology Laboratory (*)		ASTR 0007	Life in the Universe
ANTH 0010	Introduction to Forensic Anthropology		ASTR 0010	Elementary Astronomy
ASTR 0007	Life in the Universe		ASTR 0010 & ASTR 0011	Elementary Astronomy and Observational Astronomy (*)
BIOL 0001	General Biology (*)		ASTR 0010 & ASTR 0014	Elementary Astronomy and Astrophotography and Imaging (*)
BIOL 0002	Botany (*)		ASTR 0025	Frontiers in Astronomy
BIOL 0003	General Zoology (*)		CHEM 0001A	General Chemistry I (*)
BIOL 0004	Microbiology (*)		CHEM 0001B	General Chemistry II (*)
BIOL 0005	Human Anatomy (*)		CHEM 0002A	Introduction to Chemistry I (*)
BIOL 0006	Human Physiology (*)		CHEM 0002B	Introduction to Chemistry II (*)
BIOL 0010	Introduction to Biology		CHEM 0003A	General Chemistry I - Part 1 (*)
BIOL 0011	Concepts of Biology (*)		CHEM 0003B	General Chemistry I - Part 2 (*)
BIOL 0014	Natural History, Ecology and Conservation (*)		CHEM 0140	Survey of Chemistry and Physics (*)
BIOL 0015	Marine Biology (*)		ESCI 0001	Physical Geology
BIOL 0021	Introduction to Plant Science (*)		ESCI 0001 & 0001L	Physical Geology and Physical Geology Laboratory (*)
BIOL 0024	Wildland Trees and Shrubs (Dendrology) (*)		ESCI 0002	California Geology
BIOL 0030	Introduction to Ornithology		ESCI 0003	Historical Geology
BIOL 0033	Introduction to Zoology (*)		ESCI 0003 & 0003L	Historical Geology and Historical Geology Laboratory (*)
BIOL 0035	Introduction to Entomology		ESCI 0007	Energy, Environment, and Climate
BIOL 0036	Introduction to Mammalogy		ESCI 0010	Introduction to Earth Science
BIOL 0055	General Human Anatomy and Physiology (*)		ESCI 0010 & 0010L	Introduction to Earth Science and Introduction to Earth Science Laboratory (*)
BIOL 0056	Biology: A Human Perspective		ESCI 0015	Introduction to Oceanography
BIOL 0056 & 0056L	Biology: A Human Perspective and Biology: A Human Perspective Laboratory (*)		ESCI 0015 & 0015L	Introduction to Oceanography and Introduction to Oceanography Laboratory (*)
BIOL 0140	Organismal Biology (*)		ESCI 0050	Geology of National Parks and Monuments
ESS 0001	Introduction to Environmental Sciences and Sustainability		ESS 0001	Introduction to Environmental Sciences and Sustainability
ESS 0001 & 0001L	Introduction to Environmental Sciences and Sustainability and Introduction to Environmental Science Laboratory (*)		ESS 0001 & 0001L	Introduction to Environmental Sciences and Sustainability and Introduction to Environmental Science Laboratory (*)
ESS 0006	The Sierra Nevada		ESS 0006	The Sierra Nevada
ESS 0007	Energy, Environment, and Climate		ESS 0007	Energy, Environment, and Climate
ESS 0008	California Water (*)		ESS 0008	California Water
ESS 0010	Conservation of Natural Resources		ESS 0010	Conservation of Natural Resources
ESS 0014	Natural History, Ecology and Conservation (*)		GEOG 0001	Physical Geography
PSYC 0140	Introduction to Biopsychology			
PSYC 0140 & 0140L	Introduction to Biopsychology and Biopsychology Laboratory (*)			
<b>Physical Sciences</b>				
AGRI 0221	Introduction to Soil Science (*)			
ASTR 0002	Introduction to Planetary Systems			

GEOG 0001 & 0001L	Physical Geography and Physical Geography Laboratory (*)
GEOG 0004	Weather and Climate
MATH 0030	Analytical Geometry and Calculus I
MECH 0001	The Science of Electronics
PHYS 0010	Basic Concepts in Physics
PHYS 0010 & 0010L	Basic Concepts in Physics and Basic Concepts in Physics Laboratory (*)
PHYS 0105	General Physics I
PHYS 0105 & 0105L	General Physics I and General Physics I Laboratory (*)
PHYS 0110	General Physics II
PHYS 0110 & 0110L	General Physics II and General Physics II Laboratory (*)
PHYS 0140	Survey of Chemistry and Physics (*)
PHYS 0205	Principles of Physics: Mechanics
PHYS 0205 & 0205L	Principles of Physics: Mechanics and Principles of Physics Laboratory: Mechanics (*)
PHYS 0210	Principles of Physics: Electricity and Magnetism
PHYS 0210 & 0210L	Principles of Physics: Electricity and Magnetism and Principles of Physics Laboratory: Electricity and Magnetism (*)
PHYS 0215	Principles of Physics: Heat, Waves and Modern Physics
PHYS 0215 & 0215L	Principles of Physics: Heat, Waves and Modern Physics and Principles of Physics Laboratory: Heat, Waves and Modern Physics (*)
WELD 0011	Welding Metallography (*)

- Complete courses with a grade of “C” or better or a grade of “P” if the course is taken on a “Pass/No Pass” basis;
- Complete the requirements of the degree with a minimum cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0.

B) Courses may meet multiple requirements, including General Education. However, one course may not be counted in more than one General Education area.

C) Students who possess a baccalaureate or higher degree completed at a college or university accredited through a CHEA (Council for Higher Education Accreditation) (<https://www.chea.org/>) recognized Regional Accrediting Agency will have satisfied Sierra College general education and competency requirements for the Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree. International coursework from non-United States regionally accredited institutions cannot be used to waive Sierra College General Education.

D) Students who intend to transfer to a four-year institution should speak to a Counselor, as the AA/AS General Education option may not be the best option. Please see California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC) (<https://catalog.sierracollege.edu/archive/2025-2026/student-resources/general-education/california-general-education-transfer-curriculum-cal-getc/>) for transfer general education requirements.

E) Students who wish to earn an AA-T or AS-T must complete California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC) (<https://catalog.sierracollege.edu/archive/2025-2026/student-resources/general-education/california-general-education-transfer-curriculum-cal-getc/>).

F) All students are strongly advised to speak with a counselor choosing a major, general education, or transfer pathway.

## Area 6 - Ethnic Studies

Select one course (minimum 3 semester units) from the following:

Code	Title	Units
ETHN 0011	Introduction to Ethnic Studies	
ETHN 0014	Introduction to Asian American Studies	
ETHN 0020	Introduction to African American Studies	
ETHN 0030	Introduction to Chicana/o Studies	
ETHN 0045	Federal Indian Law and Policy	
ETHN 0050	Ethnic Images in Film	
ETHN 0053	Introduction to Native American Studies	

A) To earn an AA or AS at Sierra College, students must:

- Complete a minimum of 18 semester (27 quarter) units of focused study in a major;
- Complete a minimum of 21 semester (28-31.5 quarter) units of General Education in the areas described above;
- Complete a total of 60 units, including major, general education, and elective courses;
- Complete at least 12 units at Sierra College ;