

## I. General AAS Degree Requirements

- A. A minimum of 60 credits is required to receive the AAS. At least 24 of the 60 credits must be earned in the UW Collaborative Online AAS Degree program.
- B. A student must have a grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 earned cumulatively in the UW Collaborative Online AAS Degree program, and at least a 2.0 overall GPA in credits applied to the AAS.
- C. The AAS general education requirements must be fulfilled.

## II. Overview of AAS Requirements

### A. Distribution of Credit Requirements

Requirement	Credits Required
Knowledge of Human Cultures (HC)	12
Knowledge of the Natural World (NW)	12
Individual, Social, and Environmental Responsibility (ER)	6
Intercultural Knowledge and Competence (IK)	3
Critical and Creative Thinking (CC)	3
Effective Communication (EC)	6
<b>Total General Education Credits</b>	<b>42</b>
Electives	18
<b>Total Required Credits to Degree</b>	<b>60</b>

### B. Additional Degree Requirements

A student must fulfill the following degree requirements through general education breadth requirements and/or elective coursework:

1. Depth sequence (two courses of three or more credits each)
2. Three credits of Quantitative Literacy coursework (QL)
3. An ethnic studies course (ES)
4. A laboratory science course (LS)

## III. General Education Breadth Requirements

A student must complete general education coursework in a variety of different disciplines based on breadth categories established by the UW System shared learning goals. There are six different breadth categories. Each course is limited to only one breadth category.

### A. Knowledge of Human Cultures (HC)

Courses focus on analysis of the human condition, culture, and society. This typically includes coursework that requires students to engage with and analyze human interaction and culture, social organization and institutions, historical contexts, and/or complex interdependent systems. If you are in HC courses you can expect to:

1. describe and evaluate existing knowledge of human cultures;
2. interpret and analyze data, texts, and/or artifacts; and/or
3. apply concepts across disciplines.

### B. Knowledge of the Natural World (NW)

Courses focus on concepts and applications related to the natural and physical sciences and mathematics. If you are in NW courses you can expect to:

1. describe and evaluate existing knowledge of the natural world;
2. interpret, analyze and communicate data, results, and conclusions; and/or
3. apply concepts across disciplines.

### C. Critical and Creative Thinking (CC)

Courses extend students' abilities to analyze issues and produce responses that are both logical and innovative. If you are in CC classes you can expect to:

1. investigate problems;
2. execute analytical, practical, or creative tasks; and/or
3. combine or synthesize existing ideas, images, or expertise in original ways.

#### **D. Effective Communication (EC)**

Courses support and assess students' development of reading, listening, speaking, information literacy, and/or writing proficiencies. If you are in EC classes you can expect to:

1. use effective reading, listening, speaking, and/or writing skills, for a variety of purposes and audiences; and/or
2. use language effectively to construct scholarly, evidence-based arguments.

A student must complete:

1. EN102 (3 credits) with a grade of C or higher. (Note: Depending on English placement, you may be required to take EN101 as a pre-requisite for EN102. Similarly, depending on English placement, you may be required to take EN098 prior to enrolling in EN101.)
2. Three (3) additional credits of EC coursework.

#### **E. Intercultural Knowledge and Competence (IK)**

Courses prepare students to live and work in diverse contexts. Courses with this degree designation focus on building cross-cultural communication, interaction, and empathy with people from diverse backgrounds and cultures. If you are in IK courses you can expect to:

1. develop cultural self-awareness in the context of diverse human cultures; and/or
2. develop strategies for effectively and appropriately negotiating intercultural interactions.

#### **F. Individual, Social and Environmental Responsibility (ER)**

Courses prepare students to live and work in diverse contexts. Courses with this degree designation focus on building cross-cultural communication, interaction, and empathy with people from diverse backgrounds and cultures. If you are in ER courses you can expect to:

1. describe and evaluate ethical, social, and/or environmental issues; and/or
2. apply knowledge and skills for the purpose of civic engagement.

### **IV. Depth Requirement**

The UW System Associate Degree Standards require each student to complete "a two-course sequence in which the first course provides the foundation for the second." This requirement is fulfilled by taking a disciplinary depth sequence identified by the program. One or both courses may be transferred in from another institution.

Sets of courses in a depth sequence must meet the following criteria:

- a. Both courses are at least three credits.
- b. Learning from the first course lays a foundation for learning in the second course. However, the foundation course does not need to be a prerequisite for the second course.
- c. You take the second course in a different semester or term. The semesters do not need to be contiguous.
- d. The depth requirement does not include skills courses that lay a foundation for academic literacy (MA091, MA093, EN098, and EN101).

The following sequences satisfy the Depth Requirement: BU101, FN210; BUS 101, BUS210; EN250, EN278; PH121, PH237; PS101, PS250; SC101, SC231.

### **V. Quantitative Literacy (AAS-QL)**

A student must complete a minimum of three credits of QL coursework, i.e. MA108, MA116, or MA117 with a C or better. Quantitative literacy courses may fulfill breadth and depth degree requirements.

### **VI. Laboratory Science (LS)**

A student must complete at least one laboratory science course. LS courses normally fulfill a general education breadth requirement. In laboratory science courses, you engage in empirical study of the natural world to enhance learning. To carry the LS degree designation, a science course must have at least one of the following active learning components as a regularly scheduled part of the course:

- a. Learning activities in a laboratory or field setting;
- b. Extensive use of scientific methods for student investigation, experimentation, and/or observation;
- c. Active student participation in analysis and interpretation of data, using scientific tools, methods, conceptual frameworks, theories, and/or models.

### **VII. Ethnic Studies (ES)**

A student must take one ES course. Courses fulfilling the ES requirement have a substantial emphasis on cultural diversity issues and ethnic minorities within the United States.