

The Associate in Arts degree (A.A.) typically represents the first two years of study for students who plan to pursue a Bachelor of Arts degree. The A.A. is an adaptable degree and coursework will focus on the liberal arts in addition to your choices of electives. Liberal arts classes include English, communications, music, art, psychology, philosophy, theater, history and foreign languages, as examples. This degree will provide students with an exceptional academic base upon which to pursue further education.

The Associate of Science Degree (A.S.) typically represents the first two years of study for students who plan to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree. Students with career interests aligned with an interest in math and science will find the A.S. is an appropriate choice. The A.S. includes a liberal arts background, but it places a larger emphasis on the fields of math and science. This degree will provide students with an exceptional academic base upon which to pursue further education.

The Associate of Applied Science degree (A.A.S.) represents the completion of study in a career and technical program. Students who are career-focused and have researched the advantages of the A.A.S. degree can earn this degree without pursuing the required coursework those seeking a bachelor's degree must follow. Generally, not all classes from an A.A.S. degree are transferable to a bachelor's degree institution. Students earning this degree may seek employment following graduation or transfer to a baccalaureate-granting college or university that has articulation agreements with College of DuPage for these programs of study.

The Associate of Engineering Science degree (A.E.S.) is intended for students who wish to prepare for transfer to a baccalaureate-granting school in the field of engineering.

The Associate in Fine Arts degree in Art (A.F.A.) is intended for students who wish to prepare for transfer to a baccalaureate-granting school with a Bachelor of Fine Arts program.

The Associate in Fine Arts degree in Music (A.F.A.) is intended for students who wish to prepare for transfer to a baccalaureate-granting school with a Bachelor of Music program.

The Associate in General Studies degree (A.G.S.) is designed for students who wish to arrange a program of courses to meet their personal interests. Students in the A.G.S. program have different objectives from those of the transfer degrees or the occupational degrees (A.A.S.). It is not designed for transfer to a four-year college or university. The general education requirements for the A.G.S. do not fulfill IAI (Illinois Articulation Initiative) General Education Core Guidelines. While some universities may accept credits from an A.G.S. degree, no agreements guaranteeing junior status have been established. Students planning to transfer to a four-year college or university should consider the Associate of Arts or the Associate of Science transfer degrees. The AGS degree option should be discussed with a counselor prior to degree completion.

#### Undeclared Student

An undeclared student is someone who has not yet chosen a specific field of study.

### Non-degree Seeking Student

A non-degree seeking student is registered for courses, but not seeking to complete a degree or certificate at College of DuPage.

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

Regardless of degree program, students will demonstrate learning outcomes in:

- Critical-Thinking
- Quantitative Reasoning
- Information Literacy
- Cultural and Historical Comprehension
- Expression and Exchange of Ideas
- Human Behavior and Social Knowledge
- Scientific Reasoning