

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Associate Degree (AA, AS)

Orange Coast College awards the Associate Degree to students who have met all the requirements for graduation. OCC offers the Associate in Arts and the Associate in Science Degrees. Check with your counselor to determine which degree you should complete.

In accordance with the law and with rules and regulations of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges and the Board of Trustees of the Coast Community College District, the requirements for the degree of Associate in Arts or Associate in Science include the following:

1. Unit Requirement

60 UNITS, with at least a 2.0-grade point average. At least 12 of the units must be earned at OCC, with a minimum of one course taken for a letter grade. At least 3 units in an advanced course from the program must be completed at OCC. A student must be enrolled at the time of application for graduation. Units earned at an accredited college or university on a credit/no credit basis will be counted toward the degree requirements of the college, to a maximum of 15 units.

2. Major Requirement

Complete the AA or AS major requirements as detailed in the Degree and Certificate section of this catalog.

3. Mathematics Requirement

Demonstrate competence in mathematics by either obtaining a satisfactory grade (grade of "C" or better or "pass") in a mathematics course at or above the level of Intermediate Algebra as demonstrated by prior coursework, or by demonstrating competency that is comparable through the completion of a college-level math course that has Intermediate Algebra as a prerequisite: Psychology A160 or Math A100 or higher, with the exception of Math A220.

4. General Education Requirement

Students may choose to complete Option 1 (OCC AA/AS GE), Option 2 (CSU GE), or Option 3 (IGETC) to satisfy the general education requirement. See the General Education Patterns section of this catalog for more information.

5. Global and Multicultural Requirement (Required for AA degree only)

Some of the courses listed in this requirement can also be used to meet General Education Requirements. Courses that are repeatable for credit can only be used once in this area.

Select one or more courses from the following totaling 3 units:

Course	Title	Units
ANTH A100	Cultural Anthropology ¹	3
ANTH A100H	Cultural Anthropology Honors ¹	3
ANTH A102	Native American ¹	3
ANTH A190	Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology ¹	3
CMST A155	Intercultural Communications ¹	3
COUN A107	Chicana/o & Latina/o Experience and Success in Higher Education ¹	3
COUN A107H	Chicana/o & Latina/o Experience and Success in Higher Education Honors ¹	3
DANC A130	Mid-Eastern Dance 1 ¹	0.5-2
DANC A133	Intro To World Dance ¹	0.5-2

Course	Title	Units
DANC A135	Flamenco Dance 1 ¹	0.5-2
DANC A137	Classical Danc of India ¹	0.5-2
DANC A138	African Dance and Drumming I ¹	0.5-2
EC A126	Teaching in a Diverse Society	3
ENGL A152	Race, Culture, and Identity in Literature ¹	3
ENGL A173	Women Writers ¹	3
ETHS A100	Contemporary Ethnic America ¹	3
ETHS A150	Ethnic Groups in the U.S.: Their Histories ¹	3
FN A185	Cultural Foods	2
GEOG A185	Cultural Geography ¹	3
HIST A101	Afro-American History ¹	3
HIST A141	History of the Americas 1	3
HIST A142	History of the Americas 2	3
HIST A145	History of Mexico ¹	3
HIST A150	Ethnic Groups of the United States: Their Histories ¹	3
HIST A151	History of the Middle East to 1500 ¹	3
HIST A152	History of the Middle East Since 1500 ¹	3
HIST A161	World History 1 ¹	3
HIST A161H	World History 1 Honors ¹	3
HIST A162	World History 2 ¹	3
HIST A162H	World History 2 Honors ¹	3
PHIL A120	Ethics ¹	3
PSYC A105	Psychology of Women ¹	3
RLST A110	World Religion ¹	3
RLST A140	History of Judaism ¹	3
RLST A150	Eastern Thought ¹	3
RLST A160	Contemporary Religious Topics: Islam	3
SOC A100	Introduction to Sociology ¹	3
SOC A100H	Introduction to Sociology Honors ¹	3
SOC A150	Introduction to Race and Ethnicity ¹	3

¹ Denotes courses that fulfill CSU GE Breadth and/or IGETC requirements. See the General Education Patterns section of this catalog for more information.

Associate Degree for Transfer (AA-T, AS-T)

The Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act (Senate Bill 1440, codified in California Education Code sections 66746-66749) guarantees admission to a California State University (CSU) campus for any community college student who completes an "associate degree for transfer," an established variation of the associate degrees traditionally offered at a California community college. The Associate in Arts for Transfer (AA-T) or the Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T) is intended for students who plan to complete a bachelor's degree in a similar major at a CSU campus. **Students completing these degrees are guaranteed admission to the CSU system, but not to a particular campus or major.**

In order to earn one of these degrees, students must complete a minimum of 60 required semester units of CSU-transferable coursework with a minimum GPA of 2.0. Students transferring to a CSU campus that accepts the AA-T or AS-T degree will be required to complete no more than 60 units after transfer to earn a bachelor's degree (unless the major

is designated a “high-unit major”). This degree may not be the best option for students intending to transfer to a particular CSU campus, or to a university or college that is not part of the CSU system. Students should consult with a counselor when planning to complete the degree for more information on university admission and transfer requirements.

The following is required for all AA-T or AS-T degrees:

1. Minimum of 60 CSU-transferable semester units.
2. Minimum GPA of at least 2.0 in all CSU-transferable coursework. While a minimum of 2.0 is required for admission, some majors require a higher GPA. Consult with a counselor for more information.
3. Completion of a minimum of 18-semester units in the major as detailed in the Degree and Certificate section of this catalog. All courses in the major must be completed with a grade of C or better.
4. Certified completion of the California State University General Education-Breadth pattern (CSU General Education Breadth – Option 2) OR the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC – Option 3).

Certificate Awards

Orange Coast College offers two types of certificate awards in career programs designed to prepare the graduate to enter a particular field of employment. At least 3 units in an advanced course from the certificate must be completed at OCC.

1. **Certificate of Achievement** - 8 units or more in a state-approved program. Certificates of Achievement are not automatically awarded. A petition must be filed in Enrollment Services or online at the beginning of the semester in which the student will be completing his or her final requirements. The petitioning periods are listed below.
2. **Certificate of Specialization** - 16 units or less in a locally approved program. Certificates of Specialization are not automatically awarded, not printed on official academic transcripts, and there is no acknowledgment of completion given at graduation. Please contact the division for details regarding the submission of petitions as procedures for each division vary. Most division offices prefer that students complete all of the required courses and then provide a copy of the transcript while some divisions allow petitions for Certificates of Specialization before finishing.

A list of certificate programs and requirements can be found in the Degree and Certificate section of this catalog. Check with a counselor to determine the requirements for completion.

Continuous Attendance and Catalog Rights

For awarding of a degree or certificate, students may follow the catalog requirements that were in effect for the academic year when their attendance at Orange Coast College began or follow the catalog requirements in effect during subsequent years of attendance, provided that continuous enrollment has been maintained. Continuous enrollment is defined as enrollment in a course at Orange Coast College for at least one semester in a calendar year. The student must receive a grade of A, B, C, D, F, P, NP, W, I, or IP for the course.

The Academic Petition Council may authorize or require substitutions for discontinued courses.

Catalog rights do not apply to the certification of general education for transfer. Students must follow the general education pattern in effect

when they petition for certification. Courses used for certification must be on the approved list at the time they are taken.

Minimum Grade Requirement

In order to be awarded a degree or certificate, students are required to obtain a grade of “C” or better in all program-required courses.

Grades of “CR” or “P” will be accepted whereas “CR” or “P” meet the equivalency of a “C” or better.

Petition for Graduation

Degrees and certificates are not automatically awarded. A petition must be filed at the Enrollment Center on the first floor of Watson Hall at the beginning of the semester in which the student completes the final requirements. Forms are also available online at www.orangecoastcollege.edu/enrollment/Pages/Graduation.aspx (<http://www.orangecoastcollege.edu/enrollment/Pages/Graduation.aspx>)

Petitioning periods are as follows:

- Summer – July 1 through August 1
- Fall – September 1 through November 15
- Spring – December 1 through March 15

Note: If a break in enrollment occurs (resulting in the loss of Catalog Rights) students must comply with the competency, general education and major course requirements in effect at the time the student resumes attendance in order to meet Graduation requirements.

Requirements for Additional Associate Degrees

1. Students are not permitted to acquire duplicate associate degrees in the same major from another college within the Coast Community College District.
2. General Education requirements earned for one associate degree may be applied toward an additional associate degree.
3. A student who holds a degree from any regionally accredited institution may earn an additional associate degree in a specific major.
4. A candidate for an additional associate degree must complete the requirements for a separate major at Orange Coast College, including an additional 12 or more major-related units of credit at Orange Coast College beyond the requirements for the prior or additional degree.
5. A student must complete all the required courses listed in the current catalog and general education.
6. A student may obtain an associate degree for transfer (AA-T/AS-T) and an associate degree (AA/AS) in a different major without an additional 12 units of coursework.
7. A student may obtain an associate degree for transfer (AA-T/AS-T) and an associate degree (AA/AS) in the same major without an additional 12 units of coursework.

Waiver of Associate Degree and/or Certificate Requirements

Students wishing to substitute or waive courses that satisfy the Associate Degree or Certificate of Achievement requirements must see a counselor and petition the Academic Petition Council. Counselors are located on the third floor of Watson Hall.