

Oakland Community College

Liberal Arts

Curriculum Review Self-study

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Contents

Executive Summary	3
Catalog Descriptions	4
General Education Requirements	7
Pre-International Commerce Degree	9
Fine/Visual Arts Degree	11
Description Summary	14
Graduation Trends, Student Characteristics and Opinions	15
Degree Trends	15
Graduate Demographics	15
Graduate Education Behaviors	15
Graduate Employment	16
Graduate Satisfaction	16
Comparable Course and Transfer Options	18
Comparable Required Courses	18
Summary of Comparability	19
Transfer Options	19
Summary of Transfer Options	20

Executive Summary

- **Catalog Descriptions:** The current OCC catalog provides a comprehensive outline of the requirements for the Liberal Arts degree and the two sub-concentrations (Fine/Visual Arts & Pre-International Commerce). There are consistent references to seek assistance from college resources; however additional intra-catalog references could enhance student comprehension of the degree requirements. *like?*
- **Enrollment trends:** OCC has over the last 10 years granted more Liberal Arts degrees than any other degree. Recent trends have the average number of annual degrees at 545. Graduates are predominantly white, female, and roughly 31 years old.

We do inform when at specific # credits
There may be an opportunity to increase degrees awarded by conducting degree audits to determine students that may be on the verge of fulfilling the requirements for a Liberal Arts degree.

Have not employed or need to transfer need to inform students
Twenty-three percent of Liberal Arts graduates returned to OCC within 6 months of graduating. The most common explanations were related to preparing to transfer to another institution and to get another degree or certificate (combined 75.7%).

Seemingly few graduates are applying the knowledge acquired to their degree in their place of employment.

Most students were satisfied with the process of obtaining their transcripts for transfer, the number of credits accepted, the level of academic preparation.

** Information related to transferring to other institutions and program specific information were the areas of least satisfaction. This could signify the need for better internal and external collaborations between teaching faculty, counselors, marketing and area universities and colleges.* *for this survey*

Overall, students indicated a high level of importance and satisfaction for almost all areas in and out of the classroom.

- **Comparability/Transfer of Courses:** The Liberal Arts degree contains the necessary and sufficient degree requirements as outlined by the MACRAO transfer agreement. OCC is unique when compared to other area community colleges with respect to requiring political science as a mandatory course. Also, very few local community colleges require a physical education requirement. *issues for GE distribution list*

Catalog Descriptions

keep.
The following encompasses the descriptions provided in the current OCC catalog regarding the Liberal Arts degree:

more disciplines
A
The Associate in Liberal Arts Degree emphasizes foreign languages, literature, science, mathematics, music, economics, philosophy, sociology and psychology. Students elect the Liberal Arts Degree as a basis for further study toward a Bachelor Degree, as a basis for employment in a variety of positions which require a broad college education and for cultural enrichment. The Liberal Arts Degree may serve as the base for baccalaureate-level studies or as the preparation for graduate and professional degrees (e.g. law, medicine).
science
Refer to this catalog for Liberal Arts Degree concentrations in Fine Arts/Visual, Music, Pre-International Commerce and Broadcast Arts. These Associate in Liberal Arts Degrees meet the MACRAO transfer agreement requirements.
no

LIBERAL ARTS

Associate Degree Requirements (ALA.ALA)

The Associate in Liberal Arts Degree emphasizes foreign languages, literature, science, mathematics, economics, philosophy, sociology and psychology.

Students elect the Liberal Arts Degree for various reasons: as a basis for further study toward a baccalaureate degree, as a basis for employment in a variety of positions which require a broad college education, or for cultural enrichment.

The Liberal Arts Degree may serve as the base for baccalaureate level studies or as the preparation for graduate and professional degrees (e.g. law, medicine).

Liberal Arts with a Concentration in Fine Arts/ Visual, emphasizes a variety of art media and philosophies for students wishing to specialize in the Fine Arts at the university level.

The **Pre-International Commerce Concentration** is designed to develop competencies in occupationally oriented language training, cultural awareness, and business.

These Associate in Liberal Arts Degrees meet the MACRAO transfer agreement requirements.

Close Arts

Courses That Satisfy Associate in Liberal Arts Degree Requirements

Candidates for the Associate in Liberal Arts Degree must satisfy the Requirements for an Associate Degree as well as the specific minimum requirements as follows:

	Credits
English 1510, 1520	6
Fine Arts/Humanities	11 <i>occ / 8</i>
This area is defined as courses on the Fine Arts/Humanities General Education Distribution list, p. 69. In addition to those listed, the following courses may be elected:	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"><p>ART 2600 ENG 2760 FRE 2610, 2620 GER 2610, 2620 ITA 2610 JPN 2610, 2620 RUS 2610, 2620 SPA 2610, 2620</p></div> <i>Confusing instead</i>	
These courses must be taken in more than one academic discipline.	
Mathematics/Sciences	8
These courses must be taken in more than one academic discipline. This area is defined as courses on the Mathematics/Science General Education Distribution list, p. 69 or <u>courses with the same prefixes with numbers higher than those listed.</u> One course must be an approved lab/science.	
Physical Education	1
A minimum of one credit hour must be completed from the Physical Education courses listed in the General Education Distribution list, p. 69.	
POL 1510	3

Social Science

8

This area is defined as courses on the Social Science General Education Distribution list, p. 69 or any other courses with the same prefix (ANT, ECO, GEO, HIS, POL, PSY, SSC, SOC except POL 1510). These courses must be taken in more than one academic discipline.

Necessary Electives to Total

62

Electives must be chosen from courses numbered 1000 through 2999.

*no dis. ed should
be accepted
we do not accept*

Because transferability of credits varies with colleges and universities, programs and departmental majors, students are urged to discuss their programs plans with an OCC counselor and transfer institution.

General Education Requirements

The General Education Requirements are as follows:

Communication/English

ENG 1060¹, 1450¹, 1510¹, 1520¹

SPE 1290, 1610, 2610, 2620⁴

Fine Arts/Humanities

ARB 1510, 1530

ART 1510, 1520, 1530, 1540, 1550, 1560,
1570, 1580, 1600, 1610, 1650, 1670

ENG 1610, 1710, 1720, 2510, 2520, 2530,
2540, 2550, 2560, 2650, 2750, 2760,
2770, 2800

ESL* 1010, 1011, 1020, 1021, 1410, 1420,
1510, 1520, 2011, 2410, 2420, 2510,
2520a a minimum of 8 credits will count
toward the Fine Arts/Humanities
General Education Distribution
requirements.

FRE 1510, 1530

FSH 1500

GER 1510, 1530

HIS 1510², 1520²

HUM 1510, 1710, 1900, 2720, 2900

ITA 1510, 1530

JPN 1510, 1530

MUS 1510, 1520, 1540, 1550, 1560, 1570,
1580, 1585, 1590, 1670, 1685, 1810,
1820, 1830, 1850

Physical Education

EXL 2050

PER 1300, 1590, 1620, 1642, 1643, 1653³,
1654³, 1655³, 1656³, 1657³, 1658³, 1681,
1682, 1730, 1732, 1740, 1741, 1742,
1743, 1744, 1745, 1746, 1786, 1790,
1802, 1803, 1804, 1822, 1825, 1831,
1832, 1838, 1839, 1841, 1842, 1843,
1862, 1880, 1890, 1920, 1921, 1930,
1941, 1942, 2610

POL 1510 (required)

Social Science

ANT 1520, 1540, 2510, 2750

ECO 2610

GEO 1510, 1520

HIS 1510², 1520², 1550, 1700, 2510, 2520,
2610, 2620

POL 2520, 2530, 2610

PSY 2510, 2630, 2710, 2810

SOC 2510, 2530, 2610

SSC 2610, 2710

Written Communication

ENG 1060¹, 1350, 1450¹, 1510¹, 1520¹, 2200

PER 1653³, 1654³, 1655³, 1656³, 1657³, 1658³

PHI 1510, 1610, 1710

PHO 1220

RUS 1510, 1530

SLS 1030

SPA 1510, 1530

SPE 2620⁴

THE 1561, 1571, 1580, 1800, 1900

Mathematics/Science

BIO 1500⁵, 1511⁵, 1530⁵, 1560⁵, 1570,
2540⁵,
2550⁵

CHE 1000⁵, 1320⁵, 1510⁵, 1520⁵

FSN 1500

GSC 1530⁵, 1580⁵, 1620⁵

MAT 1140, 1150, 1500, 1540, 1560, 1580,
1600, 1630, 1730, 2530

PHY 1030, 1610⁵, 1620⁵, 2400⁵, 2500⁵

PSC 1560⁵

-
- ¹ This course will apply toward communication/English or Written communication, but not both.
 - ² HIS 1510 and 1520 may apply for either Social Science or Humanities, but not both.
 - ³ This course will apply toward Fine Arts/Humanities and/or Physical Education.
 - ⁴ This course will apply toward communication/English or Humanities, but not both.
 - ⁵ These courses satisfy the Natural Science Lab Science Requirement and include a lab fee.

?

how many degrees granted.

Pre-International Commerce Degree

Associate in Liberal Arts (ICM.PRE.ALA)

EMU only

The International Commerce degree program is designed to combine courses in business, liberal arts and a foreign language in such a way that the student will develop competencies in occupationally oriented language training, cultural awareness and business. Students completing the program of study will be able to transfer to a number of senior colleges in the state for a bachelor's degree.

Needs 2 minors

Because transferability of credits varies with colleges and universities, programs and departmental majors, students are urged to discuss their program plans with an OCC counselor and transfer institution.

General Requirements

Credits

Economics: ECO 2610, ECO 2620

6

English: ENG 1510, ENG 1520

6

Fine Arts/Humanities

- A minimum of one course from the Fine Arts/Humanities General Education Distribution list* excluding foreign languages 3
- Foreign Languages 1510, 1530, 2610, 2620 16

Mathematics/Science

8

This area is defined as courses on the Mathematics/Science General Education Distribution list or courses with the same prefixes with numbers higher than those listed. One course must be an approved lab/science. These courses must be taken in more than one academic discipline.

POL 1510

3

Physical Education (PER)

1

A minimum of one credit hour must be completed from the physical education courses listed in the General Education Distribution list.*

Social Science

3

This area is defined as courses on the Social Science General Education Distribution list* or any other courses with the same prefix (ANT, ECO, GEO, HIS, POL, PSY, SOC, SSC) except ECO 2610, ECO 2620 and POL 1510.

Required Supportive Courses

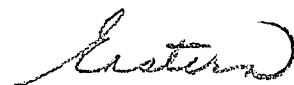
ACC 1810	Financial Accounting	4
ACC 1820	Managerial Accounting	4
SPE 1610	Fundamentals of Speech	3

Electives to complete the minimum required 62 credit hours shall be selected from the following list with the approval of a counselor. Elective courses will vary depending on the four-year institution that the student plans to attend and the departmental major.

Recommended Electives

BUS 1100	Introduction to Business	4
BUS 1310	Principles of Supervision	3
BUS 2530	Principles of Management	3
CIS 1050	Personal Computer Productivity Tools (MS-Office)	4
CIS 1500	Introduction to Software Engineering	4

* See graduation requirements for an Associate in Liberal Arts Degree



Fine/Visual Arts Degree

Associate in Liberal Arts - (FAV.ALA)

A Concentration in the Liberal Arts Degree

This associate degree program provides the student with directed experience in a variety of art media and philosophies from which the student will produce a portfolio of work designed to assist in obtaining an art related job and/or provide the basic art foundation that will allow the student to proceed to a four-year institution with a maximum of transferable credits. Art related careers exist in business and industry, such as assisting in display, creating sets, props, backgrounds, models, special effects for movies, television and theater. Activities in the area of self-employment include merchandising one's own work in jewelry, weaving, sculpture, painting, ceramics, etc., preparing work for sale in juried exhibitions, one person exhibitions, art fairs and galleries. The program provides generalized experiences to assist the student to specialize if they so desire.

do they?

General Requirements

The requirements are the same as the Associate in Liberal Arts with the exception of the electives. Students following the Concentration in Fine Arts (Visual) are required to also complete the required specialty and required electives that follow:

Required Specialty Courses	Credits
ART 1510 ¹ Basic Drawing	3
ART 1520 ¹ Basic Design	3
ART 1560 ¹ Art Appreciation	3
ART 2510 Fundamentals of Figure Drawing	3
ART 2520 Advanced Drawing	3
ART 2570 Advanced Design	3

The student will choose 1 of the following three courses: The chosen courses may not be used as a Required Elective.

ART 2560 Modern French Art	3
ART 2600 Modern American Art History	3
ART 2620 Northern European Art History	3

Required Elective Courses**Credits****The student must select 9 credits from the following course selections:**

ART 1530 ¹	Acrylic Painting	3
ART 1540 ¹	Ceramics	3
ART 1550 ¹	Sculpture	3
ART 1570 ¹	Oil Painting	3
ART 1590 ¹	Arts and Crafts	3
ART 1600 ¹	Watercolor Painting	3
ART 1610 ¹	Jewelry	3
ART 1611	Advanced Jewelry	3
ART 1650	Figurative Sculpture	3
ART 1670 ¹	Stained Glass I	3
ART 2540	Advanced Ceramics	3
ART 2550	Advanced Sculpture	3
ART 2560	Modern French Art	3
ART 2590	Printmaking, Woodcut and Silkscreen	3
ART 2600	Modern American Art History	3
ART 2620	Northern European Art History	3
ART 2630	Advanced Oil Painting	3
ART 2640	Advanced Watercolor Painting	3
ART 2660	History of Interior Design	3
ART 2680	Advanced Figurative Sculpture	3
ART 2702	Sculpture-Welding	3
ART 2703	Sculpture-Construction	3

ART 2704	Sculpture-Casting	3
ART 2710	Advanced Figure Drawing	3
ART 2712	Advanced Sculpture Welding	3
ART 2714	Advanced Sculpture Casting	3
BUS 1100	Introduction to Business	4
BUS 1210	Starting and Operating a Small Business	3
CER 1210	Wheel Throwing I	3
CER 1221	Wheel Throwing II	3
CER 1310	General Pottery	3
CER 2211	Ceramic Field Study I	4
CER 2220	Ceramic Field Study II	4
CER 2320	Advanced General Pottery	3
CER 2410	Glaze Formulation I	3
CER 2420	Glaze Formulation II	3
PHO 1220 ¹	Fundamentals of Photography	3

See Graduation Requirements for an Associate in Liberal Arts Degree.

¹ This course may be used to meet the Fine Arts/Humanities requirement. Because transferability of credits varies with colleges and universities, programs and departmental majors, students are urged to discuss their program plans with an OCC counselor and transfer institution.

Description Summary

The current OCC catalog adequately outlines the requirements for the Liberal Arts degree and two areas of specialization (Fine/Visual Arts and Pre-International Commerce). Students are consistently encouraged to seek guidance from OCC counselors related to the degree's obligation and also to investigate transferability of courses to other colleges and universities.

* { Although some cross-referencing is presented, it could be an added benefit to students to provide page numbers within the catalog for areas stressed (e.g. English courses, social science course, explanation of MACRAO agreement, etc). This could assist students with developing an academic plan of work to complete the degree. (It should be noted that on the electronic version of the catalog there are links provided that move students through the different areas but additional links could be beneficial). }

conclusion

Graduation Trends, Student Characteristics and Opinions

The Office of Assessment and Effectiveness supplied a variety of data that covers enrollment trends, graduate demographics, and graduate employment, satisfaction and subsequent education. The following sections summarize the results of these analyses.

Degree Trends

During the last 10 academic years there have been a relatively stable number of Liberal Arts degrees awarded. The average number of degrees awarded over the time period was 545 per year. The 97-98 academic year experienced the least amount of degrees (456), while the 98-99 year witnessed the most (652). The Liberal Arts degree has had the highest number of degrees awarded over the 10 year period reported. It is unknown how these trends relate to college-wide enrollment trends.

Graduate Demographics

Liberal Arts graduates vary on a variety of demographic characteristics. Approximately one in four graduates are male, which in turn translates into three-quarters of graduates being female. This represents the largest differential among the other comparable degrees.

Liberal Arts graduates are predominately self-identified Whites. About one-eighth of students are African American and 8 percent foreign students. The remaining students are Asian (1.8), Hispanic (2.8), and Native American Indian (0.5). The graduates are slightly over 31 years old.

Graduate Education Behaviors

Almost one in four (23%) Liberal Arts graduates reported returning to OCC within 6 months of completing their degree. This is similar to the behaviors of Business Administration (23.3%) and General Studies (27.5%) graduates who returned to OCC.

When asked the main reason for returning to OCC, slightly more than half (51.4%) indicated it was to transfer to another institution. One-quarter of returning Liberal Arts graduates conveyed that they wanted to obtain another OCC degree or certificate.

Approximately 12 percent of students suggested they returned to gain skills or find a job in an area different than the degree they received. Very few students specified reasons related to their current employment.

Slightly less than half of Liberal Arts graduates reported attending another college within 6 months of graduating. Most indicated enrolling at Oakland University, Wayne State University, Baker College, Eastern Michigan University, or Central Michigan. In regards to

why?
not appropriate cause work? transfering?

the area of study at these institutions there were a broad range of majors identified. The most common was education and business, followed by general studies and health care related fields (e.g. health care administration and nursing). Self-reported grade point average indicates that OCC Liberal Arts graduates are finding academic success (3.37). These graduates were also the most likely (when compared to other degree graduates) to suggest plans to attend a 4-year institution (65.8%).

Graduate Employment

Graduates with Liberal Arts degrees were the least likely of all OCC degree graduates to be employed full-time (41.8%) and not employed/not seeking employment (15.4%), while the most likely to be employed part-time (34.7%). This could be related to the proportion of graduates that are continuing their education as outlined above.

A small percentage of Liberal Arts graduates thought their degree helped them with advancement (9.8%), application of degree knowledge (17.6%), or preparation (17.3%) in their current employment. This is very likely due to the fact that only 8.1% of these graduates indicate their current employment is highly related to their degree. The average annual salary reported for Liberal Arts graduates was \$25,000.

Graduate Satisfaction

Graduates were asked a variety of questions related to the transition to other higher education institutions. A high percentage of student indicated being at least somewhat satisfied with the process of obtaining transcripts for the new institution (87.6%). Only 61.5 percent of graduates were very satisfied with the credits that transferred to their new college or university. Students were more satisfied with the level of general study academic preparation (61.3) than major field of study preparation (51.6%). Overall, 98.2% of graduates thought intellectual growth was important and 94.8% were at least somewhat satisfied.

Several areas were noted as having lower levels of very satisfied graduates. Five mutually related areas include: information available about schools to transfer (50.5%), information about programs to transfer (38.6%), information provided by counselors about transfer options (43.1%), information provided by faculty about transfer options (27.8%), and information provided by external institutions representatives (29.7%).

Most graduates state that looking back they would have choose OCC again (57.7%) but less than one-third report they would definitely choose the same program of student (34.9%). These students also thought that the courses in their major, as well as the general education courses were equally important (88.9% & 89.2%, respectively). However, graduates were slightly more satisfied with general education courses (93.4%) than major courses (89.4%).

Graduates also describe the quality of teaching as being at least somewhat important (95.3%), while a high proportion was at least somewhat satisfied (93.2%). When asked about other areas of importance and satisfaction with faculty, graduates convey positive opinions about their overall relationships with faculty and out of classroom access.

There were addition questions asked regarding out-of-classroom experiences. Graduates thought counseling was important and were satisfied with the academic advising provided. There was less importance placed on career planning services (71%) and even less satisfaction (52%). Similarly, there was much less importance placed on internships/practical experiences (40%) and little satisfaction (25.6%). The ease of the registration process was considered important and almost all of graduates were satisfied (92.8%). Approximately, 9 of 10 Liberal Arts graduates were at least somewhat satisfied with the times classes were offered, the attitude of non-teaching staff, the quality of the library and computer facilities.

Comparable Course and Transfer Options

Comparable Required Courses

The requirements for the OCC's Liberal Arts degree were compared to other community colleges in the geographic area to determine similarities and differences. The table below provides a review of these findings.

OCC Required Courses		Geographically Close Community Colleges Requirements								
Credits	Name	GRCC	Lansing	HFCC	Macomb	Mott	Schoolcraft	Washtenaw	WCCC	N
6	English	6	6	9 ^a	6	6	6	9	6	8
11 MFLRAO ?	Fine Arts/ Humanities	8	8	8	8	8	8	6	9	8
8	Math/Sciences	8	8	8	7	8	8	6	8	8
1	Physical Education	0	0	1 course	2	0	0	0	0	2
3	Political Science	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3 ^b	1 ^b
8	Social Sciences	8	8	8	9	8	8	6	9	8

^aCredits involved General Education, which includes English.

^bCourses vary between political science, history, & African-American Studies

Summary of Comparability

Transfer Options

The following table exhibits the transferability of OCC Liberal Arts degree relative to the MACRAO transfer agreement. The MACRAO Transfer Agreement is designed to facilitate transfer from community colleges to baccalaureate colleges and universities. It provides for transferability of up to 30 semester credits to meet many (and in some cases all) of the General Education Requirements at participating Michigan four-year colleges and universities. Students may complete the MACRAO Transfer Agreement as part of an associate degree or as a stand-alone package. Once the specified set of courses is completed, the courses will transfer and be applied toward meeting the general education requirements at the university.

A minimum of 30 semester hours of coursework must be taken at one of Michigan's participating community colleges. The courses needed to satisfy the MACRAO requirements are as follows:

- **English Composition: 6 credit hours**
- **Science and Math: 8 credit hours** (Courses must be taken from a minimum of two subject areas. At least one science course must include a laboratory.)
- **Social Science: 8 credit hours** (Courses must be taken from a minimum of two subject areas.)
- **Humanities: 8 credit hours** (Courses must be taken from a minimum of two subject areas.)

OCC Required Courses		MACRAO	
Credits	Name	Requirement met	Not Required
6	English	•	
11	Fine Arts/ Humanities	•	
8	Math/Sciences	•	
1	Physical Education		•
3	Political Science		•
8	Social Sciences	•	

Summary of Transfer Options

OCC's Liberal Arts degree satisfies the requirements outlined by the MACRAO transfer agreement. However, there are two areas that are required of students that are considered unnecessary for the obligations as outlined above: physical education and political science.

It should be noted that not all Michigan colleges and universities participate in the MACRAO Transfer Agreement; some participate fully and others participate with various limitations and/or provisions (provisos). The agreement applies only to those colleges and universities which participate in the agreement. To learn about an institution's level of participation, students likely will have to contact their community college counselor/advisor and an admissions representative from the institution(s) where they are considering attendance.