

**PHILOSOPHY AND CRITERIA FOR ASSOCIATE DEGREE AND GENERAL EDUCATION**

The programs of the District are consistent with the institutional mission, purposes, demographics and economics of its community.

The philosophy and criteria regarding the associate degree references the policy of the Board of Governors that the associate degree symbolizes a successful attempt to lead students through patterns of learning experiences designed to develop certain capabilities and insight, including:

- the ability to think and communicate clearly and effectively orally and writing;
- use mathematics;
- understand the modes of inquiry of the major disciplines;
- be aware of other cultures and times;
- achieve insights gained through experience in thinking about ethical problems; and
- to develop the capacity for self understanding.

The philosophy and criteria regarding general education references the policy of the Board of Governors that general education should lead to better self-understanding, including:

- 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 and provides an opportunity for students to develop intellectual skills, information technology facility, affective and creative capabilities, social attitudes, and an appreciation for cultural diversity.

Title 5, Section 55805; Accreditation Standards 4A and 4C