

# GENERAL STUDIES



**Program Contact:**  
**Counseling & Advising Office • 301.846.2471**

# General Studies

*Designed for students who are exploring academic and career options that are not represented by another Frederick Community College program or who are undecided about their educational goals. Students who have a specific career or educational goal should consult with an academic advisor to select a degree program other than General Studies.*

## The Program

The AA in General Studies allows students to explore their academic and occupational interests by introducing them to a variety of fields with which they may not yet have had experience. Some students choose this program as they explore career degree options, others choose it because they plan to transfer to a four-year school but are not yet sure what major they will declare, still others find this program to be a good fit in preparation for transfer in a field in which FCC does not offer a degree. Students take a full sequence of General Education courses and are prepared for transfer by the College's faculty and advisors. The General Studies program can be completed in person, online, or in a combination of the two formats. Students who are broadly interested in the Arts and Humanities, Social Sciences, or Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics should not choose the General Studies program, but should meet with an advisor to select a program aligned with their interests.

## Growth Potential & Estimated Salaries

Students in the General Studies program are preparing to enter an increasingly competitive workforce. Employees who hold an Associate's degree earn an average of 18% more than students with a high school diploma, and employees who hold Bachelor's degrees earn 65% more.<sup>1</sup> Jobs that require a college degree are increasing at almost twice the rate of jobs that require only a high school diploma.<sup>2</sup>

## Counseling & Advising Services

Students in the General Studies major take advantage of the College's Counseling and Advising office, which assists students with their career and transfer planning needs. Planning for a career or deciding to transfer can be an exciting yet confusing experience. Students explore, make decisions, prepare, and move on with the help of trained and caring advisors.

## Transfer Note

The program can be completed in two years when students take an average of fifteen credits a semester, however many FCC students successfully complete the program part-time. Students should meet regularly with an FCC academic or transfer advisor to select courses, since each transfer college and major will require different General Education and elective courses. The program is flexible enough that students are able to transfer to a wide variety of schools across the country in a wide variety of majors. Recently, top transfer schools include The University of Maryland – College Park, Towson University, Salisbury University, Shepherd University, The University of Maryland – University College, and Hood College.

## Financial Assistance

FCC allows payments to be spread over a semester for students who sign up for the College's payment plan. Scholarship and loan assistance is available for those students who are eligible.

1. [http://www.bls.gov/emp/ep\\_chart\\_001.htm](http://www.bls.gov/emp/ep_chart_001.htm)

2. [http://www.bls.gov/emp/ep\\_table\\_education\\_summary.htm](http://www.bls.gov/emp/ep_table_education_summary.htm)



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**A.A. Degree (Transfer)**

Students must complete their credit English and Mathematics within the first 24 credits. One general education course must meet the cultural competence requirement. CORE: The General Education CORE is that foundation of the higher education curriculum providing a coherent intellectual experience for all students. Students should check with an advisor or the transfer institution (ARTSYS) before selecting General Education CORE requirements. <http://www.caff.usmh.edu/artweb/index.html>. Students must complete a minimum of nine credits at the 200-level.

<i>Course</i>	<i>Credits</i>	
<b>English</b>		
EN 101 English Composition .....	3	
<b>Mathematics</b>		
Mathematics Elective (GenEd course list) .....	3	
<b>Social &amp; Behavioral Sciences</b> (Electives must be from two disciplines)		
Two courses selected from different disciplines (GenEd course list) .....	6	
<b>Arts &amp; Humanities</b>		
Three courses, one selected from each area (GenEd course list): Arts, Humanities, and Communications.....	9	
<b>Biological &amp; Physical Sciences</b>		
Two courses, one of which must be a lab science (GenEd course list).....	7	
<b>General Education Elective</b> (Select from GenEd course list).....		3
<b>PE/Health Requirement</b> .....		1
<b>Other Requirements</b>		
Students should check with an advisor or the transfer institution (ARTSYS) before selecting their electives.		
Open Electives.....	29	

For more information about our graduation rates, the median debt of students who completed the program, and other important information, please visit our website at [www.frederick.edu/gainful-employment](http://www.frederick.edu/gainful-employment).

Frederick Community College prohibits discrimination against any person on the basis of age, ancestry, citizenship status, color, creed, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, genetic information, marital status, mental or physical disability, national origin, race, religious affiliation, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status in its activities, admissions, educational programs, and employment. Frederick Community College makes every effort to accommodate individuals with disabilities for College-sponsored events and programs. If you have accommodation needs, please call 301.846.2408. To request a sign language interpreter, please call 240.629.7819 or 301.846.2408 (Voice) or email [Interpreting@frederick.edu](mailto:Interpreting@frederick.edu). Sign language interpreters will not be automatically provided for College-sponsored events without a request for services. To guarantee accommodations, requests must be made at least five workdays in advance of a scheduled event.

**For more information on General Studies:**  
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