

Certificate and Degree Requirements

I. Degree, Certificate of Achievement and Certificate of Completion

AWARD	CREDIT HOUR REQUIREMENT	MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS	COMMENTS
Associate of Arts Degree (AA)	60 – 74	15 credit hours to include one course from each of the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication • Math or Science • Social/Behavioral Science, Humanities or Fine Arts • 35 credit hours to meet the state of NM general education common core. • Must assess CNM’s core and program technical exit competencies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Instructional School will consider exceptions to the upper credit hour limit. • Requires Dean Council review and VPAA, CCC, Governing Board and NM HED approval.
Associate of Science Degree (AS)	60 – 74	15 credit hours to include one course from each of the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication • Math or Science • Social/Behavioral Science, Humanities or Fine Arts • Must assess CNM’s core and program technical exit competencies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires Dean Council review and VPAA, CCC, Governing Board and NM HED approval.

Approved by ALT – April 2005

Updated (name changes) – October 2007

Updated (name changes) – May 2008

Updated (Certificates) – Oct 2008

Associate of Applied Science Degree (AAS)	60 – 74	<p>15 credit hours to include one course from each of the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication • Math or Science • Social/Behavioral Science, Humanities or Fine Arts • Must assess CNM’s core and program technical exit competencies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires Dean Council review and VPAA, CCC, Governing Board and NM HED approval.
Certificate of Achievement	1 - 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Certificate of Achievement must provide employment related and/or career enhancing skills necessary to succeed in a job or a chosen field of study. The courses will often be a subset of those required for a corresponding Certificate of Completion or Associate’s Degree. • Must identify and annually assess technical exit competencies if courses are <u>not</u> wholly assessed within an existing Certificate of Completion or Associate’s Degree. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires Dean Council review and VPAA, CCC, and Governing Board approval. • PBIR tracks and reports this data to NM HED.

Certificate of Completion	16 - 59	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Certificate of Completion may be awarded for a specified course of study within 16-59 credit hours. • Certificates having 45 or more credit hours must contain 6 general education credit hours. • The Certificate of Completion must provide employment related and/or career enhancing skills necessary to succeed in a job or a chosen field of study. The courses will often be a subset of those required for a corresponding Associate's Degree. • Must identify and annually assess technical exit competencies if course content is <u>not</u> wholly contained within an existing Associate Degree. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires Dean Council review and VPAA, CCC, and Governing Board approval. • PBIR tracks and reports this data to NM HED.
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I. EXPLANATIONS

1. "Communication" is used as a general category of coursework, not as a discipline, Disciplines within the category "communication" include COMM, ENG, JOUR.
2. Math and Science includes MATH, ASTR, BIO, CHEM, PHYS, IT 1010, NUTR
3. Social and Behavioral Science include ANTH, ECON, GNHN, GEOG, PSCI, PSY, SOC
4. Humanities includes CST, HIST, GNHN, HUM, PHIL, RLG, ENG (Literature); Fine Arts includes
5. Fine Arts includes ART, MUS, THEA
6. State of NM General Education Common Core Curriculum taken from NM Higher Education Department website: <http://hed.state.nm.us/Matrix/CoreCurriculum.aspx>

The Lower-Division General Education Common Core Curriculum

Area I: Communications

select 9 semester hours

(a) College-Level English Composition	3-4 hrs
(b) College-Level Writing (a second course building on the above)	3 hrs
(c) Oral Communication	3 hrs
Area II: Mathematics	select 3 semester hours
(a) College Algebra	3 hrs
(b) Calculus	3 hrs
(c) Other College-Level Mathematics	3 hrs
Area III: Laboratory Science	select 8 semester hours
(a) General Biology, with laboratory	4-8 hrs
(b) General Chemistry, with laboratory	4-8 hrs
(c) General Physics, with laboratory	4-8 hrs
(d) Geology/Earth Science, with laboratory	4-8 hrs
(e) Astronomy, with laboratory	4-8 hrs
Area IV: Social/Behavioral Sciences	select 6-9 semester hours
(a) Economics (macroeconomics or microeconomics)	3 hrs
(b) Introductory Political Science	3 hrs
(c) Introductory Psychology	3 hrs
(d) Introductory Sociology	3 hrs
(e) Introductory Anthropology	3 hrs
Area V: Humanities and Fine Arts	select 6-9 semester hours
(a) Introductory History Survey	3 hrs
(b) Introductory Philosophy	3 hrs
(c) Introductory Course in History, Theory, or Aesthetics of the Arts or Literature	3 hrs
Total to be selected	35 semester hours

5. CNM has identified five **Core Competencies** that all CNM graduates will demonstrate upon completion of the program of study. These competencies represent the most deeply held values of the college. They help ensure that our graduates will be informed and

committed citizens, valued employees and fully prepared transfer students. The core competencies include Life Skills, Technology, Interpersonal Skills/Teamwork, Critical Thinking and Communication.

6. The following examples may be considered as exceptions to the upper credit hour limit for associate degrees:
 - a. National benchmarks for the same program of study
 - b. Federal requirements (example: aviation)
 - c. National accreditation requirements (example: radiologic technology requires a minimum of XX hours of clinical training)
 - d. Programs that will transfer students as “rising” juniors
 - e. Clock hour requirements for state licensure (example: cosmetology)

COMMENT: The instructional school is expected to evaluate and determine the appropriate level of preparation required and/or valued (level of compensation) for entry-level employees. Additional skills may be offered through continuing education.