

## General Studies

The General Studies program at Alaska Christian College is one of four emphases that students may currently choose between for their Associate in Arts degree. All students must complete the 31 General Education and 15 Biblical Core credits, but then they may choose to emphasize in either Paraprofessional Education, Behavioral Health or Christian Ministry. After choosing their emphasis, students must complete 15 emphasis credits. Students that choose to pursue the General Studies emphasis can choose from the 200-level GEN electives offered at ACC. Students can also use emphasis courses from the other AA degrees to fulfill the 15 credits of emphasis requirements for the AA in General Studies.

GEN 201 (3) Information Literacy  
GEN 221 (3) Visual Communications  
GEN 231 (3) Financial Management  
GEN 241 (3) Elementary Statistics  
GEN 251 (3) Non-Western Philosophy and Perspectives

### *Purpose Statement*

The Associate in Arts in General Studies degree prepares students with an education that enables proficiency across a multidisciplinary spectrum. The courses taken in this degree program are ones which will prepare the graduate to either pursue further coursework in higher education, or for employment in a variety of different disciplines. These courses selected are considered core curriculum at many different colleges and degree programs, carefully chosen to optimize transferability, or employability, as the student graduates.

When taken in anticipation of a baccalaureate program, note that many courses will serve as core-courses within the first two years of a four-year degree program, however, transferability is not guaranteed.

### *Objectives*

The AA in General Studies enables the student to do the following:

- Develop technical skills and a working knowledge across a wide range of general topics that are useful in the workplace and continued education, including computer proficiency, research methods, effective communication, and competency in scientific and mathematical concepts.
- Cultivate a Biblical worldview that is practical for operating in a general studies context, such as work or school.
- Foster an appreciation for Alaska Native culture, values, and awareness.

Assignments were collected from the General Studies courses. For each assignment information was collected regarding the program objective that was met by the assignment, total points possible on the assignment, number of points required for a student's assignment to be considered "successful," the number of successful and unsuccessful attempts, and the successful and unsuccessful scores.

*Program Objective: Develop technical skills and a working knowledge across a wide range of general topics that are useful in the workplace and continued education, including computer proficiency, research methods, effective communication, and competency in scientific and mathematical concepts.*

Four assignments were collected that supported this program objective. The following spreadsheet shows the success on these assignments:

Course	Assignment	# Successful	# Unsuccessful	% Successful	How did this assignment meet the objective?	Additional comments from the instructor concerning the scores and/or data or Program Objectives.
GEN 251	Philosophy Terminology	4	0	100%	Students were exposed to a broad range of philosophy terminology	
GEN 251	Comparing Indigenous and Western Ethics	4	0	100	This assignment challenged students to examine and evaluate the differences between Indigenous and Western Ethics	
GEN 241	Quiz 7	5	1	83	This quiz assesses the student's ability to master concepts from elementary statistics	
GEN 221	Data Visualization	6	2	75	Creatively display a data set the attracts a	

					viewer into reading and understanding the data. You can use data from the sources provided, or you can use your own collected data.	
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**Next Steps**

Continue to collect assignments from the other GEN studies courses for a broader representation of data.

**Conclusion**

The program objective *Develop technical skills and a working knowledge across a wide range of general topics that are useful in the workplace and continued education, including computer proficiency, research methods, effective communication, and competency in scientific and mathematical concepts* is being met through the assignments in the General Studies program.

*Program Objective: Cultivate a Biblical worldview that is practical for operating in a general studies context, such as work or school.*

Three assignments were collected that supported this program objective. The following spreadsheet shows the success on these assignments:

<b>Course</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b># Successful</b>	<b># Unsuccessful</b>	<b>% Successful</b>	<b>How did this assignment meet the objective?</b>	<b>Additional comments from the instructor concerning the scores and/or data or Program Objectives.</b>
GEN 231	Your Financial Wellbeing	8	10	80	Students were asked to answer the four discussion questions given out in class in 2-3 paragraphs (per question) which had to do with their current financial health and habits and how those related to their spiritual health and the biblical model for financial literacy.	
GEN 251	Sacred Space Activity	4	4	100	During the third section of the course you will be asked to participate in a sacred space/place activity that your professor will set up for you. It	

					will likely take place outside so dress accordingly. The activity will be designed in such a way that will attempt to bring deeper understanding to the non-Western experience of the sacred through the natural world.	
GEN 251	Reading the Bible as a Non-Western Person	4	4	100	Reading the Bible as a non-Western person – following the fifth section of the course which will deal primarily with how to approach the Bible from a non-Western perspective (the original context it was written in), the class will both collectively and individually respond with a model for a non-Western hermeneutical approach to the Bible and Christianity in general.	

**Next Steps**

Continue to collect assignments from the other GEN studies courses for a broader representation of data.

**Conclusion**

The program objective *Cultivate a Biblical worldview that is practical for operating in a general studies context, such as work or school* is being met through multiple assignments across a range of classes in the Christian Ministry program.

*Program Objective: Foster an appreciation for Alaska Native culture, values, and awareness.*

Three assignments were collected that supported this program objective. The following spreadsheet shows the success on these assignments:

<b>Course</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b># Successful</b>	<b># Unsuccessful</b>	<b>% Successful</b>	<b>How did this assignment meet the objective?</b>	<b>Additional comments from the instructor concerning the scores and/or data or Program Objectives.</b>
GEN 251	Comparing Indigenous and Western Ethics	4	0	100	This assignment challenged students to examine and evaluate the differences between Indigenous and Western Ethics	
GEN 251	Indigenous Art	4	4	100	During the third section of the course we will participate in an Indigenous artwork field trip. Not only will you be asked to participate but to give your reaction to the trip and explain it from a non-Western perspective. You will have opportunity to see the artwork as an expression of non-Western	

					philosophy (non-written).	
GEN 231	Week 3: Chapter 10 notes	8	2	80	Students examined the cultural values behind their spending habits and priorities.	

**Next Steps**

Assignments from additional courses should be collected to show a broader representation of this objective.

**Conclusion**

The program objective *Foster an appreciation for Alaska Native culture, values, and awareness* is being met through multiple assignments across a range of classes in the General Studies program. Many of these objectives are also met through the 200 level courses in the other emphases of which are included as electives within the degree program.

