



Academic & Career **PATHWAYS**

Associate in Arts (A.A.) - Liberal Arts, Exploratory Emphasis Advising Guide – Full-Time Advising Guide

MCC's Associate in Arts degree provides a well-rounded education foundation that prepares students to select appropriate majors/career paths, helps them transfer and successfully enter baccalaureate degrees. This program allows student flexibility to explore and/or change career paths while completing a broad, interdisciplinary experience that focuses on critical thinking, information and quantitative literacy, communication, and cultural and social awareness.

The Exploratory Pathway offers many “elective” choices. Electives are courses that count toward the credits for graduation, but are not requirements for a particular degree of study. Any courses offered at MCC that do not have any other conditions — such as significant course prerequisites — may be taken as an elective.

	Course	Degree Requirements Met	Credits	Action Steps
Semester 1				
<input type="checkbox"/>	CSIS 115_ Computer Concepts and Applications	Elective	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meet with Student Success Advisor to build degree plan ▪ Apply to program
<input type="checkbox"/>	COLL 100_ First-Year Seminar GUID 108_ Academic Success or GUID 109_ Career Exploration Seminar Choose one	Elective	1-3*	
<input type="checkbox"/>	ENGL 101_ Composition & Reading I	Written Communication	3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	MATH 115_ Statistics or higher Choose one	Mathematical Science	3-5*	
<input type="checkbox"/>	HIST 133_ Foundations of Western Civilization or HIST 134_ Modern Western Civilization Choose one	Humanities & Fine Arts	3	
Total Semester Credits			13-17	
▪ Semester 2				
<input type="checkbox"/>	ENGL 102_ Composition & Reading II	Written Communication	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meet with Student Success Advisor
<input type="checkbox"/>	HIST 120_ United States History to 1865 HIST 121_ United States History since 1865 or POLS 136_ Introduction to U.S. National Politics Choose one	Social & Behavioral Science/Civics	3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Social and Behavioral Sciences, CORE 42 Choose one	Behavioral Sciences	3-4*	
<input type="checkbox"/>	ELECTIVE Choose any course 100 level or higher if	Elective	3-5*	
<input type="checkbox"/>	LIBR 100_ Introduction to Library & Online Research	Elective	1-3*	
<input type="checkbox"/>	GUID 108_ Academic Success GUID 109_ Career Exploration Seminar GUID 112_ Effective Study Skills GUID 152_ Employment Strategies GUID 199_ Special Topics in Guided Studies	Elective	1-3*	



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	or BUSN 190_Personal Finance Choose one			
Total Semester Credits			14-19	
▪ Semester 3				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Natural Science Course without Lab Choose one	Natural Sciences without lab	3-5*	▪ Meet with Student Success Advisor
<input type="checkbox"/>	Humanities & Fine Arts Course, CORE 42 Approved Choose one	Humanities & Fine Arts	3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	ELECTIVE COURSE Choose any course 100 level or higher if total credits are less than 60	Elective	3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMM 100_ Fundamentals of Speech or COMM 102_ Fundamentals of Human Communication Choose one	Communications	3	
Total Semester Credits			12-14	
Semester 4				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Natural Science Course without Lab Choose one	Natural Sciences with lab	3-5*	▪ Meet with Student Success Advisor ▪ Complete Civics Exam with 70% or higher
<input type="checkbox"/>	Social & Behavioral Sciences, Core 42 Choose one	Social & Behavioral Sciences	3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Humanities & Fine Arts Course, CORE 42 Approved Choose one	Humanities & Fine Arts	3-5*	
<input type="checkbox"/>	ELECTIVE Choose any course 100 level or higher if	Elective	3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	ELECTIVE Choose any course 100 level or higher if	Elective	1-3*	
Total Semester Credits			13-19	
Credits Required for A.A.			61*	
*The A.A. in Exploratory requires a minimum of 61*total credits to graduate. When selecting a course from multiple options, please consider the number of credits for each course to ensure meeting the minimum requirements for graduation.				

This Pathway Map is an advising tool designed for full-time students and identifies the course recommendations for timely degree completion. All pathway maps can be modified to fit the individual needs of students. All students are encouraged to meet with their academic advisor to develop an individualized completion plan that best meets their goals, interests, and objectives. Degree requirements and prerequisite information can be found here: [Associate in Arts](#)

Please note:

- Courses may require a prerequisite or appropriate placement, see the [Academic Catalog](#) for additional information.
- Natural Science courses must be chosen from two different disciplines, including at least one course with a lab.
- Only 3 credits for performance classes can be used for Humanities & Fine Arts