

# ASSOCIATE OF GENERAL STUDIES IN HEALTH PROFESSIONS EXPLORATION

## Overview

The **Associate of General Studies in Health Professions Exploration** (AGS–Health Professions Exploration) degree is designed for students who are interested in pursuing a career in healthcare and want to explore a variety of options within the field. The curriculum includes general education and introductory coursework that allows students to build a foundation while identifying areas of interest in health professions.

This degree is often a good option for students who are considering applying to healthcare programs but have not yet selected a specific pathway. It provides flexibility to complete prerequisite coursework commonly required for admission to selective programs.

Many healthcare programs at MHCC have **separate application processes and prerequisite requirements**, which may change over time. Students are strongly encouraged to work with an academic advisor (<https://www.mhcc.edu/student-resources/academic-advising/>) to plan appropriate coursework and stay informed about program requirements. Completion of the AGS–Health Professions Exploration degree does not guarantee admission to any specific program.

Students who are interested in pursuing careers such as medicine, dentistry, chiropractic, pharmacy, or veterinary medicine should consider working with an advisor to determine whether the **Associate of Science (AS)** or **Associate of Science Transfer in Biology (AST–Biology)** degree is a better fit for their goals.

### Refer to the tabs above for additional information about:

- **Requirements** - outlines all courses required for completion of the degree
- **Education Plan** - provides a sample term-by-term sequence of courses
- **Career Info** - includes information on potential occupations, employment trends, and earnings

## Program Requirements

The degree requirements below outline the courses and credit categories required to complete the Health Professions Exploration AGS degree, including Health Professions core and general education requirements. Expand each section to view eligible courses that may be used to fulfill specific requirements.

For a suggested term-by-term sequence, refer to the **Education Plan** tab.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Health Professions Exploration Core, Group 1</b>		<b>24</b>
<b>Health Professions Exploration Core, Group 2</b>		<b>1-5</b>
<b>Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology, 1 sequence</b>		<b>8-12</b>
<b>Mathematics - course placement or completion from list below</b>		<b>0-4</b>
<b>Written Communication, 2 courses</b>		<b>8</b>
WR121Z	Composition I	
WR122Z	Composition II	
or WR227Z	Technical Writing	

**Oral Communication, 1 course from AGS list (<https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/ags/#communication>)** 3-4

#### Recommended Course

COMM115 Introduction to Intercultural Communication

**Health & Physical Education, 1 credit from AGS list (<https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/ags/#health>)** 1

#### Recommended Course

HE261 CPR - Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation  
or HE252 First Aid: Responding to Emergencies

**Arts & Letters / Social Science (8 or more credits from AGS list, with at least 1 course from each category)** 8

Arts & Letters, 1 course minimum (<https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/ags/#arts-letters>)

Social Science, 1 course minimum (<https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/ags/#social>)

**Electives to reach 90 applicable degree credits** 36

**Total Credits** 90

## Health Professions Exploration Core

### Group 1

Complete a minimum of 24 credits:

Code	Title	Credits
BI100	Survey of Body Systems	4
BI112	Biology for Health Professions	5
or BI102	General Biology: Molecular Biology	
or BI222Z	Principles of Biology: Organisms	
BI234	Microbiology	4
CH104Z & CH124Z	Introduction to Chemistry and Introduction to Chemistry Lab	5
CH106	Biological Chemistry for Health Professions	5
FN/HE225	Nutrition	4
HE202	Adult Development and Aging	1
HE208	HIV and Other Sexually Transmitted Infections	1
MO111	Medical Terminology	4
MO117	Hospital Administrative Procedures	3
MO136	Healthcare Documentation	3
MO140	Understanding Medical Insurance	3
MO250	Medical Law and Ethics	3
NAX10	Basic Training: Nursing Assistants	8

### Group 2

Complete a minimum of one (1) course from Group 2:

Code	Title	Credits
BA111	Introduction to Accounting	4
BA131	Introduction to Business Computing	4
CIS120L	Computer Concepts Lab I	1
HD209RES	Developing Your Resume	1
MTH058	Quantitative Reasoning I	4-6
or MTH065	Beginning Algebra II	
MTH098	Quantitative Reasoning II	4
or MTH095	Intermediate Algebra with Right Triangle Trigonometry	
MTH105Z	Math in Society	4

or MTH111Z	Precalculus I: Functions	
PSY201Z	Introduction to Psychology I	4
SOC204Z	Introduction to Sociology	4
SOC205Z	Social Change and Institutions	4
STAT243Z	Elementary Statistics I	4

## Human Anatomy & Physiology Sequence

Complete one (1) sequence:

Code	Title	Credits
<b>For Respiratory Care or Medical Office Specialist.</b>		
BI121 & BI122	Essentials of Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Essentials of Human Anatomy and Physiology II	8
<b>For Nursing, Dental Hygiene, Physical Therapist Assistant, Surgical Technology or applying to a health profession program at another institution.</b>		
BI231Z & BI232Z & BI233Z	Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Human Anatomy and Physiology II and Human Anatomy and Physiology III	12

## Mathematics

Many Health Professions programs require minimum math completion as part of the application process. Meet with an adviser to plan accordingly.

Complete one (1) of the following options:

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Math Placement Level at:</b>		
MTH058	Quantitative Reasoning I	
<b>Completion of:</b>		
MTH020	Applied Arithmetic and Pre-algebra	

\* MTH020 must be completed with a minimum grade of "C" or higher.

## Additional Mathematics

The following courses may also need to be completed in order to apply for the following Health Professions programs:

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Dental Hygiene, Funeral Services, Physical Therapist Assistant, Respiratory Care, or Surgical Technology</b>		
MTH065 or MTH058	Beginning Algebra II (or higher, excluding MTH098) Quantitative Reasoning I	
<b>Nursing</b>		
MTH095	Intermediate Algebra with Right Triangle Trigonometry (or higher, excluding MTH098)	
<b>Transfer to a bachelor's degree program</b>		
MTH105Z or STAT243Z	Math in Society Elementary Statistics I	

## Electives

Complete electives to reach a total of 90 degree credits. Elective courses for the AGSH may be any course numbered 100 or above, not including developmental education courses. No more than 30 credits of one discipline may apply as elective. A maximum of 8 credits of PE185, 25 credit hours of IECC courses numbered 100 or higher, and 12 credits of

Cooperative Education Internship may be applied to the AGSH degree as elective credit.

## Education Plan

This sample Education Plan illustrates one possible course sequence. Students should consult an advisor (<https://www.mhcc.edu/student-resources/academic-advising/>) to create a personalized plan.

Course	Title	Credits
<b>First Quarter</b>		
WR121Z	Composition I	4
	Mathematics, 1 course based on placement ( <a href="https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/ags/#math">https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/ags/#math</a> )	4-5
	Health Professions Exploration Course, 4 credits from Group 1 (p. 1)	4
	Social Science, 1 course ( <a href="https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/ags/#social">https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/ags/#social</a> )	4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Second Quarter</b>		
WR122Z or WR227Z	Composition II or Technical Writing	4
BI231Z	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4
	Health Professions Exploration Course, 4 credits from Group 1 (p. 1)	4
	Oral Communication, 1 course ( <a href="https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/ags/#communication">https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/ags/#communication</a> )	4
	COMM115 recommended	
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Third Quarter</b>		
BI232Z	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
	Arts and Letters, 1 course ( <a href="https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/ags/#arts-letters">https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/ags/#arts-letters</a> )	4
	Health Professions Exploration Course, 4 credits from Group 1 (p. 1)	4
	Natural Science or Health-related course, 4-5 credits (p. 1)	4-5
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Fourth Quarter</b>		
BI233Z	Human Anatomy and Physiology III	4
	Health Professions Exploration Course, 4 credits from Group 1 or 2 (p. 1)	4
	Health and Physical Education, 1 credit ( <a href="https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/ags/#health">https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/ags/#health</a> )	1
	HE261 or HE252 recommended	
	Social Science, 1 course ( <a href="https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/ags/#social">https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/ags/#social</a> )	4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>13</b>
<b>Fifth Quarter</b>		
	Health Professions Exploration Course, 4 credits from Group 1 or 2 (p. 1)	4
	Arts and Letters or Social Science, 1 course ( <a href="https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/ags/#arts-letters">https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/ags/#arts-letters</a> )	4

Mathematics or Statistics, 1 course if needed ( <a href="https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/ags/#math">https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/ags/#math</a> )	4
Elective	2
<b>Credits</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Sixth Quarter</b>	
Remaining Health Professions Exploration credits (p. 1)	4
Science or other program requisite, if needed (p. 1)	4
Elective	7
<b>Credits</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>90</b>

## Career Information

Explore potential careers related to this program, including typical job roles, employment trends, and projected growth. This information can help you better understand how your education may align with future career opportunities.

- ★ Course offered online
- 🌐 Cultural Literacy course