

SCIENCE - ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE

The Associate of Science degree is a two-year academic program that provides students with a solid foundation in the fundamental principles of the natural sciences. This program typically covers a wide range of subjects, including biology, chemistry, physics, geology, environmental science or mathematics, allowing students to gain a comprehensive understanding of the natural world. Throughout the course of their studies, students engage in both classroom-based learning and hands-on laboratory work, which fosters critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and scientific inquiry. The program serves as an excellent stepping stone for those who wish to pursue further education in science-related fields, including nursing, biology, chemistry, physics, environmental science, and geology, or for those who aim to enter the workforce with a strong scientific knowledge base, opening up opportunities in roles such as laboratory technicians, research assistants, or science educators.

60 credits

The Associate of Science (A.S.) degree represents the completion of the first two years of several bachelor's degree programs related to the sciences. Students pursuing the Associate of Science degree are advised to select courses that fulfill requirements for specific programs at New Mexico State University and that transfer to other four-year institutions. Many of the courses are General Education (G) courses. Students interested in the natural sciences (e.g., biology or chemistry) or fields closely related to the sciences (e.g., allied health science) are encouraged to follow this degree plan.

Students must complete all University degree requirements, which include: General Education requirements and elective credits to total at least 60 credits. Developmental coursework will not count towards the degree requirements and/or elective credits, but may be needed in order to take the necessary English and Mathematics coursework.

The New Mexico General Education (<https://catalogs.nmsu.edu/grants/general-education/>) course list can be found here.

Students are strongly encouraged to meet with an academic advisor for help in planning their studies and should be prepared to select their coursework from the following areas:

Prefix	Title	Credits
General Education		
<i>Area I: Communications</i>		
<i>English Composition - Level 1</i>		
ENGL 1110G	Composition I	4
<i>English Composition - Level 2</i>		
ENGL 2210G	Professional and Technical Communication	3
<i>Oral Communication</i>		
COMM 1115G or COMM 1130G	Introduction to Communication Public Speaking	3
<i>Area II: Mathematics</i>		
Select one 3 or 4 credit course from the New Mexico General Education list for Area II; see link above. The following courses are recommended.		
MATH 1220G	College Algebra	
MATH 1250G	Trigonometry & Pre-Calculus	
MATH 1350G	Introduction to Statistics	

Area III: Laboratory Science 8

Select two 4 credit courses from the New Mexico General Education list for Area III; see link above. The following courses are recommended.

ASTR 1115G	Introduction to Astronomy Lecture & Laboratory
ASTR 1120G	The Planets Lecture & Laboratory
BIOL 1120G & BIOL 1120L	Human Biology and Human Biology Laboratory
BIOL 2110G & BIOL 2110L	Principles of Biology: Cellular and Molecular Biology and Principles of Biology: Cellular and Molecular Biology Laboratory
CHEM 1120G	Introduction to Chemistry Lecture and Laboratory (non majors)
CHEM 1215G	General Chemistry I Lecture and Laboratory for STEM Majors
CHEM 1225G	General Chemistry II Lecture and Laboratory for STEM Majors
ENVS 1110G	Environmental Science I
GEOG 1110G	Physical Geography
GEOL 1110G	Physical Geology

Area IV: Social/Behavioral Sciences 3

Select one 3 credit course from the New Mexico General Education list for Area IV; see link above. The following courses are recommended.

ANTH 1115G	Introduction to Anthropology
ECON 2110G	Macroeconomic Principles
ECON 2120G	Principles of Microeconomics Honors
GEOG 1120G	World Regional Geography
PSYC 1110G	Introduction to Psychology
POLS 1120G	American National Government
SOCI 1110G	Introduction to Sociology
SOWK 2110G	Introduction to Human Services & Social Work

Area V: Humanities 3

Select one 3 credit course from the New Mexico General Education list for Area V; see link above. The following courses are recommended.

HIST 1110G	United States History I
HIST 1120G	United States History II
HIST 1130G	World History I
HIST 1140G	World History II
PHIL 1115G	Introduction to Philosophy
PHIL 2110G	Introduction to Ethics

Area VI: Creative and Fine Arts 3

Select one 3 credit course from the New Mexico General Education list for Area VI; see link above. The following courses are recommended.

ARTH 1115G	Orientation in Art
THEA 1110G	Introduction to Theatre

General Education Elective

Take one 3 credit MATH course from the New Mexico General Education list; see link above. 3

Other Core Requirements

FYEX 1110 First-year Seminar 3

Electives, to bring the total credits to 60

Select a minimum of 24 credits of lower division courses, 12 credits of which must be in MATH or a Laboratory Science. ⁶

MATH or Laboratory Science Electives 12

Other Electives	12
Total Credits	60

Required Courses for Students Pursuing the Bachelor of Science in Nursing at NMSU

Prefix	Title	Credits
BIOL 2110G	Principles of Biology: Cellular and Molecular Biology	3
BIOL 2110L	Principles of Biology: Cellular and Molecular Biology Laboratory	1
BIOL 2210	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4
BIOL 2225	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
BIOL 2310	Microbiology	3
BIOL 2310L	Microbiology Lab	1
CEPY 1120G	Human Growth and Behavior	3
CHEM 1120G	Introduction to Chemistry Lecture and Laboratory (non majors)	4
COMM 1115G	Introduction to Communication	3
MATH 1220G	College Algebra	3
MATH 1350G	Introduction to Statistics	3
NUTR 2110	Human Nutrition	3
PSYC 1110G	Introduction to Psychology	3

A Suggested Plan of Study

First Year

Fall		Credits
MATH 1220G	College Algebra	3
ENGL 1110G	Composition I	4
Area III: Laboratory Science Course ¹		4
Elective ²		3
Credits		14

Spring

ENGL 2210G	Professional and Technical Communication	3
FYEX 1110	First-year Seminar	1-3
MATH or Science Elective		3
Area III: Laboratory Science Course ¹		4
Area IV: Social/Behavioral Science Course ¹		3
Credits		14-16

Second Year

Fall		Credits
COMM 1130G or COMM 1115G	Public Speaking or Introduction to Communication	3
MATH 1350G	Introduction to Statistics	3
Area V: Humanities Course ¹		3
Science Elective ²		3-4
Elective ²		3
Credits		15-16

Spring

Area VI: Creative and Fine Arts Course ¹		3
Science Elective		3-4
Math or Science Elective		3
Electives (two 3 credit courses)		6
Credits		15-16
Total Credits		58-62

¹ See the General Education (<https://catalogs.nmsu.edu/grants/general-education/>) section of the catalog for a full list of courses

² Select a minimum of 24 credits of lower division courses, 12 credits of which must be in MATH or Laboratory Science.

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