# Associate of Arts Degree

To qualify for an Associate of Arts degree, students must successfully complete a minimum of 62 credits (exclusive of physical education) including the general education requirements, the required courses in the major field, and such additional courses as they may select with the assistance of their faculty advisors to meet the requirements of the major.

## General Education Requirements

The general education requirements for graduation in the Associate of Arts degree programs are listed below. Specific guidance about the courses that are available to meet general education requirements will be provided to students in advance of registration. Students are required to meet with their advisors in the selection of their courses.

| I. GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES | Credits |
|---|---|
| **A. FRESHMAN DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR (FDS)\*** | **0-1** |

**B. HUMANITIES**        **15**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| COM 119 | Interpersonal Communication and Leadership Skills | 3 |
| ENG 120 | English Composition | 3 |
| ENG 201 | Research and Applied Writing | 3 |
| Additional humanities electives | | 6 |

Courses fulfilling the humanities electives include:
humanities, communication, English, French, Spanish, music, theatre, philosophy, art.

**C. MATHEMATICS AND/OR SCIENCE**        **8-10**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| SCI 100\* | The Natural World: The Caribbean | 3 |

*and*
Two approved science or math courses

**D. SOCIAL SCIENCES**        **6-9**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| SSC 100\* | An Introduction to the Social Sciences: A Caribbean Focus | 3 |

*and*
Two other courses in the social sciences:
anthropology, criminal justice, economics, geography, history, political science, psychology, sociology.

**TOTAL CREDITS**        **29-36**

*\*Requirement of the Freshman-Year Program for all students matriculating into the University with fewer than 24 credits.*

| II. SUMMARY | Credits |
|---|---|
| Freshman Development Seminar | 0-1 |
| Humanities | 15 |
| Mathematics/science | 8-10 |
| Social sciences | 6-9 |
| **TOTAL** | **29-36** |

# Associate of Arts Degree

## III. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Students are required to take 0.5 credit hour in physical education for every semester they are full-time students up to the required two credit hours. PLS 200 may also be used to meet this requirement.

Also, students must earn at least 30 of the last 36 credits at the University of the Virgin Islands. This particular requirement may be waived by the provost only in cases where the student must complete the final year(s) of studies in another institution recognized by the University of the Virgin Islands. Course work more than ten years old must be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to determine its appropriateness to the current university course requirements. Appeals should be directed to the provost. In order to graduate, students must earn a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.00. This requirement is also applicable to courses required in their major.

Additionally, students must successfully pass the following examinations:

### 1. ENGLISH PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION (EPE)
### 2. COMPUTER LITERACY EXAMINATION (CLE)

Please review entry prerequisites for EPE and CLE on page 64.

## Degree Majors and Programs – A.A. Degree

Students will ordinarily choose an associate degree program because they want to prepare for employment after only two years of study beyond high school, and because they are attracted to the work for which the program will train them. The programs are designed to prepare graduates for positions as technicians, supervisors, and managers in business, industry, service organizations, and government.

The course requirements for graduation in each of the fields of specialization are outlined in the pages that follow.

It is to the student's advantage to enter one of these programs in the freshman year. It is possible for a student to change from a four-year program to a two-year program, but such a change may delay graduation because of the sequence of basic courses. A student may change from a two-year program to a four-year program but, again, it may then require additional time to complete the new program.

Students may choose the following Associate of Arts degree program.

### SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

### Inclusive Early Childhood Education

## SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

### *Inclusive Early Childhood Education Major*

The Associate of Arts degree in Inclusive Early Childhood Education (IECE) is one of three programs with emphasis on the care and education of young children in inclusive early childhood settings. This program provides a broad knowledge of and skills in promoting development and learning across the birth through age eight range, with emphasis on young children from infancy to age 5 years. This requisite knowledge and skills prepare early care and education personnel to support young children and their families through appropriate curriculum and assessment methods, as well as collaborative practices in culturally competent, ethical and legal ways. The IECE program is designed to ensure that students learn about the variability of young children and the adaptations and modifications that can be made to ensure best practices in developmental and learning experiences for all children. The program stresses the importance of natural environments, play support, and the integration of developmental/learning experiences into the curriculum.

Students are trained to assume the primary role of facilitators of child development and learning, parent/caregiver-child relationships, and engaging families. The program meets the needs of early childhood care and education providers and individuals working with young children in the following early childhood care and education settings: center-based infant-toddler, center-based preschool, family childcare, home visitor, and kindergarten.

Students completing the Associate of Arts degree requirements in Inclusive Early Childhood Education (IECE) Program are encouraged to apply to the Bachelor of Arts in Inclusive Early Childhood Education Program. Courses completed successfully can be transferred to the B.A. program.

In addition to the general education requirements (see pp. 73-74), the following courses are required:                                                                                                     Credits

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| EDU 101 | Introduction to IECE in the U.S., Caribbean & Global Contexts | 3 |
| EDU 110 | Early Childhood Development and Inclusive Environments I | 3 |
| EDU 111 | Early Childhood Development and Inclusive Environments II | 3 |
| EDU 214 | Family and Community Relationships | 3 |
| EDU 215 | Promoting Positive Socio-Emotional Foundations of Early Learning | 3 |
| EDU 216 | Inclusive Early Childhood Curricula and Assessment | 3 |
| EDU 219 | Promoting Language and Literacy in Early Childhood Education | 3 |
| EDU 223 | Supervised Field Experience in Designing and Implementing Inclusive Early Childhood Education Programs II | 5 |

*Note - The A.A. in IECE program was revised in April 2020.*