



Program Review Western Nevada College

Degree Programs

- I. List the existing programs and corresponding degree for all programs that were reviewed over this academic year of review.
Associate of General Studies Degree Program (AGS)
- II. List any programs and corresponding degree level for all programs that received Board approval for elimination or deactivation in this academic year of review.
None
- III. List all new programs and corresponding degree for all programs that received Board approval in this academic year of review.
None

Certificates

- I. List the certificates (at least 30 credits and under 30 credits) that were reviewed over this academic year of review.
None
- II. List the certificate programs of at least 30 credits that received Academic Affairs Council (AAC) approval to be established in this academic year of review.
None
- III. List the certificate programs of at least 30 credits that received AAC approval for elimination or deactivation in this academic year of review.
Retail Management, CA
- IV. List the certificate programs of less than 30 credits ("skills certificates") that received AAC approval to be established in this academic year of review and the corresponding state, national and/or industry recognized certification or license for which the certificate program provides such preparation.
 - Cybersecurity: EC Council
 - Mechatronics Foundation (Level 1): Siemens Certified Mechatronic Systems Assistant Level 1
 - Mechatronics Level 2: Siemens Certified Mechatronic Systems Associate
- IV. List the certificate programs of less than 30 credits ("skills certificates") that received AAC approval for elimination or deactivation in this academic year of review.
None

Associate of General Studies Degree Program (AGS)

I. Description of Program Reviewed

The purpose of the Associate of General Studies degree is to provide academic knowledge and skills for personal growth, professional advancement, and/or successful transfer.

II. Review Process and Criteria

Academic Program Review at Western Nevada College is guided by the Program Assessment and Review Committee (PARC), with additional guidance and support provided by the Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs (VPASA), Institutional Research and Effectiveness (IRE), and the Academic Division Director overseeing the academic program undergoing review.

The Associate of General Studies (AGS) program review began with the formation of a Program Review Team headed by academic faculty member Amy Ghilieri and the selection of internal and external reviewers. Internal reviewers are selected from WNC faculty members teaching outside of the program undergoing review. WNC CTE Division Director Georgia White was selected as the internal reviewer. External reviewers are academic or administrative faculty members familiar with the discipline from another college or university. Truckee Meadows Community College Associate Dean of Assessment and Planning Melissa Deadmond was selected as the external reviewer.

The process involves a program self-assessment, curriculum review, formal report, internal and external reviewers, presentation of findings to the college community, and student panel interviews. Following the site visit, the internal and external reviewers wrote their reports and sent them to the Program Review Team within 30 days. These reports include commendation and recommendations, emphasizing recommendations for improvement that require no new resources. These internal and external reviewer reports were then shared with PARC, the President, VPASA, and the Liberal Arts Division Director. Finally, an action plan based on the self-study findings and the reviewer reports was completed.

III. Major Findings and Conclusions of the Program Review

One of the major findings in the AGS program review was that the program lacks a clear and cohesive mission. Interviews with program graduates and current students found that there was confusion regarding the difference between the AGS and other Liberal Arts programs, particularly around its transferability. While students reported appreciating the program's flexibility, its flexibility may also cause it to lack a clear identity. Gaps in consistent outreach to and tracking of AGS-declared students and graduates has impacted opportunities to better define and communicate the purpose and mission of the program.

Additionally, the program's flexibility was found to be of special interest to returning and non-traditional students.

IV. Next Steps for this Program Based on Program Review Findings and Recommendations

1. Change the degree program mission
2. Create an AGS certificate
3. Include a 6-credit, 200-level requirement for the AGS degree
4. Create and mandate entrance and exit interviews in order to track student data.

V. Descriptive Statistics

A. Number of students with a declared major in the program area:

2017-18	478
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B. Number of graduates from the program for the following years:

2015-16	50
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2016-17	48
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2017-18	26
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C. Headcount of students enrolled in any course related to the program (duplicated):

Fall 2017	5,499
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VI. Institutional Reports

Click [here](#) for a copy of the institutional report summarized above.