1. The programs of the District are consistent with the institutional mission, purposes, demographics and economics of the community.

2. Associate Degree
   
   a. The associate degree represents the culmination of successfully leading students through a variety of learning experiences designed to develop certain capabilities and insights, including the ability to:
      
      i. think critically
      ii. communicate clearly and effectively orally and in writing
      iii. use mathematics
      iv. understand the modes of inquiry of the major disciplines
      v. be aware of other cultures and times
      vi. achieve insights gained through experience in thinking about ethical problems
   
   b. The associate degree facilitates academic and/or technical competence in the major discipline area.

3. General Education
   
   a. General education familiarizes students with the variety of means through which people comprehend the modern world, involving students in actively examining major societal issues, as well as fostering students’ self-understanding.
   
   b. General education introduces the content and methodology of the major areas of knowledge and provides an opportunity for students to develop intellectual skills, information technology facility, affective and creative capabilities, social attitudes, and an appreciation for cultural diversity.
   
   c. Coherence and integration among the separate requirements will be part of establishing or modifying a general education program.

4. The Academic Senate shall establish procedures to assure that courses used to meet general education and associate degree requirements meet the standards in this policy.