SECONDARY EDUCATION - AA

Program Overview

Associate of Arts - Secondary Education

The Associate of Arts in Secondary Education at Great Basin College (GBC) is a transfer-oriented program designed for students interested in pursuing a career in secondary education. This degree provides students with a strong foundation in general education and introductory education courses, preparing them for seamless transfer into the Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education program at GBC or similar degree programs across the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE).

In this program, students will complete coursework in core academic subjects, including mathematics, biological sciences, social sciences, and English, as well as foundational education courses that introduce educational theory and classroom management. This path enables students to gain essential skills and knowledge while exploring their interest in teaching at the secondary level. With this strong foundation, students can transition into a four-year secondary education program, equipped with the coursework and credits needed to continue toward their teaching credential.

Admission to the Teacher Education Program

Upon nearing completion of the Associate of Arts in Secondary Education, students interested in transferring to the BA in Secondary Education should plan to apply to the Teacher Education Program. Admission to the Teacher Education Program is selective, with specific requirements that must be met, including maintaining a minimum GPA of 3.0, completing prerequisite courses, and achieving passing scores on the Praxis Core in reading, writing, and math, a Nevada educator licensing requirement. Prospective applicants should consult the Teacher Education Program handbook and/or an advisor to understand the full requirements and timelines for application. Applications are due October 15th of the fall semester or March 15th of the spring semester.

Advising and Planning

Students are encouraged to meet regularly with an academic advisor to ensure they meet all requirements for transfer and Teacher Education Program admission. Advisors can guide students through the application process, assist with selecting courses that align with the transfer requirements, and provide updates on any changes to program prerequisites. Early and consistent advising helps students make informed decisions, complete the correct sequence of courses, and stay on track for successful admission to their chosen bachelor's program.

This Associate of Arts in Secondary Education provides an efficient, structured path for students aiming to become secondary educators (grades 7 through 12) in Nevada. Through close collaboration with advisors and early engagement with the Teacher Education Program requirements, students can pursue their goals confidently and efficiently, moving from foundational coursework into focused training as future educators.

General Education Requirements

Communications and Expressions

Written Communications (one course required)

ENG 100 Composition-Enhanced **5 Credits**

Allows students to fulfill their first semester of English while completing the remediation process. Designed for students who did not place into ENG 101 on the placement test/writing sample, but did not score so low that they need ENG 95. Allows a student to refine specific skill deficiencies while completing the first semester of freshman composition (ENG 100 is equivalent to ENG 101). Students will have additional Academic Success Center requirements. Although it is a five-credit course, it does not replace ENG 102. After successful completion of ENG 100, a student must take ENG 102 to complete the general education requirement.

ENG 101 Composition I **3 Credits**

Critical reading and writing of the expository essay. Emphasizes pre-writing, strategies for organization, and revision.

Oral Communications (one course required)

COM 113 Fund Speech Communication **3 Credits**

Principles and theories of speech communication. Participation in public speaking and interpersonal communication activities.

Evidence-Based Communications

ENG 102 Composition II **3 Credits**

Continuation of English 101. Emphasizes writing from sources, argument, the investigative paper, and research techniques.

Fine Arts (one course required)

ART 100 Visual Foundations **3 Credits**

A beginning art class that includes a survey of art and the basic components of design. The class explores visual concepts as they relate to the history of art through class presentations, discussions, and a variety of media. Students should plan for three hours of studio work outside the class.

ART 101 Drawing I **3 Credits**

A disciplined foundation in drawing concepts based on visual observation skills.

ART 107 Design Fundmntls I (2-D) **3 Credits**

Explores the fundamentals of design using various media focusing on 2-D design.

ENG 205 Intro to Creative Writing **3 Credits**

A creative writing course designed to introduce students to the production of fiction and poetry.

MUS 101 Music Fundamentals **3 Credits**

Notation, terminology, intervals, and scales. Designed to furnish a foundation for musicianship. Recommended for teachers in public schools and all others desiring a basic music background.

THTR 100 Introduction to Theatre **3 Credits**

A survey of the basic principles, facts, and theories providing an understanding of the art of theatre. Course also includes a special focus on the practical technical aspects of the theatre and on live theatre experiences.

THTR 105 Introduction to Acting I **3 Credits**

Examines acting fundamentals and focuses on development of vocal, physical, and creative tools to be used on stage.

THTR 121 Stage Makeup **3 Credits**

This course focuses on the history of makeup and basic approaches to applying make-up for the stage and screen. Make-up supplies will be studied, as well as techniques for corrective, old-age, character, stylized, and special effects makeup.

THTR 204 Theatre Technology I **3 Credits**

Lecture and discussion encompassing the philosophy and techniques of technical theatre.

WELD 200 Metal Art **3 Credits**

This course is designed to give the student the basic understanding of two dimensional 2D and three-dimensional 3D metal art. Also covered in this course we will discuss different Cutting, Welding and metal finishing techniques that are used in this discipline as it relates to metal art.

Logical and Scientific Reasoning

Mathematical Reasoning (one course required)

MATH 120 Fund of College Math **3 Credits**

Includes set theory, logic, consumer mathematics, measurement, geometry, probability, and statistics. Course is broad in scope, emphasizing applications. It is recommended that students have completed prerequisites within two years of enrolling in this course.

MATH 120E Fund of College Math Expanded **3 Credits**

Fundamentals of College Mathematics with Corequisite Support: Includes real numbers, consumer mathematics, variation, functions, relations, graphs, geometry, probability, and statistics. Course is broad in scope, emphasizing applications. Fulfills the lower-division mathematics requirement for a Bachelor of Arts Degree. Satisfies mathematics requirement for baccalaureate degrees.

MATH 126 Precalculus I **3 Credits**

A third course in algebra that stresses polynomial, quadratic, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions, including their graphs and applications; complex numbers; systems of equations; and basic operations with matrices and determinants, including Cramer's rule. It is recommended that students have completed prerequisites within two years of enrolling in this course.

MATH 126E Precalculus I Expanded **3 Credits**

Precalculus I Expanded with Co-requisite support: Includes equations, relations, functions, graphing; polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and circular functions with applications; coordinate geometry of lines and conics; analytic trigonometry; matrices and determinants; and binomial theorem. It is recommended that students have completed prerequisites within two years of enrolling in this course.

Scientific Reasoning (one course required): Choose from the courses listed below or any AST, BIOL, CHEM, ENV, GEOL, or PHYS

ANTH 102 Physical Anthropology **3 Credits**

Introduction to the study of how humans, Homo sapiens, have emerged as a species and come to dominate the planet by examining processes of human biological and cultural evolution. Topics include inheritance, the emergence of primates, fossil hominids, the development of technology, and biological variability among modern humans. Satisfies general education science.

GEOG 103 Physical Geog Earth Environmnt **3 Credits**

Physical elements of the earth's natural features and their significance to man. Topics include earth form and motion, landforms, weather, climate, vegetation, and soils. Four laboratory experiences required.

NUTR 121 Human Nutrition **3 Credits**

An introductory nutrition course for the beginning student. Course will center on the major nutrients and their roles in maintaining good health. Students will learn to recognize well-balanced diets and acquire shopping tips and preparation techniques for optimum utilization of food dollars. Class includes four required labs.

Scientific Data Interpretation (one course required)

BIOL 190 Intro Cell/Molecular Biology **4 Credits**

Structure and function of cells. Major molecules of life; composition and physiology of cellular organelles; cell metabolism, reproduction, motility, and gene function of both plant and animal cells. Required for biology majors. Concurrent enrollment in a corresponding lab section is required for this course.

CHEM 121 General Chemistry I **4 Credits**

Fundamentals of chemistry including reaction stoichiometry, atomic structure, chemical bonding, molecular structure, states of matter, and thermochemistry.

GEOL 101 Exploring Planet Earth **3-4 Credits**

Fundamental principles of geology including tectonic and surficial processes, oceans, atmosphere, environmental applications, and resources. Includes a laboratory component.

PHYS 151 Gen Physics I **4 Credits**

Primarily for students in arts and science. Topics include kinematics, energy and momentum conservation, rotational dynamics, thermodynamics, fluids, harmonic motion, and sound. Laboratory experiments illustrate many of these fundamental principles.

PHYS 180 Physics Scientist/Engr I **4 Credits**

A comprehensive, calculus-based physics course designed for advanced science and engineering students. Consists of intensive word problem solving covering topics of kinematics, vectors, forces, energy, momentum, rotation, angular momentum, equilibrium, elasticity, gravity, fluids, and oscillations. Lab included.

Human Societies and Experience

Structure of Societies

ANTH 101 Intro Cultural Anthropology **3 Credits**

Study of human cultures across the globe through examination of the basic principles underlying the organization of societies and the ways anthropologists analyze various parts of culture. Students will become familiar with the glue that holds all groups of people together, and how that glue can divide groups of people in profound ways.

CRJ 104 Intro to Admin of Justice **3 Credits**

American criminal justice system, its development, components, and processes. Includes consideration of crime and criminal justice as a formal area of study.

CRJ 270 Intro to Criminology **3 Credits**

Examines how society interacts with crime and delinquency through the use of the criminal justice system. Studies effective interaction and communication between the general public and members of the criminal justice system. Emphasizes the understanding of criminal behavior from a sociological and psychological perspective.

ECON 102 Prin of Microeconomics **3 Credits**

Study of the causes and effects of individuals' choices among alternative uses of scarce resources. Topics include supply and demand analysis, price determination, theories of various market structures, competition and coordination, labor, the role of profit and interest, and government involvement in the economy.

ECON 103 Principles of Macroeconomics **3 Credits**

Basic price and quantity relationships, study of monetary systems and policy, inflation, production and growth, recession, unemployment, fiscal policy, supply and demand perspectives, international exchange, and governmental-market relationships.

GEOG 106 Intro to Cultural Geography **3 Credits**

Analyze the culture regions of the world including physical settings and cultural patterns including language, settlements, socioeconomic patterns, and historical patterns.

HMS 200 Ethics in Human Services **3 Credits**

Real life applications for personal and professional boundaries, beliefs, ethics, values, morals, and codes of conduct in human relationships using ethical decision-making, problem-solving, and critical-thinking activities are emphasized. This course may be repeated up to three times for continuing education credit. (Check with individual licensing boards prior to registering).

PSY 101 Gen Psychology **3 Credits**

Survey of the discipline introducing psychological theories, research methods, and principles of behavior.

PSY 208 Psy of Human Relations **3 Credits**

Explores the relationships between human beings and assists in the development of interpersonal communication skills which can be used personally and professionally.

SOC 101 Prin of Sociology **3 Credits**

Sociological principles underlying the development, structure, and function of culture including society, human groups, personality formation, and social change.

American Constitutions and Institutions

HIST 101 U.S. History to 1877 **3 Credits**

Survey of U.S. political, social, economic, diplomatic, and cultural development from colonial times through Reconstruction. When taken with HIST 102 satisfies the GBC General Education American Constitutions and Institutions Requirement. HIST 101 and 102 need not be taken sequentially. Either class may be taken alone.

HIST 102 U.S. History Since 1877 **3 Credits**

Survey of U.S. political, social, economic, diplomatic, and cultural development from 1877 to the present. Course satisfies the Nevada Constitution Requirement. When taken with HIST 101 satisfies the GBC General Education American Constitutions and Institutions Requirement. Can be used to satisfy the Nevada Constitution Requirement for out-of-state transfer students who have previously satisfied the United States Constitution Requirement. HIST 101 and 102 need not be taken sequentially. Either class may be taken alone.

Humanities (one course required)

ART 160 Art Appreciation **3 Credits**

Introduction to the visual arts, illustrating the place of art in its social and cultural setting.

ENG 203 Intro to Literary Study **3 Credits**

Introduction to the elements of fiction, poetry, and drama used in the analysis of literature.

ENG 223 Themes of Literature **3 Credits**

Themes and ideas significant in literature.

FIS 100 Introduction to Film **3 Credits**

Introduction to the historical development of film as art. Considers the development of cinematic techniques (i.e., cinematography, editing, sound, etc.), cinematic genres (i.e., the western, romantic comedy, etc.) and narrative elements (i.e., plot, character, conflict, etc.) as exemplified by the work of major American and international directors.

FREN 111 First Year French I **3-4 Credits**

Development of language skills through practice in listening, speaking, reading, writing, and structural analysis. Language practice required.

FREN 112 First Year French II **3-4 Credits**

A continuation of FREN 111. Language practice required.

HUM 101 Intro to Humanities I **3 Credits**

An introduction to humanities through a study of seven major arts including film, drama, music, literature, painting, sculpture, and architecture. Each of these arts is considered from the perspective of historical development, the elements used in creating works of art, meaning and form, and criticism and critical evaluation.

HUM 210 Communicating Diversity **3 Credits**

Communicating Diversity is a lower division course designed to familiarize students with the fundamentals of diversity and how those are expressed through communication. Students will develop a deep understanding of the way in which we communicate race, gender, class, sexual orientation, nationality, religion, and physical/mental ability and how it impacts our daily lives. This course will take an intersectional approach to understanding diversity and seek communication strategies for inclusivity. Emphasis will be placed on defining and developing the critical thinking skills necessary to push past oppression, marginalization, and other issues centralized around diverse populations. Students will be encouraged to investigate and discover diversity issues, solutions, and concepts at the local and global level using case studies, current events, and other significant moments in history.

MUS 121 Music Appreciation **3 Credits**

The historical and cultural background of music and origins to the twentieth century.

PHIL 101 Intro to Philosophy **3 Credits**

Basic problems in different areas of philosophy such as ethics, political theory, metaphysics, and epistemology.

PHIL 102 Critical Thinking **3 Credits**

Covers non-symbolic introduction to logical thinking in everyday life, law, politics, science, advertising; common fallacies; and the uses of language, including techniques of persuasion.

PHIL 135 Introduction to Ethics **3 Credits**

Introduction to Ethics: critical introduction to classical and modern ethical theories such as utilitarianism, deontology, and virtue ethics. Emphasis throughout on applying the theories in various contexts such as social, political, or interpersonal. The ultimate goal will be to allow students to clarify their own thinking and positions on important ethical issues confronting society today.

SPAN 111 First Year Spanish I **3 Credits**

Development of language skills through practice in listening, speaking, reading, writing, and structural analysis. Language practice required.

SPAN 112 First Yr Spanish II **3 Credits**

A continuation of SPAN 111. Language practice required.

SPAN 211 Second Year Spanish I **3 Credits**

Considers structural review, conversation and writing, and readings in modern literature.

Technological Proficiency (one course required)

EDU 214 Prep Teachers to Use Tech 3 Credits

Lab course on advanced skills and strategies for integrating technology into the K-12 classroom. Computer experience is required in word processing, basic spreadsheet design, and file management.

CS 135 Computer Science I 3 Credits

This course is an introduction to modern problem solving and programming methods. Emphasis is placed on algorithm development. A special focus will be on procedural and data abstraction, emphasizing design, testing, and documentation.

Foundations

Social Science (one course required): Choose from the course listed below or any transferable 100 or 200 level ANTH (except ANTH 102) CRJ, HIST, PSC, PSY or SOC

ECON 102 Prin of Microeconomics 3 Credits

Study of the causes and effects of individuals' choices among alternative uses of scarce resources. Topics include supply and demand analysis, price determination, theories of various market structures, competition and coordination, labor, the role of profit and interest, and government involvement in the economy.

ECON 103 Principles of Macroeconomics 3 Credits

Basic price and quantity relationships, study of monetary systems and policy, inflation, production and growth, recession, unemployment, fiscal policy, supply and demand perspectives, international exchange, and governmental-market relationships.

GEOG 106 Intro to Cultural Geography 3 Credits

Analyze the culture regions of the world including physical settings and cultural patterns including language, settlements, socioeconomic patterns, and historical patterns.

Humanities/Fine Arts (one course required): Choose from the courses listed below or any transferrable 200-level ENG course, or any 100- or 200-level AM, ART, FIS, FREN, HUM, JOUR, MUS, PHIL, SPAN or THTR course

GRC 103 Intro Computer Graphics 3 Credits

Introduction to the computer as a graphic communications tool using image editing and page layout software. Software literacy, computer graphics terminology, design application, and production are stressed.

GRC 156 Design with Illustrator 3 Credits

Introduction to visual communication as it relates to commercial art using vector-based software with an emphasis on corporate identity. Covers graphic design methodology, layout, typography, symbols, logos, and logo systems developed from thumbnails through final design.

Program Requirements

(EDSC 311 is corequisite for EDU 250, not included in totals for AA)

EDU 250 Foundations of Education 3 Credits

A foundations course in education and introduction to the philosophy, history, and sociology of modern education. Emphasis is placed on current trends in education.

EDSC 311 Secndry Methd/Practicum I 1-3 Credits

First in a sequence of field and clinical experience courses in a secondary classroom. Students work in middle-level or high school classrooms to develop skills working with students and implementing instructional plans. Students will spend approximately 15 hours observing in the public schools. Class may be repeated up to a total of three credits. [S/U]

Choose an endorsement area and choose 15 credits from matrix below

Biology	Social Science	Math	English
BIOL 190	HIST 208	MATH 126	ENG 203
BIOL 191	HIST 209	MATH 126E	ENG 223
CHEM 121	ECON 102	MATH 127	JOUR 102
CHEM 122	GEOG 103	MATH 181	ENG 261
CHEM 241	SOC 101	MATH 182	ENG 267
CHEM 242	PSC 101	STAT 152	ENG 259

PHYS 151		MATH 251	ENG 221
MATH 126		MATH 285	
MATH 127			

Suggested Course Sequence

1st Semester - Fall

Course	Credits
ENG 101 or 101	3-5
MATH 120 or 120E	3-5
Scientific Reasoning*	3
HIST 101	3
Fine Arts*	3
TOTAL	15-19

*Choose with advisor

2nd Semester - Spring

Course	Credits
ENG 102	3
COM 113	3
HIST 102	3
Structure of Societies*	3
Scientific Data*	4
TOTAL	16

*Choose with advisor

3rd Semester - Fall

Course	Credits
Technology	3
Social Science*	3
Elective from Endorsement Matrix*	3
Elective from Endorsement Matrix*	3
Elective from Endorsement Matrix*	3
TOTAL	15

*Choose with advisor

4th Semester - Spring

Course	Credits
EDU 250	3
Humanities/Fine Arts*	3
Elective from Endorsement Matrix*	3
Elective from Endorsement Matrix*	3
Humanities*	3
TOTAL	15

*Choose with advisor