

Palo Verde College

Program Outline Report

Program Basics

Program Title:	Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts, Emphasis in Social and Behavioral Science
Program Status:	Active from 2026-2027 Fall (2026FA)
Department:	Social and Behavior Sciences
Award Type:	A.A. Degree Major (Credit)
Program/Catalog Description	The Associate Degree in Liberal Arts is designed for students who wish to have a broad knowledge of liberal arts and sciences plus additional coursework in an "Area of Emphasis." This area of emphasis would be an ideal choice for students who plan on transferring to the California State University (CSU) or University of California (UC) as students can satisfy general education requirement, plus focus on transferable coursework that relates to majors at these institutions. Please consult with a counselor for information regarding your intended major at the specific college or university of your choice. Along with the area of emphasis requirements, students must also fulfill the CalGETC General education pattern to complete all degree requirements.
Control Number:	17999
Credential ID:	No value
Transferability:	No value
(SP01) Program TOP Code:	4903.30
(SP01) Program TOP Code:	Humanities and Social Sciences
(SP02) Student Program Award:	Associate of Arts (A.A.) degree
Maximum Credits:	61
Minimum Credits:	60
Curriculum Committee Approval Date:	03/20/2025
Board of Trustees Approval Date:	04/08/2025
External Review Approval Date:	04/08/2025

Proposal Details

Proposal Start:	2026-2027 Fall (2026FA)
What changes have been made to the program:	Updating program to pull in AB1111 CCN numbers, and catalog description Updating local AA degree to meet CAL-GETC Standards
Program Justification:	The Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts with an Emphasis in Social and Behavioral Science provides students with a broad foundation for understanding human behavior, social systems, and cultural dynamics. This degree supports strong student demand for flexible transfer pathways and develops essential skills in critical thinking, communication, and analysis. The program aligns with Cal-GETC and CSU GE Breadth, allowing students to complete lower-division general education requirements efficiently while preparing for transfer into majors such as Sociology, Psychology, Anthropology, Political Science, and History, to name a few.

Submission Rationale

- Change to Content

Program Requirements

Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts, Emphasis in Social and Behavior Science (Total 25-26)

Complete all of the following

Core Requirement (Total 18)

Complete the following number of credits: 18

ANT101 - Cultural Anthropology	3
ANT102 - Aztecs, Maya, and Their Predecessors	3
ANT107 - Anthropology of Religion	3
ANT201 - Introduction to Archaeology	3
SOCIC1000 - Introduction to Sociology	3
SOC115 - Introduction to Chicano/a Studies	3
SOC120 - Research Methods in Sociology	3
SOC121 - Social Problems	3
SOC140 - Introduction to Gender	3
SOC160 - Introduction to Crime	3
ECONC2001 - Principles of Microeconomics	3
ECONC2002 - Principles of Macroeconomics	3
CDEV1000 - Child Growth and Development	3
GGR103 - World Geography	3
GGR120 - Introduction to Human Geography	3
PSY115 - Human Sexuality	3
PSYCC1000 - Introduction to Psychology	3
PSY150 - Introduction to Research Methods	3
PSY201 - Lifespan Development	3
PSY205 - Introduction to Biological Psychology	3
PSY210 - Abnormal Psychology	3
PSY215 - Social Psychology	3
HIS110 - World Civilization I	3
HIS120 - World Civilization II	3
HISTC1001 - United States History to 1877	3
HISTC1002 - United States History since 1865	3
HIS125 - California History	3

List A (Total 3-4)

Complete the following number of credits: 3-4

STATC1000 - Introduction to Statistics	4
PSY155 - Introduction to Statistical Analysis for the Social Sciences	3

List B (Total 4)

Complete the following number of credits: 4

ANTHC1001 - Introduction to Biological Anthropology	3
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Recommended Sequences

New Sequence

Term 1 (Total 10)

English Communication ENGLC1000 - Academic Reading and Writing 4

Oral Communication (Total 3)

Take one of the following

SPE101 - Introduction to Speech 3

COMMC1000 - Introduction to Public Speaking 3

SPE103 - Argument and Debate 3

Core Requirement (Total 3)

Take one of the following

ANT101 - Cultural Anthropology 3

ANT102 - Aztecs, Maya, and Their Predecessors 3

ANT107 - Anthropology of Religion 3

ANT201 - Introduction to Archaeology 3

SOCIC1000 - Introduction to Sociology 3

SOC115 - Introduction to Chicano/a Studies 3

SOC120 - Research Methods in Sociology 3

SOC121 - Social Problems 3

SOC140 - Introduction to Gender 3

SOC160 - Introduction to Crime 3

ECONC2001 - Principles of Microeconomics 3

ECONC2002 - Principles of Macroeconomics 3

CDEV1000 - Child Growth and Development 3

GGR103 - World Geography 3

GGR120 - Introduction to Human Geography 3

PSY115 - Human Sexuality 3

PSYCC1000 - Introduction to Psychology 3

PSY150 - Introduction to Research Methods 3

PSY201 - Lifespan Development 3

PSY205 - Introduction to Biological Psychology 3

PSY210 - Abnormal Psychology 3

PSY215 - Social Psychology 3

HIS110 - World Civilization I 3

HIS120 - World Civilization II 3

HISTC1001 - United States History to 1877 3

HISTC1002 - United States History since 1865 3

HIS125 - California History 3

Term 2 (Total 15)

Critical Thinking and Composition ENGLC1001 - Critical Thinking and Writing 3

Ethnic Studies (Total 3)**Take one of the following**

ETH101 - Introduction to Ethnic Studies 3

ETH210 - Introduction to Mexican American Studies 3

Core Requirement (Total 3)**Take one of the following**

ANT101 - Cultural Anthropology 3

ANT102 - Aztecs, Maya, and Their Predecessors 3

ANT107 - Anthropology of Religion 3

ANT201 - Introduction to Archaeology 3

SOCIC1000 - Introduction to Sociology 3

SOC115 - Introduction to Chicano/a Studies 3

SOC120 - Research Methods in Sociology 3

SOC121 - Social Problems 3

SOC140 - Introduction to Gender 3

SOC160 - Introduction to Crime 3

ECONC2001 - Principles of Microeconomics 3

ECONC2002 - Principles of Macroeconomics 3

CDEV1000 - Child Growth and Development 3

GGR103 - World Geography 3

GGR120 - Introduction to Human Geography 3

PSY115 - Human Sexuality 3

PSYCC1000 - Introduction to Psychology 3

PSY150 - Introduction to Research Methods 3

PSY201 - Lifespan Development 3

PSY205 - Introduction to Biological Psychology 3

PSY210 - Abnormal Psychology 3

PSY215 - Social Psychology 3

HIS110 - World Civilization I 3

HIS120 - World Civilization II 3

HISTC1001 - United States History to 1877 3

HISTC1002 - United States History since 1865 3

HIS125 - California History 3

Arts (Total 3)**Take one of the following**

ART101 - Introduction to Art 3

ARTHC1100 - Survey of Art from Prehistory to the Medieval Era 3

ARTHC1200 - Survey of Art from the Renaissance to Contemporary 3

ENG125 - Introduction to Film 3

MUS121 - Music History and Appreciation 3

MUS137 - History of Rock and Roll 3

THA110 - Introduction to Theatre 3

THA151 - Acting I 3

Core Requirement (Total 3)**Take one of the following**

ANT101 - Cultural Anthropology	3
ANT102 - Aztecs, Maya, and Their Predecessors	3
ANT107 - Anthropology of Religion	3
ANT201 - Introduction to Archaeology	3
SOC1000 - Introduction to Sociology	3
SOC115 - Introduction to Chicano/a Studies	3
SOC120 - Research Methods in Sociology	3
SOC121 - Social Problems	3
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PSY201 - Lifespan Development	3
PSY205 - Introduction to Biological Psychology	3
PSY210 - Abnormal Psychology	3
PSY215 - Social Psychology	3
HIS110 - World Civilization I	3
HIS120 - World Civilization II	3
HISTC1001 - United States History to 1877	3
HISTC1002 - United States History since 1865	3
HIS125 - California History	3

Term 3 (Total 7-9)**List B (Total 1-3)****Take one of the following**

ANTHC1001 - Introduction to Biological Anthropology	3
ANTHC1001L - Biological Anthropology Lab	1

Humanities (Total 3)**Take one of the following**

ENGLC1002 - Introduction to Literature	3
ENG122 - Survey of World Literature I	3
ENG125 - Introduction to Film	3
ENG140 - Survey of American Literature II	3
ENG222 - Survey of World Literature II	3
HIS110 - World Civilization I	3
HIS120 - World Civilization II	3
HIS125 - California History	3
HISTC1001 - United States History to 1877	3

HISTC1002 - United States History since 1865	3
PHI100 - Introduction to Philosophy	3
PHI120 - Introduction to Ethics	3
Core Requirement (Total 3)	
Take one of the following	
ANT101 - Cultural Anthropology	3
ANT102 - Aztecs, Maya, and Their Predecessors	3
ANT107 - Anthropology of Religion	3
ANT201 - Introduction to Archaeology	3
SOC1000 - Introduction to Sociology	3
SOC115 - Introduction to Chicano/a Studies	3
SOC120 - Research Methods in Sociology	3
SOC121 - Social Problems	3
SOC140 - Introduction to Gender	3
SOC160 - Introduction to Crime	3
ECONC2001 - Principles of Microeconomics	3
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CDEV1000 - Child Growth and Development	3
GGR103 - World Geography	3
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PSY150 - Introduction to Research Methods	3
PSY201 - Lifespan Development	3
PSY205 - Introduction to Biological Psychology	3
PSY210 - Abnormal Psychology	3
PSY215 - Social Psychology	3
HIS110 - World Civilization I	3
HIS120 - World Civilization II	3
HISTC1001 - United States History to 1877	3
HISTC1002 - United States History since 1865	3
HIS125 - California History	3

Program Outcomes

Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts, Emphasis in Social and Behavior Science

PSLO

Performance

1.Acquired fundamental grounding in communication, critical thinking, scientific inquiry, and quantitative reasoning, the arts, literature and humanities, social, political and economic institutions, and self-development.

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Program Narrative

Narrative Item 1. Program Goals and Objectives

The History, Social and Behavioral Science courses help develop skills and strategies to be successful in the college environment and serve to introduce students to these areas of study. These courses fulfill general education requirements/electives and are major areas of study for the Associate of Arts degree.

The History, Social and Behavioral Science Program serves to fulfill transferable course requirements and/or electives, as well as a transferable associate's degree. This serves Institutional Goal 1 from the Integrated Strategic Plan 2013-2016), which states "Deliver and continuously improve upon quality educational programs, emphasizing student learning leading to certification, conferral of associate degrees, transfer to four-year institutions, and personal growth and career enhancement."

Narrative Item 2. Catalog Description

The Associate Degree in Liberal Arts is designed for students who wish to have a broad knowledge of liberal arts and sciences plus additional coursework in an "Area of Emphasis." This area of emphasis would be an ideal choice for students who plan on transferring to the California State University (CSU) or University of California (UC) as students can satisfy general education requirement, plus focus on transferable coursework that relates to majors at these institutions. Please consult with a counselor for information regarding your intended major at the specific college or university of your choice.

Along with the area of emphasis requirements, students must also fulfill the CalGETC General education pattern to complete all degree requirements.

Narrative Item 3. Program Requirements

Program Requirements:

SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

General Education Requirements:

Area of Emphasis: A minimum of 18 units is required in the Area of Emphasis listed below. For depth of study, 2 or more courses in one discipline is required. Along with the core requirements, students must also complete the CalGETC General Education Pattern in order to receive the degree.

ANT 101, 102, 107, 201

CDEV C1000

ECON C2001, 2002

GGR 103, 120

HIS 110, 120, 125, HIST C1001, HIST C1002

PSY 115, 150, 201, 205, 210, 215, PSYC C1000

SOC 115, 120, 121, 140, 160 SOCI C1000

List A: Select one course

STAT C1000

PSY 155

List B: take both courses

ANTH C1001

ANTH C1001L

Recommended Program Sequence:

ASSOCIATE IN ARTS: Social & Behavioral Sciences

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS GENERAL EDUCATION CSU-GE BREADTH

DESCRIPTION:

PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

SEMESTER BY SEMESTER PROGRAM PLAN FOR FULL TIME STUDENTS

Plans will be modified to fit the needs of part-time students by adding additional semesters

*Pre-requisite:	Co-requisite:	Advisory:	Recommended:
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Semester 1	Credits
ENGL C1000	4
PSYC C1000	3
SPE 101	3
AREA E	3
CHD 101	3
Total Credits:	15
Semester 2	Credits
STAT C1000 or PSY 155	4/3
ENGL C1001	3
B1 Physical Science Elective	4
C1 Arts Elective	3
HIST C1002 or SOCI C1000	3
Total Credits:	16/17
Semester 3	Credits
PSY 201	3
BIO 110	5
POLS C1000	3
C2 Humanities Elective	3
HIST C1001	3
Total Credits:	17
Semester 4	Credits
Social Science Elec	3
ELEC	3
Social Science Elec	3

C1 Arts or C2 Humanities Elective	3
SOC 120	3
	15
Total Credits:	60/61

**Summer session courses are optional and may not be required for your program of study.*

Narrative Item 4. Master Planning

The History, Social and Behavioral Science Program continually provide exemplary learning environments that promote student success and foster the lifelong love of learning. These courses strive to provide an exemplary learning environment that promotes student success through course completion, models and promotes lifelong learning, and encourages community involvement and development.

The present program goals include developing two-year course planning and scheduling procedures to minimize conflicts that delay students' progress toward program completion as well as monitor enrollment patterns and trends in order to offer optimal scheduled combinations of courses as to semester rotation, days of the week, number and type of sections, day vs. evening and mode of delivery. One primary objective of the History, Social, and Behavioral Sciences Program is to ensure all students receive ample training and educational skills to either join the workforce upon graduation, or transfer to a four-year institution for continued studies. The creation of several Alcohol and Drug Studies and Child Development certificates, along with the completion of the degree, affords students the opportunity to enter the workforce once studies are completed.

However, the History, Social, and Behavioral Sciences Program strives to ensure courses are transferable to all CSU institutions and many CSU institutions for students interested in pursuing further studies in more advanced degrees at four-year institutions. All Alcohol and Drug Studies, Anthropology, Child Development, History, Psychology, and Sociology courses transfer to CSU. The following courses are transferrable to UC: ANT 101, CHD 101, CHD 102, HIS 110, HIS 115, HIS 120, HIS 125, HIS 130, HIS 140, PSY 101, PSY 115, PSY 150, PSY 201, PSY 205, PSY 210, PSY 215, SOC 101, SOC 111, and SOC 115. By creating courses transferable to both CSU and UC, the History, Social, and Behavioral Sciences endeavors to ensure students may achieve success regardless of the institution in which they select to complete further studies.

HSBS' actions are oriented around Palo Verde's Horizon 2023 strategic plan. HSBS hopes to continue to provide excellent programming that meets the needs of our diverse student population and increase student achievement. To do so we intend to implement strategies to increase access with equity in mind and to achieve success across our district and region. We will use accreditation standards based on student learning outcomes in program reviews to demonstrate and improve our educational offerings. We will also utilize technology and the support to ensure that students have adequate support and to promote effective teaching. Finally, within the division we endeavor to sustain professional and collegial working relationships and spur these growth through professional development.

Narrative Item 5. Enrollment and Completion Projections

Overall, the History, Social and Behavioral Science's (HSBS) enrollment and completion rates have been in an upward trend. Notably in the last review cycle the enrollment and completion rates increased steadily in the Alcohol and Drug Studios (ADS), Childhood Development (CHD), Anthropology, and Sociology departments. Early in the review cycle of the 2014 to 2017 review there were not full-time faculty members in all of these disciplines. Now that the full-time faculty exist in each department their management of classes offered, ability to teach more classes in the face-to-face modality, and ability to monitor student learning outcomes helps maximize enrollment and retention. The trend is projected to improve across the board and specifically in CHD because of the new hire of a full-time faculty member.

Demographically the division needs to monitor the annual snapshot and focus on several groups of students. Notably Hawaiian and Native American students and African American students have had a slight drop in completion rates over the 2018-2020 cycle. The division members should be cognizant of the populations as we move into future academic years to determine if the drops were an effect of incomplete data or if interventions need to be made. And there is a general trend over the past couple of years of foster students have experienced lowest completion rates. Though the small sample size of foster population should make us weary in drawing definitive conclusions, we currently have success offering courses to more students at a better completion rate and should monitor rates moving forward to ensure the continued upward trend.

Narrative Item 6. Place of Program in Curriculum/Similar Programs

The History, Social and Behavioral Science's (HSBS) division stands apart from the other divisions at Palo Verde College (PVC). Most divisions at PVC have a narrow focus on a particular subject, such as English courses in the Language Arts Division or Math in the Division of Math and Sciences. These divisions have a set core of course offerings which allow the instructors to work collectively on course preparation and scheduling. While HSBS is made up of a variety of diverse disciplines and therefore presents unique opportunities and obstacles. The diversity of experiences creates a division that uniquely captures a broad swath of humanities and allows each subject to reflect the specialty of the instructor. As a limitation, the instructors do not benefit from having feedback and collaborative development of core coursework.

Within the larger framework of Palo Verde College (PVC), the HSBS division enhances and connects the skills and learning other divisions on campus by contextualizing the social and historical context of the other disciplines. Students taking courses in HSBS have the opportunity to explore their social, political, historical context within the academic setting as well as their experiences locally in Blythe, across Southern California, and nationally. The division's diverse array of instructors who drive from a variety of disciplines and experiences help highlight the context that the other disciplines exist within. Students having experienced classes within HSBS leave PVC better prepared to apply skills upon graduating.

Narrative Item 7. Similar Programs at Other Colleges in Service Area

Palo Verde College's (PVC) Occupies a unique space in its service area. While geographically isolated the college provides essential services two students in the Blythe and surrounding areas. the correspondence modality is a unique feature of the PVC's service area, as it extends PVC's reach across Southern California. PVC uniquely offers correspondence courses to a broad region and multiple service areas with a relatively complete offering of coursework and program/certificate offerings. The History, Social and Behavioral Science (HSBS) division reflects much of what the larger college has to offer through the correspondence modality. HSBS is unique within PVC's structure by offering a variety of courses across multiple disciplines, programs and certificates. The offerings of the PVC in general and the division specifically allow HSBS to be adaptable and meet the needs of a diverse array of students across Southern California