Bachelor's Track

ASCEND

General Education Curriculum at Mount Aloysius College

Your Elevated Journey Starts Here

Every Mountie's path looks different, but it always leads to an Elevated place. College is more than choosing a major or learning a skill. Employers and partners tell us that there are certain qualities that really make Mountie graduates stand out. It's more than the degree you hold. Can you solve problems? Can you offer creative solutions? Can you communicate? Are you empathetic? Can you lead? Do you see the big picture?

This may sound like a lot, but that's what our "Ascend" general education experience is all about. By the time you graduate, you'll be more than job-ready. You'll be prepared for both career success and personal fulfillment.

This is what the path to the top looks like…

1. Base Camp

This is the starting point of your college journey. As you get a feel for Mount Aloysius and start to envision your future, these courses will lay the foundation.

FEATURED COURSES

LIBA 150 – College Success & the Mercy Experience

This course is an introduction to higher education, with an emphasis on connecting a wellness and growth mindset to academic success, understanding learning to increase academic achievement, and developing relationships.

2. Start Your Climb

Now that you've got your feet under you, it's time to climb! This is where your education goes beyond the basic skills and begins to apply real-world, professional lessons.

FEATURED COURSES

CORE 100 – Big Ideas: Effective Reasoning & Communication

This course is all about creative solutions to real-world problems. Engage with your community and learn how to use reason, ethics, and more to find the way.

ENGL 110 – College Writing

Begin your journey by becoming familiar with research and the expectations of college-level writing. Develop your confidence in your written communication skills.

MATH 111 – The Three C's

Practical math that you'll use in your everyday life. Calculate percentages like tax and tip, discover useful statistics, and learn the Excel and spreadsheet skills that employers are looking for.

3. Trail Exploration

The path to the top is never a straight line. This part of your educational journey focuses on looking at the world differently, exploring what it means to be a well-rounded person, and applying those ideas to enhance your career-readiness.

FEATURED COURSES

CORE 200 – Global Understanding: Strategies for Changemakers I

Become an engaged, active part of your community by exploring and developing your understanding of diversity, self-awareness, and systems within the wider world.

ENGL 210 – Multi-Genre Writing

Effective communication means being able to clearly get your ideas across in a variety of ways. You'll explore how to utilize a variety of writing styles and genres to communicate your thoughts.

Courses in World & Society and Upper-Level Courses in Arts & Aesthetics and Faith & Reason.

4. The Summit

The final push has arrived. Your degree is almost in-hand, but these final moments will help you to see the big picture and finally bring everything together into perspective. Celebrate your success and prepare for an Elevated future!

FEATURED COURSES

CORE 400 – Global Change: Strategies for Changemakers II

This is the final step of looking outside of your own norms and assessing, articulating, and addressing the problems across our community and even the world. Incorporate your values and identity as you begin to think, react, and work in imaginative and creative ways.

Technology-Intensive and Capstone Courses

Every major and every industry requires knowledge of very specific technology, approaches, and management. Instead of offering generic tech and capstone courses, we've integrated these courses directly into each major's curriculum. This ensures you are ready with the details and specific knowledge you need to be successful immediately upon graduation.

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Why is the Ascend General Education Curriculum important?

Employers tell us all the time that they're looking for Mountie graduates because Mounties are curious, excited to learn new things, and capable of thinking critically about the world around them. That's all because of the liberal arts foundation provided by the gen ed curriculum. Through these courses, you'll be able to employ a variety of learning styles and reasoning strategies to help you prepare for working in the real world. You'll also gain an in-depth understanding of your own program, and be able to integrate knowledge from other disciplines into your major.

ASSOCIATE'S TRACK

Freshman Year

LIBA 150 - College Success & the Mercy Experience	1 Credit
CORE 100 - Big Ideas: Effective Reasoning & Communication	2 Credits
ENGL 110 - Rhetoric & Composition	3 Credits
MATH 111 - The Three C's	3 Credits

Sophomore Year

Select 100-200 Level Art, English, Music, or Theatre Courses	3 Credits
Select 100-200 Level Religious Studies or Philosophy Courses	3 Credits
CORE 200 - Global Understanding: Strategies for Changemakers I	3 Credits

Classes that Match Your Interests & Schedule

This chart is only a guideline for when you should take your gen ed classes. Your advisor will work with you to determine the best timeframe that is specific to you and your needs.

Which Aesthetics, Faith & Reason, World & Society, and Mathematics classes you take is determined by you! Choose from a list of approved classes to meet your 100-200 and 300-400 level requirements. Approved classes span a variety of subjects and themes, and the diversity of classes means that you can take classes that interest you.

BACHELOR'S TRACK

Freshman Year

LIBA 150 - College Success & the Mercy Experience	1 Credit
CORE 100 - Big Ideas: Effective Reasoning & Communication	2 Credits
ENGL 110 - Rhetoric & Composition	3 Credits
MATH 111 - The Three C's	3 Credits

Sophomore Year

Select 100-200 Level Art, English, Music, or Theatre Courses	3 Credits
Select 100-200 Level Religious Studies or Philosophy Courses	3 Credits
CORE 200 - Global Understanding: Strategies for Changemakers I	3 Credits

Junior Year

ENGL 210 - Multi-Genre Writing	3 Credits
Select 300-400 Level Art, English, Music, or Theatre Courses	3 Credits
Select 300-400 Level Religious Studies or Philosophy Courses	3 Credits
Select 100-200 Level History or Political Science Courses	3 Credits
Select 100-200 Level Mathematics Courses	3-4 Credits

Senior Year

CORE 400 - Global Change: Strategies for Changemakers II	3 Credits
Program-Specific Capstone	3 Credits