

# ASSOCIATE OF ARTS (PRISON EDUCATION PROGRAM)

The SLU Prison Education Program offers credit-earning courses to currently incarcerated people and Department of Corrections employees at the Eastern Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center in Missouri, culminating in an Associate of Arts degree from Saint Louis University.

## Curriculum Overview

Two cohorts of 20 students each take SLU courses that operate on a nine-week term and convene once per week for four hours at a time. Students take a total of five classes per year. To complete the total 61 credits required for the degree, each cohort remains in the program for about four years.

All coursework in the degree program comes from the SLU core curriculum and the College of Arts and Sciences (<https://www.slu.edu/arts-and-sciences/>). It also aligns with Missouri’s Core 42, which transfers to public institutions throughout the state.

## Careers

An Associate of Arts degree prepares students for a wide range of employment possibilities and for further study.

## Learning Outcomes

1. Graduates will be able to use research to sustain an argument and conduct analysis through an academic essay.
2. Graduates will be able to apply logical and analytical problem-solving through effective methods of inquiry.
3. Graduates will be able to utilize intentional reflection.
4. Graduates will be able to apply theories and/or practices of social justice and civic engagement in the Ignatian spirit.

## Requirements

Prison education students must complete a minimum total of 61 credits for the Associate of Arts.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Oral and Written Communication</b>		
ENGL 1500	The Process of Composition	3
ENGL 1900	Advanced Strategies of Rhetoric and Research	3
CMM 1200	Public Speaking	3
<b>Humanities</b>		
AS 1930	Special Topics <sup>1</sup>	3
Select one ENGL 2000 level course, such as:		3
ENGL 2350	Faith, Doubt and Literature	
ENGL 2450	Nature, Ecology & Literature	
ENGL 2650	Technology, Media & Literature	
Select one ENGL 3000 level course, such as:		3
ENGL 3050	Creative Writing: Poetry	
ENGL 3060	Creative Writing: Fiction	
ENGL 3280	American Literatures after 1865	
ENGL 3470	Introduction to Shakespeare	
PHIL 1050	Introduction to Philosophy: Self and Reality	3

PHIL 2050	Ethics	3
THEO 1000	Theological Foundations	3
Select one THEO 2000 level course, such as:		3
THEO 2110	Introduction to the Old Testament	
THEO 2210	Introduction to the New Testament	
THEO 2310	History of Christianity: The First 2000 Years	
THEO 2510	Christian Ethics	
THEO 2710	Religions of the World	
Select one course from Visual and Performing Arts, such as:		3
ARTH 1000	Approaching the Arts	
ART 2000	Drawing I	
MUSC 1000	Approaching the Arts: Music	
MUSC 1100	Music Fundamentals	
THR 1000	Approaching the Arts: Theatre	
THR 1500	Introduction to Theatre	
VPA 1000	Intro to the Arts	
VPA 1100	The Arts and Social Change	
<b>Sciences</b>		
BIOL 1010	Essentials of Biology	3
Select one additional course from the Natural Sciences, such as:		3
EAS 1070	Understanding the Weather	
EAS 1080	Introduction to Environmental Science	
PHYS 1010	Physics and the World Around Us	
<b>Mathematics</b>		
MATH 1200	College Algebra	3
<b>Social Sciences</b>		
HIST 1110	Origins of the Modern World to 1500	3
HIST 1120	Origins of the Modern World (1500 to Present)	3
POLS 1000	Introduction to Politics	3
or POLS 1100	Introduction to American Government	
Select two additional courses from the following:		6
CMM 1000	Human Communication and Culture	
CMM 2300	Intergroup Dialogue	
ECON 1900	Principles of Economics	
PSY 1010	General Psychology	
SOC 1100	Introduction to Sociology	
<b>Electives</b>		
Choose one elective from the following (no single course can count for two requirements in this curriculum):		3
ASTD 1000	Intro to American Culture: Movements, Myths, and Methods	
ASTD 2600	American Places	
CMM 1000	Human Communication and Culture	
CMM 2300	Intergroup Dialogue	
CMM 2120	Message Design	
CMM 2400	Media and Society	
ENGL 3050	Creative Writing: Poetry	
ENGL 3060	Creative Writing: Fiction	
ENGL 3280	American Literatures after 1865	
ENGL 3470	Introduction to Shakespeare	
PHIL 3300	Philosophy of the Human Person	
PHIL 3360	Medical Ethics	

PSY 1010	General Psychology	
SOC 1100	Introduction to Sociology	
THEO 2110	Introduction to the Old Testament	
THEO 2210	Introduction to the New Testament	
THEO 2310	History of Christianity: The First 2000 Years	
THEO 2510	Christian Ethics	
THEO 2710	Religions of the World	
THEO 3900	Seeking God: A History	
<b>Capstone</b>		
AS 4960	Capstone	1
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>61</b>

the minimum requirements may be permitted to continue with the permission of the academic program director and by completing an "academic plan for continued enrollment."

- Students may only ask for two leaves of absence during their undergraduate program.

<sup>1</sup> This change anticipates the Ignite Seminar in the new University Core.

## Transfer Credit Policy

- Only college-level transfer courses with a grade of "C" or above will be considered for acceptance and application toward a Saint Louis University degree.
- The cumulative GPA for transfer courses is calculated on all grades from course work of all accredited colleges attended.
- In the case of repeated transfer courses, grades will be calculated according to the policy of the institution from which the two courses were taken.
- Only transfer credits from regionally accredited ([https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/academic-policies-procedures/regional\\_accreditation/](https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/academic-policies-procedures/regional_accreditation/)) institutions will be considered for transfer to Saint Louis University.
- The maximum number of transferable hours is 15 credits or 25% of the curriculum.
- Developmental, secretarial and highly technical courses of an applied nature may not transfer.
- All potential transfer courses will be reviewed by the Saint Louis University registrar, an academic advisor and/or the academic director and director of the prison program.

## Academic Progress Policy and Academic Probation

- A.A. progression requirements are based on academic performance during each individual term in the A.A. program.
- Any student with a term GPA falling below 2.00 will be placed on academic probation for two to three terms. The term GPA in the following term must be above the 2.00 criterion or the student will be discontinued from the program.
- The Academic Program Director for the A.A. program will notify the student within 14 business days of the posting of the final grades, for the term, regarding his or her placement on probation or discontinuation from the A.A. program. Students may be placed on academic probation no more than twice during the program of study. Students who fall into the academic probation range a third time will be dismissed from the program.
- It is the student's responsibility to be aware of the GPA requirements and as such, know that s/he can be placed on probation or be discontinued from the program based on the GPA requirement. The Academic Program Director is available for consultation and assistance in all progression issues.
- Please note that all A.A. courses are sequential and therefore every A.A. course must be passed with a "D" or better to progress into the next term. In unusual circumstances, a student who fails to meet