Degree Change Request
Leeward Community College

Current Degree: Associate in Arts in Teaching
Proposed Degree: Associate in Science in Teaching

Proposed Effective Date: Fall 2019

Justification
The proposed change is the re-designation of the Associate in Arts in Teaching (AAT) degree to an Associate in Science in Teaching (AST) degree. The AAT program is housed in a Liberal Arts Division (Social Science) and therefore classified as a General Pre-Professional program (GPP). The degree actually functions like a Career and Technical Education (CTE) program: students are prepared for employment directly upon graduation as para-educators, a category which includes educational assistants, part-time teachers, and paraprofessional tutors.

The Associate in Science degree is designed to prepare students for employment in career and technical fields, and/or transfer to a baccalaureate granting institution. The AST will consist of 62 semester credits (the minimum for an AS degree is 60) which provides students with skills and competencies for gainful employment as para-educators. Many AAT graduates seek employment as para-educators and complete their baccalaureate degree at universities who offer courses online or afternoon/evenings.

The change in designation will provide more accurate data for the UHCC Annual Report of Program Data (ARPD) where workforce needs will be calculated into the quantitative indicators. The AAT is being evaluated like a General Pre-Professional program, whose sole demand indicator is a 3% annual enrollment growth rate. The rubric for demand states that the Teaching program needs to keep up with the college headcount but does not take into consideration the high demand for para-educators in the HIDOE. The re-designation to an AST degree will provide the program the ability to apply for Carl Perkin's Funds to support initiatives that will positively impact the preparation of future teachers. The mission, vision, program learning outcomes and coursework for the AS in Teaching will remain the same as the AA in Teaching, aligning with the Division goals, College Strategic Plan and the College Mission Statement.

Curriculum
There will be no change in the curriculum from the AAT to the AST degree. The AST degree provides the opportunity for students to jump start their professional teaching career path by offering education courses embedded with field experiences in education which blends theory with practical application. The AST degree is 62 credits, which includes a rigorous core of pre-professional education and general education courses, development and presentation of a teaching portfolio aligned with the Hawai‘i Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) standards demonstrating effective teaching practice. The AST program is designed to be flexible with courses offered statewide via distance learning and in person at the Leeward CC Pearl City and Leeward CC Wai‘anae Moku campuses.
Program Requirements (62 credits):

Education Core (13 credits):
- ED 285 Classroom Management within the Instructional Process (3 cr)
- ED 290 Foundations of Education (3 cr)
- ED 291 Developing Language and Literacy I (3 cr)
- ED 294 Introduction to Multicultural Education (3 cr)
- ED 295 Field Experience in Education (1 cr)

Education Electives (9 credits):
- Select 3 electives from approved list of courses.

General Education Foundations (25 credits):
- Written Communication/FW (3 cr)
- Symbolic Reasoning/FS (3 cr)
- Global Multicultural Perspectives/FG (6 cr)
- Diversification Arts/DA (3 cr)
- Diversification Social Sciences/DS, not from PSY (3 cr)
- Diversification Natural Sciences/DB, DP, and DY (7 cr)

Graduation Requirements (15 credits):
- ENG 200 Composition II (3 cr)
- HWST 107 Hawai‘i: Center of the Pacific (3 cr)
- PSY 100 Survey of Psychology (3 cr)
- PSY 240 Developmental Psychology 3 cr) or
  - FAMR 230 Human Development (3 cr)
- Oral Communication (3 cr)

This degree change will not require any curriculum changes. There are no similar programs within the UH System.

Accreditation
The AAT degree is not professionally accredited, and the AST degree would also not be professionally accredited. Since the AAT and AST do not lead to state licensure, neither program requires consultation with the Hawai‘i Teachers Standards Board. This change will not instigate a substantive change with our regional accreditor, ACCJC.

Impact on Current Students
There will be no impact on enrollment due to the re-designation of the degree. Currently, there are more than 400 students attending Leeward CC who are declared majors and have indicated education as their career goal. Given these sources of students for the AST, it is anticipated that about 100 students will apply to Leeward CC each year with the academic goal of working toward a degree in education. At full capacity, the program would graduate approximately 70 students per year. Of this number, some will seek employment as educational assistants with the DOE (terminal degree) and others will seek employment, as well as, transfer to programs leading to a bachelor's degree in education.
Effectiveness of the program will be assessed externally, by employment statistics of graduates, through student perception and exit surveys administered in the capstone ED 295 (Field Experience in Education) course, and through employer surveys that can track career and employer satisfaction.

The trend of majors in the program is as follows as reported on the ARPD:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Year</th>
<th>Number of Majors</th>
<th>Number of graduates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011-2012</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-2013</td>
<td>387</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-2014</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-2015</td>
<td>369</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-2016</td>
<td>408</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-2017</td>
<td>417</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The AAT program has continuously exceeded projected student enrollment and graduation rates. Student satisfaction surveys are given to all graduating students and follow-up surveys also administered to program alumni to ensure program effectiveness. Continued growth is expected for the AST degree.

Current students have been consulted about the change in the degree designation. Those students consulted did not have a preference for the degree. In addition, there will be no impact on financial aid availability or the ability of students to transfer to a 4-year school, if they so desire.

**Teach-out Plan**
Once approved, all new incoming students applying for fall 2019 would select AST on their applications. We would work with Admissions and Records to identify and move over all existing AAT majors to an AST major designation at one time. Conversion of current AAT to AST is anticipated for Fall 2019. The AAT degree will be terminated by Spring 2020, once all current students have moved over to AST degree.

**Costs**
There are no costs associated with this change. The re-designation of the AAT to an AST will not require additional resources. The program is fully operational with faculty and staff who are housed in the new Education Building on Leeward CC campus. The building provides ample office space and classroom space allowing room for continued growth.

As with the first education courses developed in collaboration with the Hawai`i Department of Education (HIDOE) for the AAT degree, the AST program has been designed to be accessible to students statewide. The program core requirements as well as all electives are delivered in class and via distance education. The UH Community Colleges already have the capacity to provide courses leading to an AA degree via distance education, so a neighbor island student could complete the general education requirements of the AST on a neighbor island community college campus or via distance education.
**Consultation**
All instructional and non-instructional faculty members in the department been consulted on the proposed change, and all are in support of the change.

**Timeline**
The following timeline will be implemented:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2018</td>
<td>Present proposal for approvals.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Request Banner code for new degree.</td>
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<td>Spring 2019</td>
<td>Implement program change in STAR GPS.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Prepare recruitment materials.</td>
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<td>Recruit students into new AST degree.</td>
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<td>Communicate degree change to AAT students.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2019</td>
<td>AST degree becomes effective.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AST degree is published in the Catalog.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Begin contacting AAT students to move them to AST degree or provide them opportunity to complete AAT degree.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring 2021</td>
<td>Terminate AAT degree, once all students have completed and/or moved to the AST degree.</td>
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