Science, A.S.

**Begin Campus:** Altoona  
**End Campus:** Altoona

**Program Description**

The Science major is designed primarily to provide for the basic educational needs of students who want to pursue professional programs in various scientific or medical fields. The program provides a fundamental group of science courses of value to those who seek positions in government or industry where such knowledge is necessary or desirable. The program offers sufficient flexibility to meet diverse academic and career goals.

Graduates of the of the program may qualify for admission to the baccalaureate degrees in science. Students planning on continuing in baccalaureate degrees are encouraged to work closely with their advisers.

**What is Science?**

Science is the study of scientific theory and practice with a strong foundation in the basic sciences (biology, chemistry, mathematics, and physics).

**You Might Like This Program If...**

- You want to pursue a profession in various scientific and medical fields.
- You seek positions in government or industry where such fundamental science knowledge is necessary or desirable.
- You want to pursue a more advanced degree in science

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SCIENCE (http://altoona.psu.edu/academics/associate-degrees/science/)

**Entrance to Major**

Students must have a minimum 2.0 GPA to change to this Associate degree after admission to the University.

**Degree Requirements**

For the Associate in Science degree in Science, a minimum of 67 credits is required:

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15 of the 21 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes 15 credits: 3 credits of GN courses; 3 credits of GQ courses; 3 credits of GWS courses; 3 credits of GH courses; 3 credits of GQ, GWS, GH, or GN courses.

**General Education**

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/associate-degree-general-education-program/) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

**Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)**

- Quantification (GQ): 3 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 3 credits

**Knowledge Domains**

- Arts (GA): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 3 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 3 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 3 credits

**Foundations or Knowledge Domains**

- A General Education course selected from GWS, GQ, GN, GA, GH, or GS, and may include Integrative Studies (Inter-domain or Linked) courses: 3 credits

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

**University Degree Requirements**

**Cultures Requirement**

3 credits of United States (US) or International (IL) cultures coursework are required and may satisfy other requirements

**Writing Across the Curriculum**

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

**Total Minimum Credits**

A minimum of 60 degree credits must be earned for a associate degrees. The requirements for some programs may exceed 60 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

**Quality of Work**

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

**Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition**

Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

**Requirements for the Major**

To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn a grade of C or better in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44).

**Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better**
BIOL 110  Biology: Basic Concepts and Biodiversity 4
CAS 100  Effective Speech 3
CHEM 110  Chemical Principles I 3
CHEM 111  Experimental Chemistry I 1
ENGL 15  Rhetoric and Composition 3
**Additional Courses**
CHEM 112  Chemical Principles II 3
or CHEM 202  Fundamentals of Organic Chemistry I
Select one of the following: 4-6
- MATH 22  College Algebra II and Analytic Geometry
  & MATH 26  and Plane Trigonometry
- MATH 40  Algebra, Trigonometry, and Analytic Geometry
- MATH 140  Calculus With Analytic Geometry I
Select one of the following: 3-4
- STAT 200  Elementary Statistics
- STAT 250  Introduction to Biostatistics
Select one of the following: 3
- PHIL 2  Individuals in Society
- PHIL 103  Ethics
- PHIL 110  Philosophy of Science
- PHIL 118  Environmental Philosophy
- PHIL 221
Select one of the following: 3
- CMPSC 100  Computer Fundamentals and Applications
- CMPSC 101  Introduction to Programming
- MIS 103  Microcomputer Applications in Business
Select one of the following: 6-8
- PHYS 150  Technical Physics I
  & PHYS 151  and Technical Physics II
- PHYS 250  Introductory Physics I
  & PHYS 251  and Introductory Physics II
**Supporting Courses and Related Areas**
Select 20-25 credits from approved departmental list of BIOLOGICAL/MATH/PHYSICAL SCIENCES

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**Career Paths**

**Careers**

Students may pursue careers in health sciences, practical health care professions, and technical service industries.

**Opportunities for Graduate Studies**

Graduates of the program may qualify for admission to baccalaureate degree programs in mathematics and the sciences. Students planning on continuing in baccalaureate degrees are encouraged to work closely with their advisers.

**Contact Altoona**

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https://altoona.psu.edu/academics/associate-degrees/science/