



Programs Of Study

Guided Pathways

Helping Students Succeed

Paris Junior College is at the forefront of a national initiative seeking to help students finish certificates or degrees with fewer excess hours and better preparation for employment or transfer to a four-year institution of higher education.

The Guided Pathways model is based on coherent and easy-to-follow college-level programs of study that are aligned with requirements for success in employment and at the next stage of education. - American Association of Community Colleges (AACC).

In 2017, PJC was one of 30 colleges chosen nationwide by AACC to lead this initiative, which focuses on helping students clarify their goals, so that they can enter an educational pathway designed to help them achieve those goals.

Students first choose one of seven pathways that represents their interests: Arts and Humanities, Business, Industry, Health Careers, Public Services, STEM, or Social and Behavioral Sciences. Then the student chooses a program within that pathway aligning with their goals, interest, and aptitudes. Each program is represented on a Program Map, specifying which courses the student should take and in what order, the marketable skills and outcomes and career opportunities associated with that program, and information regarding transfer to a four-year institution, where appropriate.

PJC's Program Maps are designed to help students stay on track with regard to their coursework and to master knowledge and skills that will equip them to enter the labor market successfully or to pursue further education with seamless transfer of credits.

Academic Studies

Academic Studies includes communications, fine arts, social sciences, natural sciences and mathematics, kinesiology (physical education), as well as learning skills and teacher education along with library support services for all areas of the College.

Objectives of Academic Studies include: fostering an appreciation of the creative process; the ability to think critically and to communicate effectively; a desire for lifelong learning; and a strong identification with truth and reason.

Courses offered in Academic Studies are designed primarily for transfer. Many courses such as art, music, language, humanities, theatre, and a variety of studio classes serve a dual purpose. They are available for students planning to transfer to a university, and are also available to community members wishing to broaden their educational experience and enrich their lives.

Students selecting majors within Academic Studies should consult with a Student Success Coach. During the visit with their Student Success Coach, students will develop a degree plan for their major that sets forth the classes required in the core curriculum as well as suggested specialization courses in their major field of interest. By visiting with their Student Success

Coach on a regular basis, students may make sure they are taking courses that apply not only toward a Paris Junior College awarded Associate of Arts (AA) or Associate of Science (AS) degree, but also transfer and apply to their intended baccalaureate degree.

Because most students taking Academic Studies courses plan to transfer to a university, a goal of the College is to assure the transferability of its courses; however, because of the diversity of the population served by the College, students planning to transfer courses to a university or four-year college should take the responsibility of discussing their plans with a counselor from their university-of-choice as well as a Student Success Coach on campus.

Academic Studies also provides general education courses for students pursuing technical or workforce training and degrees.

Students planning to continue their education toward a baccalaureate or advanced degree may complete core curriculum courses providing a sound background in the arts and sciences. The 42 hours of core curriculum courses are guaranteed to transfer and replace the first two year core requirements at all state-supported colleges and universities in Texas.

Associate's Degree Core Curriculum (42 credit hours)

Paris Junior College adheres to various policies that are designed to make transfer easy, such as a state-honored block core curriculum, a statewide Guarantee for Transfer program, and participation in the Texas Common Course Numbering System.

The Texas Education Code, as a result of Senate Bill 148, requires all public colleges and universities to have a core curriculum. Core curriculum is defined as “the curriculum in the liberal arts, humanities, sciences, and political, social, and cultural history that all undergraduate students of a particular Texas institution of higher education are required to complete before receiving an associate or bachelor’s degree.”

Every public institution in Texas has a Core, which is designed to provide a solid foundation for your college education and to make transfers between and among Texas institutions of higher education as smooth and seamless as possible.

The purpose of the Texas Core Curriculum states, “Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.”

Core objectives include the following:

- » Critical Thinking Skills
- » Communication Skills
- » Empirical and Quantitative Skills
- » Teamwork
- » Personal Responsibility
- » Social Responsibility

The core curriculum is predicated on a series of basic intellectual competencies – reading,

writing, speaking, listening, critical thinking, and computer literacy – that are essential to the learning process in any discipline. Foundation competencies include teamwork, communications, quantitative reasoning, critical thinking, and social and personal responsibility. Although students can be expected to come to college with some experience in exercising these competencies, they often need further instruction and practice to meet college standards and, later, to succeed in both their major field of academic study and their chosen career or profession.

PJC will designate core curriculum courses completed by a student on the official PJC transcript. If a student satisfies all component areas, the message “Core Curriculum Completed” will appear on the transcript.

Students should visit with a Student Success Coach and follow the appropriate Program Map to ensure that they take the correct courses for their Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree program at PJC in addition to the major for their chosen transfer college or university.

Students must complete a minimum of 60 credit hours in a program of study with a cumulative (overall) grade point average of 2.0 or better in order to graduate with an associate degree in the state of Texas.

PJC’s common core curriculum courses of 42 credit hours are detailed below, along with additional graduation requirements and elective hours as follows. However, the entire core curriculum is embedded within each Program Map associated with an academic transfer degree, so students should consult their chosen Program Map to determine which courses to take.

COMMUNICATION (2 courses) 6 Credit Hours

- ENGL 1301 Composition I
- ENGL 1302 Composition II

MATHEMATICS (1 course). 3 Credit Hours

Recommended for STEM majors:

- MATH 1314 College Algebra
- MATH 2312 Pre-Calculus Math

Recommended for Non-STEM majors:

- MATH 1324 Mathematics for Business & Social Sciences
- MATH 1332 Contemporary Mathematics I
- MATH 1342 Elementary Statistical Methods

LIFE AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES (2 courses) 6 Credit Hours*

* Lab hours will count toward hours required in “Additional Core Curriculum Requirements, Part I.”

Recommended for STEM majors:

- BIOL 1406 Biology for Science Majors I
- BIOL 1407 Biology for Science Majors II
- BIOL 2401 Anatomy & Physiology I
- BIOL 2402 Anatomy & Physiology II
- CHEM 1411 General Chemistry I
- CHEM 1412 General Chemistry II
- GEOL 1403 Physical Geology
- GEOL 1404 Historical Geology

PHYS 1401	College Physics I
PHYS 1402	College Physics II

Recommended for Non-STEM majors:

BIOL 1408	Biology for Non-Science Majors I
BIOL 1409	Biology for Non-Science Majors II
BIOL 1322	Nutrition & Diet Therapy
BIOL 2306	Environmental Biology
PHYS 1303	Stars and Galaxies
PHYS 1304	Solar System

Recommended for Allied Health Majors:

BIOL 1322	Nutrition & Diet Therapy
BIOL 2401	Anatomy & Physiology I
BIOL 2402	Anatomy & Physiology II

LANGUAGE, PHILOSOPHY and CULTURE (1 course) 3 Credit Hours

COMM 1307	Introduction to Mass Communications
ENGL 2322	British Literature I
ENGL 2323	British Literature II
ENGL 2327	American Literature I
ENGL 2328	American Literature II
HIST 2311	Western Civilization I
HIST 2312	Western Civilization II
SPAN 2311	Intermediate Spanish I
SPAN 2312	Intermediate Spanish II

CREATIVE ARTS (1 course) 3 Credit Hours

ARTS 1301	Art Appreciation
DRAM 1310	Introduction to Theater
MUSI 1306	Music Appreciation

AMERICAN HISTORY (2 courses) 6 Credit Hours

HIST 1301	United States History I
HIST 1302	United States History II
HIST 2301	Texas History

GOVERNMENT / POLITICAL SCIENCE (2 courses) 6 Credit Hours

GOVT 2305	Federal Government
GOVT 2306	Texas Government

SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES (1 course) 3 Credit Hours

ECON 2301	Principles of Macroeconomics
ECON 2302	Principles of Microeconomics
PSYC 2301	General Psychology
PSYC 2314	Lifespan Growth and Development
PSYC 2315	Psychology of Adjustment
SOCI 1301	Introductory Sociology
SOCI 1306	Social Problems

ADDITIONAL CORE CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS, Part 1: Take 3-6 Credit Hours from Part 1.

Note: Lab hours associated with courses taken to fulfill the Life and Physical Sciences core curriculum component (see previous list) will be counted toward the additional 3-6 credit hours required here under Part I.

Communication:

SPCH 1315 Public Speaking

SPCH 1321 Business and Professional Communications

Mathematics:

MATH 1314 College Algebra

MATH 1324 Mathematics for Business & Social Sciences

MATH 1332 Contemporary Mathematics I

MATH 1342 Elementary Statistical Mathematics

MATH 2312 Pre-Calculus Math

MATH 2413 Calculus I

Life and Physical Sciences:

BIOL 1322 Nutrition & Diet Therapy

BIOL 1408 Biology for Non-Science Majors

BIOL 1409 Biology for Non-Science Majors II

BIOL 2306 Environmental Biology

BIOL 2401 Anatomy & Physiology I

BIOL 2402 Anatomy & Physiology II

PHYS 1303 Stars and Galaxies

PHYS 1304 Solar System

ADDITIONAL CORE CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS, Part 2: 0-3 Credit Hours from Part 2.

Language, Philosophy and Culture:

COMM 1307 Introduction to Mass Communications

ENGL 2322 British Literature I

ENGL 2323 British Literature II

ENGL 2327 American Literature I

ENGL 2328 American Literature II

HIST 2311 Western Civilization I

HIST 2312 Western Civilization II

SPAN 2311 Intermediate Spanish I

SPAN 2312 Intermediate Spanish II

Social and Behavioral Sciences:

ECON 2301 Principles of Macroeconomics

ECON 2302 Principles of Microeconomics

PSYC 2301 General Psychology

PSYC 2314 Lifespan Growth and Development

PSYC 2315 Psychology of Adjustment

SOCI 1301 Introductory Sociology

SOCI 1306 Social Problems

42 Total Credit Hours

Additional Requirements for Associate of Science or Associate of Arts

Associate of Science	Associate of Arts
Computer (3 Credit Hours) Additional courses as specified on the student's Program Map (12 Credit Hours) PSYC/EDUC 1300** (3 Credit Hours)	Computer (3 Credit Hours) Language, Philosophy & Culture, as specified on the student's Program Map (6 Credit Hours) Foreign Language, as specified on the student's Program Map (6 Credit Hours) PSYC/EDUC 1300 (3 Credit Hours)

Minimum Credit Semester Hours Required for Graduation for AA or AS: 60 credit hours.

Fields of Study

Mandated in Senate Bill 148, the Fields of Study curricula are intended to facilitate the transferability of lower-division courses among Texas public colleges and universities. Field of Study courses are defined by SB 148 as, "a set of courses that will satisfy the lower-division requirements for a bachelor's degree in a specific academic major at a general academic teaching institution." Receiving institutions may not require incoming transfer students to repeat courses with the same content as Field of Study courses. PJC offers Fields of Study curricula for Business, Communication, Computer Science, Criminal Justice, Early Childhood Education, Engineering, Music and Nursing. Refer to the appropriate Program Map for guidance in course selection.

Guarantee For Transfer Credit

PJC guarantees to its students who have met the requirements for its Associate of Arts/Associate of Science degree and students who have met the 60 credit-hour transfer plan transferability of those course credits to the Texas colleges and/or universities that participate in the Guarantee for Transfer Credit program.

Common Course Numbering

To help meet the transfer needs of its students, PJC is a member of the Texas Common Course Numbering System Consortium. All Texas community/junior colleges and many Texas universities also use this numbering system. The Texas Common Course Numbering System provides a shared, uniform set of course designations for students and their advisors to use in determining both course equivalency and degree applicability of transfer credit on a statewide basis. Students should not assume that only courses with common course numbers will transfer and should see a PJC academic advisor for assistance.

Workforce Education Programs

The Associate of Applied Science degree (AAS) is awarded upon completion of a prescribed program of study designed to prepare students to enter and compete in the job market. AAS curricula are designed to enable the graduate to enter an occupation with marketable skills, an acceptable level of technical competency, and the ability to communicate effectively.

The AAS degree is awarded to students who meet the specific degree requirements along with the graduation requirements listed under the Academic Policies section. The total number of hours required to graduate with an AAS degree is 60 hours. A minimum of 25 percent must be completed at PJC.

Each workforce education program uses advisory committees for program development, evaluation, long-range planning, development of employment opportunities for graduates, and other program issues. These committees provide an essential link between the education institution and the business community to ensure that graduates are adequately prepared for employment. Members of the advisory committees are selected from related industry, prospective employers, and other knowledgeable community representatives.

Within each AAS program are suggested time lines for completion of degrees and certificates.

Associate of Applied Science Degree Core Curriculum 15-16 credit hours

COMMUNICATION / HUMANITIES / FINE ARTS (2 Courses)

Communication (1 Course):

ENGL 1301	Composition I
SPCH 1315	Public Speaking
SPCH 1321	Business and Professional Communication

Humanities / Fine Arts (1 Course)

ARTS 1301	Art Appreciation
COMM 1307	Introduction to Mass Communications
DRAM 1310	Introduction to Theater
HIST 2311	Western Civilization I
MUSI 1306	Music Appreciation

SOCIAL / BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE (1 Course)

ECON 2301	Principles of Macroeconomics
ECON 2302	Principles of Microeconomics
GOVT 2305	Federal Government
GOVT 2306	Texas Government
HIST 1301	United States History I
HIST 1302	United States History II
HIST 2301	Texas History
PSYC 2301	General Psychology
PSYC 2314	Lifespan Growth and Development
PSYC 2315	Psychology of Adjustment
SOCI 1301	Introductory Sociology

NATURAL SCIENCE & MATH (1 Course)

BIOL 1322	Nutrition & Diet Therapy
BIOL 2401	Anatomy and Physiology I
BIOL 2402	Anatomy and Physiology II
BIOL 2420	Microbiology for Non-Science Majors
MATH 1314	College Algebra
MATH 1316	Plane Trigonometry

MATH 1324	Mathematics for Business & Social Sciences
MATH 1325	Calculus for Business & Social Sciences
MATH 1332	Contemporary Mathematics I
MATH 1342	Elementary Statistical Methods
MATH 2312	Pre-Calculus Math

ELECTIVE (1 Course)

One additional course needs to be selected from any of the above categories.

INSTITUTIONALLY DESIGNATED OPTION (3 Credit Hours)

PSYC (Psychology) 1300 or EDUC (Education) 1300 Learning Framework

NOTE: The second digit in a course number indicates the number of credit hours for that course.

Students should see individual program areas for specific degree requirements.

Each degree program must also contain math, computer, and communication competencies. These should be built into every program to the extent that they are applicable and relevant. If a program area elects math, computer science, or communication courses as general education requirements, the courses must be academic transfer courses of collegiate level and of a general nature, not geared to a specific occupation – e.g., welders, electricians, or secretaries.

Certificate Programs

PJC offers certificate programs designed to meet specific employment needs of the community. Students who enroll in certificate programs are generally interested in re-entering the job market after an absence, changing careers, or upgrading job-related skills in order to enhance employment specialization. Although certifications are normally one year in length, the specific number of credit hours varies by program area.

Graduation

To graduate from Paris Junior College with an Associate Degree, students must:

- » Complete a Request for Graduation form available online. It is the responsibility of the student to know the application deadline as published in the College Calendar and Student Handbook.
- » Present the completed graduation form to the Office of Admissions & Records .
- » Meet the specific requirements for one of the degrees as described.
- » Have a grade point average of “C” or 2.00 in all work completed, excluding developmental courses.
- » Complete 25% of coursework towards the degree at Paris Junior College.
- » Be enrolled during the calendar and/or academic year during which the degree is to be awarded.
- » Complete all financial obligations to Paris Junior College.
- » Successfully complete all sections of the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) or be exempt from the TSI requirement.
- » Submit course substitutions to the appropriate Vice President’s office.

Note: Academic rules and requirements are subject to change at the end of any semester and/or summer session. Individual academic divisions may prescribe additional standards of performance.

Within five years of initial enrollment a student may graduate according to the catalog requirements in effect at the time of first enrollment or any subsequent catalog provided the requisite courses are still being offered and mandates of regulating agencies are satisfied.

If a student fails within five years to complete all requirements of the catalog in effect at the time of initial enrollment, then the student will be required to graduate under the current catalog.

Graduation with Honors

To be considered for graduation with honors, a student must be seeking an associate degree and have completed at least 30 semester credit hours in residence at Paris Junior College. All coursework attempted (including transfer courses) are considered for high/highest honors.

- » Honors – overall cumulative grade point average 3.50 – 3.89
- » High Honors – overall cumulative grade point average 3.90 – 3.99
- » Highest Honors – overall cumulative grade point average – 4.00

Accounting / Business Administration

The Accounting/Business Administration program is designed to prepare students for transfer to a four-year university as a business major and adheres to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's Field of Study Curriculum for Business. The program will provide students with a background in basic academic areas such as mathematics and the sciences, as well as introductory work in the business areas of accounting, economics and business computer applications. Graduates from the program will have earned an Associate of Science degree and will be ready for junior and senior level work in such business areas as accounting, finance, management, and marketing.

Suggested Course of Study for University Transfer Students (60 Semester Credit Hours)

First Semester - 15 SCH	Second Semester - 15 SCH
ECON 2301 EDUC/PSYC 1300 ENGL 1301 HIST 1301 MATH 1324	ACCT 2301 ECON 2302 ENGL 1302 HIST 1302 MATH 1325
Third Semester - 15 SCH	Fourth Semester - 15 SCH
ACCT 2302 BIOL 1322 GOVT 2305 MUSI 1306 SPCH 1321	BCIS 1305 BIOL 2306 BUSI 2301 COMM 1307 GOVT 2306