

Technical Studies, CAS

Academic Year 2026-2027

Program Description:

The Certificate of Applied Science is a 30-credit hour state modeled degree developed that provides a stackable credential for students in approved training/educational programs. This degree enhances student's hard skill education by offering collegiate level general educational courses. The goal of this degree is to not only recognize the completion of an intermediate step towards earning an Associate degree, but to also to encourage students to embrace life-long learning.

The degree is designed to:

- provide for cooperatively sponsored educational opportunities that via a stackable credential that can lead to an associate degree for employees/students participating in quality education and training programs sponsored by business, industry, labor, government or other educational agencies;
- provide a timely and efficient mechanism for community and technical colleges to deliver educational programs in a variety of occupational fields to employers;
- increase abilities of employees to communicate information effectively;
- develop employee's abilities to solve problems and productive teamwork;
- assist those employed in the workforce to understand that education is a life-long process.

Program Focus:

Business, industry, labor, currently enrolled students, and government organizations interested in furthering the education and training of their employees/members constitute the target audience of this degree program. Provide a program of study designed to enhance and maintain employee knowledge and skills, it is expected that such individuals will enjoy greater job security and job flexibility while providing employers with more highly skilled and educated workforce. For those just entering the job market, the program of study will include the education and training needed to assure basic entry level skills for the specific technical/occupational field.

Program Admission Requirements:

The college adheres to an open admission policy which means applicants with a high school diploma or a GED are eligible for admission. Applicants with neither a high school diploma nor a GED may be admitted on a conditional basis.

Contact Information:

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Mountwest empowers students to learn and lead in the community and in the workforce

Technical Studies CAS—Major Code CT10

Name:	ID Number 942-
Educational Counselor:	
Faculty Advisor:	

COURSE	REQUIREMENTS	SEM	HRS	GR	SUBSTITUTE/REPEAT CRS	SEM	CR
COMPONENT I – General Education							
ENL or COM	Communication Skills Appropriate to the Occupational Area		3				
MAT 135	Quantitative Skills		3				
	Optional <i>Additional</i> General Education Elective		0-5				
	Total Component Credit Hours		6-11				
COMPONENT II – Technical/Occupational Specialty							

This component consists of technical specialty courses specific to an occupational area. Technical courses developed by the college, approved courses included in a business, industry, labor, or agency-based education/training program, or combinations of credit courses and/or non-credit training modules evaluated for credit equivalency by an identified college body can be included in this component. Externally based education and training programs which are equivalent to college level classroom/laboratory courses are to be converted to college credit hours at no less ratio than 15:1 contact to credit hours for lecture, and at a rate consistent with the lab contact hour/credit hour ratio of the degree granting institution for laboratory credit. Credit equivalencies for non-credit training modules will be converted at no less ratio than 30:1 completion of the college work required in Component I, above.

Maximum of 24 credit hours (or equivalent)	Max 24						
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COMPONENT III – Supervised Worksite-Based Learning (OPTIONAL)

Credit for worksite-based training is optional in the Certificate in Applied Science in Technical Studies program. When incorporated, such training consists of a paid or unpaid internship, practicum, or on-the-job training (OJT) experience performed in a business, industry, labor, or agency setting in the occupational area related to the certificate. The credit value of internships Included in the CP in Technical Studies will be determined by the same process and contact to credit hour ratio as that in traditional programs. Business, industry, and agency-based on-the-job training experience is to be converted to credit hours at a ratio of 160:1, with a maximum of 960 contact hours allowable. A statement of the total number of contact hours experienced in this component may be placed on the college record. This credit may be recorded immediately prior to graduation from the college.

Hours Required for Graduation: 30
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