Start Right Courses
Health Information Technology (Pending)

Meta Major: Health Sciences
Valencia Degree: Associate in Arts, General Studies
In Preparation for application to: Associate in Science, Health Information Technology

Start Right
This guide outlines coursework to be chosen within the first 18 credits for students who are enrolled in Associate in Arts and plan to apply for admission to the A.S. Health Information Technology program.

Health Information Technology
The Associate in Science, Health Information Technology program is designed to prepare students for employment in a variety of healthcare settings. Although medical records and health information technologists do not provide direct patient care, they work regularly with physicians and other healthcare professionals. Health information technologists organize and manage health information data by ensuring its quality, accuracy, accessibility, and security in both paper and electronic systems. They use various classification systems to code and categorize patient information for reimbursement purposes, for databases and registries, and to maintain patients’ medical and treatment histories. Health information technologists can specialize in many aspects of health information.

Some careers in Health IT are: Technical and IT security specialist, project manager, corporate health information director, application and implementation specialist, systems analyst, data analyst, systems architect, interface expert, and data quality manager. Most work as medical coders, sometimes called coding specialists, or as cancer registrars. Some of the major employment sectors for health information technology professionals are hospitals, clinics, schools, consulting firms, insurance companies, healthcare associations, pharmaceutical companies, and public healthcare organizations. Other primary employment sectors are nursing homes, doctors’ offices, rehabilitation centers, government agencies, and bio-tech companies.

For more information on the Health Information Technology program, Health Sciences Advising recommends attending a Health Sciences Information Session. Dates and Times of Health Science Information Session can be found at: www.valenciacollege.edu/west/health/InfoSession.cfm

Start Right Courses
Choose from these courses for your first 18 credit hours at Valencia College (your first 2-3 terms).

ENC 1101 | FRESHMAN COMPOSITION I | 3 credits
HSC 1004*** | PROFESSIONS OF CARING | 3 credits
Or
SLS 1122 | NEW STUDENT EXPERIENCE | 3 credits
BSC 1010C* | GENERAL BIOLOGY I | 4 credits
MAC 1105** | COLLEGE ALGEBRA | 3 credits
HSC 1531 | MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY | 3 credits
CGS 1060C | INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS | 3 credits
Or
CGS 2100C | COMPUTER FUNDAMENTALS AND APPLICATIONS | 3 credits
PHI 2600* | ETHICS AND CRITICAL THINKING | 3 credits

Select one:
ARH 1000 | THE VISUAL ARTS TODAY | 3 credits
HUM 1020 | INTRODUCTION TO HUMANITIES | 3 credits
MUL 1010** | MUSIC APPRECIATION | 3 credits
PHI 2010 | PHILOSOPHY | 3 credits
THE 1000 | INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE | 3 credits
LIT 1000 | INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE | 3 credits
Start Right Courses

- Students with limited science background should speak to an advisor about preparation for this course.
- **Course requires a pre-requisite.**
- ***Please see advisor prior to registering for course.***

For detailed course planning guide, go to:
http://valenciacollege.edu/west/health/documents/HealthInformationTechCoursePlanningGuide.pdf

How many courses should I take?

Enrollment is based on credit hours, not the total number of classes you take.
- **Full-Time:** 12 or more credit hours is a full-time course load.
  A typical first semester of classes will be 4 courses for full-time students.
- **Part-Time:** 11 or fewer credit hours is considered a part-time course load.
  A typical first semester of classes will be 2 courses for part-time students.

How should I choose my class schedule?

- If you are required to take developmental courses, you must enroll in them first.
- **Take one course per subject per term**
  Valencia recommends students take only one course per subject per term, especially if the courses are “Gordon Rule” (writing intensive). This will help students maintain a balanced class schedule.
- **Complete a course sequence without interruption**
  Valencia also recommends that once students begin a course sequence, they complete it without interruption. Course sequences are cumulative and each new course will build upon the material learned in the previous course. Thus, you may not want to take breaks in between classes in subjects like math, science, or writing (to name a few).
- **Plan to study two hours for every hour you are in class**
  The decision about the best course load for you in any given term should be based on the amount of time you have available to complete your academic work. As a general rule, you should plan to allow for at least two hours of study outside of class for every one hour you are in class. Following this rule, you would need to plan for 24 hours a week outside of class for the semesters in which you take 12 credit hours for a total of 36 hours per week devoted to college.

How do I know which classes to take for my degree?

- See all the courses required for your degree in My Education Plan in Atlas
- Develop a term-by-term plan to complete your degree with My Education Plan in Atlas, https://atlas.valenciacollege.edu/

Full Degree Requirements

Valencia Catalog (Your year of entry 2018-19) valenciacollege.edu/catalog
Program Guide and Admissions Updates valenciacollege.edu/west/health/

Advising

Look in Atlas (“Courses” tab, “Academic Profile”) for your assigned advisor. Your advisor can help you stay on the right pathway toward your degree. Contact your Transfer Program Advisor at least once a term. Advising Centers on each Campus: East Bldg. 5, Room 210 Osceola Bldg. 2, Room 140 Lake Nona Bldg.1, Room 149 West SSB, Room 110 Winter Park Bldg. 1, Room 210 Poinciana Bldg. 1, Room 101.