

Applied Business Experiential Learning/Portfolio Option

Why should I major in this program?

This unique program allows you to earn up to 30 hours of college credit for learning from business/industry training and work experience, and is designed especially for students who have already demonstrated proficiency in the workplace. This program is for people who are looking for career enhancement, a change of career and/or personal achievement by earning an associate degree. In addition to the 30 hours of credit which may be awarded for job learning, students must take 9 credit hours of general education courses and 22 credit hours of electives. An individualized program of study will be designed to focus on areas of interest to you and to broaden your opportunities.



What type of degree will I earn at Iowa Western if I enroll in this program?

Graduates of this two-year program earn an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree.

If I major in this program, can I transfer to a four-year college or university?

The intent of this degree is to broaden the student's opportunities for promotion, career enhancement and personal achievement. While this degree may be recognized by four-year colleges, it is not the intent of Iowa Western to imply transferability. However, transfer agreements are in place for this program.

What is the job outlook for graduates in this program and what type of jobs will I be qualified for?

With your AAS degree, you'll be able to increase the opportunities available to you with your current employer and elsewhere. Every individual who enrolls in the program will have a different situation, so employment options and salaries will vary.

Program of Study

The Applied Business Experiential Learning/Portfolio Option program of study is designed for the individual who has reached supervisory, journey person, paraprofessional or equivalent proficiency in his/her trade or occupation and desires an associate's degree for career enhancement, career change and/or personal achievement. Prior learning from apprenticeships, on-the-job training, non-collegiate coursework, or work experience is evaluated and translated into college credit awarded for experiential learning. An individualized program of study will be designed to augment experiential learning with college courses. The intent of this degree is to broaden the student's opportunities for promotion, career enhancement or personal achievement. While this degree may be recognized by four-year colleges, it is not the intent of Iowa Western Community College to imply transferability. Graduates of this program are awarded an Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree.

* Students must complete the curriculum described below:

REQUIRED COURSES

	Cr.
MGT 900 Documentation and Evaluation of Experiential Learning	3
A.A.S. Communications Requirement (ENG 105, 110 or 111)	3
A.A.S. Mathematics Requirement (MAT 110 or above)	3
Social Science/Humanities Elective	3
*General Electives	22-51
**Experiential Learning	1-30

64

* A minimum of 22 credit hours of general elective classes designed to strengthen and improve occupational skills are required for this degree. The general electives, which will be part of an approved Program of Study, will allow the student to individualize their program to meet specific career goals and needs. A computer science course is strongly recommended if student skills in this area are weak or occupational qualifications would be strengthened by enhanced computer proficiency.

** A minimum of 1 credit hour of Experiential Learning is required for this degree; a maximum of 30 credit hours of Experiential Learning can be earned. Experienced employees, paraprofessionals and certified journey persons who demonstrate a level of skill through the portfolio will be eligible to receive from 1 to 30 credit hours for documented training and work-based learning. Credits will be awarded for experiential learning as determined from evaluation of the professional portfolio. The experiential learning credits may be awarded in the career clusters of marketing, agriculture, business, consumer and family science, industrial technology, or health occupations and will apply only to the Applied Business degree program.

At least the last 20 credit hours must be earned at Iowa Western Community College, not including those awarded from evaluation of the portfolio.

64 semester hours required

**For More Information,
contact the Admissions Office:
712.325.3277 or 800.432.5852, ext. 3277
or the Program Chair at 712.388.6818
www.iwcc.edu**