

BOARD OF REGENTS
BRIEFING PAPER
Articulation and Transfer Policy Revisions

BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

During the State of the System Address in November 2005, Chancellor James E. Rogers asserted his commitment to ensuring seamless transfer of students among NSHE institutions through a strong articulation policy and effective procedures and protocols for executing such policy. Since that time, the Department of Academic and Student Affairs audited each NSHE institution to ensure compliance with the Board's policy and to ensure that the appropriate transfer agreements are in place among the institutions. (The final report on outcome of that audit will be presented to the Board at its October 2006 meeting.)

Since that time, the Articulation Board Committee established a subcommittee charged with reviewing and recommending appropriate revisions to the Board's articulation and transfer policies (*Title 4, Chapter 14, Sections 13-18*). The intent was to align the policy with current practice and update the policy as necessary. The recommendations of the subcommittee were ultimately sent to the System Office for additional review and revision. The Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs and her staff met with the Articulation Board Committee in April and June 2006 to further revise the policy to its current version.

SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RE

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

TITLE 4, CHAPTER 14, SECTIONS 13-18

Additions in *boldface italics*; deletions ~~stricken~~

Section 13. NSHE Transfer and Admissions

Transfer students to the state college and universities may be admitted under the following alternatives:

1. Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, and Associate of Business Degree Graduates

The primary basis for admission to upper-division study with full junior status of transfer students from ~~the~~ *an NSHE* community colleges to ~~the state college or the universities in Nevada~~ *any other NSHE institution* shall be the associate of arts, associate of science, and the associate of business degrees.

- a. The completion of the associate of arts, associate of science, and associate of business degree at a community college automatically fulfills the lower-division general education requirements at any other NSHE institution.*
- ~~a.b.~~ Associate of arts, associate of science, and associate of business graduates will have completed a minimum of 60 credits of baccalaureate level courses.
- c. Baccalaureate students who have completed NSHE associate of arts, associate of science, or associate of business degree shall complete a minimum number of credits at the accepting NSHE institution. This minimum number shall be set by the baccalaureate degree granting institution.*
- ~~b.d.~~ Baccalaureate level courses included as part of the associate of arts, associate of science, or associate of business degree will transfer to ~~the state college or the universities~~ *any other NSHE institution* at a minimum as general elective credit.
- ~~e.~~ ~~Application of credits toward major or college requirements is the responsibility of the college and department in which the student is seeking a degree. Validation of course content may be required when lower-division courses are used to satisfy upper-division curricular requirements. (B/R 8/03)~~
- ~~d.e.~~ Completion of the associate of arts, associate of science, or the associate of business degree does not ~~certify~~ *guarantee* satisfaction of all state college or university lower-division requirements except for the lower-division general education requirements. ~~Major-to-major or two-plus-two agreements should be in place between university and state college majors and the community colleges. They may be incorporated into academic majors within associate degrees. Other~~

majors within associate degrees may be developed by the community colleges

3. Associate of Applied Science and Bachelor of Applied Science Degrees

a. The Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) degree is a four-year occupationally specific degree that is ~~responsive~~ **intended to respond** to the needs of the workforce. ~~The BAS degree builds upon the associate of applied science (AAS) degree in those areas where a technical four year degree is appropriate to meet expanding workforce requirements. A student with an associate of applied science in a program approved by the Board of Regents seeking a Bachelor of Applied Science degree is guaranteed junior status upon transfer to another applicable NSHE institution.~~

b. ~~The degree is workforce driven and designed in consultation with employers to ensure that the BAS incorporates the specific skills and knowledge required in the workplace.~~

c. ~~The upper level component of the BAS will include general education credits in addition to the workforce specific courses of study. Because this degree is distinct from the Bachelor of Arts (BA) and the Bachelor of Science (BS), the general education requirements are not expected to mirror those required of the BA or BS.~~

d. ~~Specific programs leading to the BAS degree may differ in emphases reflecting the particulars of the workforce component of the program. The creation of each emphasis within a BAS degree requires approval of the Board of Regents.~~

(B/R 6/00)

4. Non-Associate Degree Admissions

a. ~~Approved baccalaureate level credits which have been completed,~~ **courses** shall be transferable to ~~the state college and universities~~ **another NSHE institution** at a minimum as general elective credit.

b. Community college students should be strongly encouraged to complete their lower-division programs **and an associate degree** before transfer, but qualified students may apply for transfer at their own discretion.

c. An applicant who does not satisfy university admission requirements upon graduation from high school must complete the equivalent of 24 semester credits in baccalaureate level courses with an overall grade point average of at least 2.30 at a community college or other accredited institution to qualify for university admission. Effective Fall 2008, the minimum required overall grade point average is 2.50.

d. An applicant who does not satisfy state college admission requirements upon graduation from high school must complete the equivalent of 12 semester credits in baccalaureate level courses with an overall grade point average of at least 2.00 at a community college or other accredited institution to qualify for state college admission.

5. *A system-wide course numbering rubric for all institutions shall be maintained so that baccalaureate transfer courses are clearly identified for student reference prior to registration under the following general course numbering parameters:*

- a. Remedial/developmental courses* *001-099*
- b. Lower-division courses* *100-299*
- c. Upper-division courses* *300-499*
- d. State college graduate courses*

~~6.4. The admissions officer at each~~ **Each** institution shall determine the acceptability of general elective transfer credits, and departmental, college, or other requirements or equivalents shall be forwarded to the appropriate department or college for course evaluation. ~~Written justification will be supplied in cases where transfer is not allowed.~~ If general elective credit is granted by one institution, then all institutions shall accept the credit. Appropriate consultation with the faculty is encouraged throughout the evaluation process.

~~7. For graduation requirements, at least half of the number of credits required for a baccalaureate degree at the institution must be earned at a four-year institution, except in cases where transfer agreements for specific degrees have been made between institutions.~~

~~8. All academic majors at the universities and at the state college will have updated major~~

Section 16. System Core Requirements

1. Associate of arts, associate of science, associate of business, and baccalaureate graduates ~~will have completed~~ **must complete** a program of System Core requirements **defined as follows:** not to exceed 15 credits. ~~Satisfactory completion of System requirements will be recognized by all institutions whether or not an associate degree has been awarded.~~

~~Nevada System of Higher Education
Core Course Requirements for the Associate of Arts
Associate of Science, Associate of Business
or Baccalaureate Degree~~

<u>Core Courses</u>	<u>Credits</u>	
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Legislative Requirements:

U. S. and Nevada Constitutions	1-4 cr.	Refer to community college, state college, or university catalog for specific courses which satisfy this requirement. (B/R 6/83)
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~~2.~~ **3.** Students earning a second associate of arts, associate of science, associate of business, or baccalaureate degree *from an NSHE institution* are not required to repeat the Nevada System of Higher Education Core of fifteen credits *System Core*. (B/R 6/98)

Evidence of completion of the legislative requirements of U.S. and Nevada Constitutions is required of all second-degree students *whose first degree is not from an NSHE institution*. (B/R 8/88)

~~3.~~ **4.** The universities, state college, and community colleges *NSHE institutions* are encouraged to exchange ideas in the development and improvement of NSHE requirements; however, each institution *has the continuing responsibility is responsible* for determining the character of its own program. (B/R 12/02)

5. *NSHE community colleges must articulate their respective general education core requirements with at least one of the NSHE universities selected by the community college.*

Section 17. ~~University General Education Core Requirements~~ *Section Deleted.*

~~1.~~ NSHE community colleges agree to articulate their respective general education core requirements with one of the NSHE universities selected by the community college.

~~2.~~ The completion of the associate of arts, associate of science, and associate of business degrees at a NSHE community college automatically fulfills the lower division general education requirements at the universities and the state college. (B/R 12/04)

Section 18. ~~Course Numbering~~ *Section Deleted*

~~A system wide course numbering rubric for all institutions shall be maintained so that baccalaureate transfer courses are clearly identified for student reference prior to registration. The following numbering system shall be in effect until amended by the Board of Regents:~~

~~a.~~ Community college courses ~~100B-299B~~

~~b.~~ Community college community service courses ~~100C-299C~~

~~c.~~ Community college developmental courses ~~001-099~~

~~d. University and state college lower division courses and (B/R 12/02) 100-299
equivalent community college courses~~

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~~e. University and state college upper division courses (B/R 12/02) 300-499~~

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~~f. State college graduate courses (B/R 12/02) 500-699~~

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~~g. University graduate courses 500-799~~