

**Articulation Agreement
between
Angelo State University
and
Howard College**

This Articulation Agreement is made and entered by and between Howard College hereinafter called "HC" and Angelo State University, an institution of higher education of the State of Texas and a member of the Texas Tech University system, hereinafter called "ASU".

Whereas ASU is dedicated to service the educational needs of the citizens of the state of Texas as a part of its mission statement, and

Whereas HC is dedicated to fulfilling its mandate to serve the educational needs of the citizens of its service area, and

Whereas ASU and HC are supportive of cooperative attempts to meet these educational needs, and

Whereas ASU and HC enter into this agreement in order to offer cooperatively a greater range of educational opportunities to the citizens of the state of Texas.

Therefore and in consideration of the foregoing and in further consideration of the mutual benefits, the Parties hereto agree as follows:

**ARTICLE I
TRANSFER AGREEMENT AND TRANSFERABILITY OF COURSES**

A student transferring to any of the current programs within the Department of Security Studies and Criminal Justice at ASU under this agreement shall have full acceptance of academic credits earned at HC. The Department Chair determines how these credits may apply to the degree plan to ensure all requirements for graduation from ASU are met for the program of study within the Department of Security Studies and Criminal Justice at ASU.

This agreement applies only to transfer students majoring in a field within the ASU Department of Security Studies and Criminal Justice, to include Border and Homeland Security; Criminal Justice; Culture and Security Studies; and Intelligence, Security Studies, and Analysis. Students who are admitted to ASU under one of these programs and decide to change their major at a later date may no longer be subject to the terms covered in this agreement.

Transfer into any of the fields within the Department of Security Studies and Criminal Justice will be subject to the following provisions:

1. The student will have graduated from HC with an associate's degree, or
2. The student will have earned a minimum of eighteen academic semester credit hours with a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.

Courses listed in the *Texas Common Course Numbering System Guide* will transfer to ASU as indicated in the guide. Other HC academic courses will transfer as non-equivalent work unless they are validated as substitutes for specific ASU courses by mutual agreement between appropriate ASU and HC personnel. "Validated" courses will be added to the *Texas Common Course Numbering System Guide* and the *HC Equivalency Guide*.

Reverse Transfer

Reverse transfer is the process of awarding an associate's degree to students who begin their education at one institution, transfer to another institution, and complete their associate's degree requirements while working toward a bachelor's degree. ASU and HC will develop a reverse transfer process to provide students with the opportunity to complete the associate's degree while working on their ASU bachelor's degree. Student records will be exchanged between ASU and HC for this purpose, strictly adhering to all privacy regulations and ensuring compliance with House Bill 3025.

Scholarships

HC students who are members in good standing with the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) organization are encouraged to apply for the Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship at Angelo State University. Qualified candidates may be eligible to receive an award each academic year through the completion of a first baccalaureate degree at ASU. Applicants must obtain a PTK Scholarship Reference Form from their junior college PTK advisor and submit it to the ASU Financial Aid Office.

HC students are encouraged to complete their application for admission to the university and submit official transcripts as early as possible to qualify and be considered for the Carr Transfer Scholarship. Carr scholarship amounts are based on number of transferable hours and grade point average earned. The Carr scholarships are renewable according to the Carr criteria.

ARTICLE II RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

Each institution will appoint an institutional representative who will:

1. Implement, maintain, and evaluate the agreement. Administrators from both ASU and HC will be responsible for communicating curriculum changes and updates.
2. Update the *ASU/HC Equivalency Guide* on a timely basis. Course inventory changes will be shared as soon as they are approved for implementation.
3. Faculty members from ASU and HC may meet to develop and maintain a transfer guide specific to a particular major to improve the articulation process for HC students who wish to transfer to ASU. Changes will be shared as they are approved by each institution.
4. Coordinate ASU visits to HC campus during the spring semester. These visits will be designed to assist HC students interested in transferring to ASU. Topics such as transferability of courses, application process, academic advising, registering for a transfer orientation, cost of attendance, and the availability of financial aid will be discussed.
5. Coordinate periodic "team visits" to promote relationship building at the academic level.

**ARTICLE III
SEVERABILITY**

If any term or provision of this agreement is held to be invalid for any reason, the invalidity of that section shall not affect the validity of any other section of this agreement provided that any invalid provision is not material to the overall purpose and operations of this agreement. The remaining provisions of this agreement shall continue in full force and effect and shall in no way be affected, impaired, or invalidated.

**ARTICLE IV
AMENDMENT**

This agreement may be amended in writing to include any provisions that are agreed to by the contracting parties.

Notice to ASU shall be mailed to:

Ms. Dallas A. Swafford
Director of Outreach and Transfer Services
Angelo State University
ASU Station #11051
San Angelo, Texas 76909

Notice shall be mailed to:

Dr. Amy Burchett
Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs
Howard College
1001 Birdwell Lane
Big Spring, Texas 79720

**ARTICLE V
VENUE**

This agreement shall be governed by and construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas. Venue will be in accordance with the Texas Civil Practice & Remedies Code and any amendments thereto.

**ARTICLE VI
ASSIGNMENT**

Neither party shall have the right to assign or transfer their rights to any third parties under this agreement without the prior written consent of the other party.

**ARTICLE VII
INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS**

Nothing in this agreement is intended nor shall be construed to create an employer/employee relationship between contracting parties. The sole interest and responsibility of the parties is to ensure that the services covered by this agreement shall be performed and rendered in a competent, efficient, and satisfactory manner.

**ARTICLE VIII
ORIGINAL TERM, RENEWAL, AND TERMINATION**

The agreement will take effect with the signatures affixed below and will automatically renew in one-year increments thereafter. Either party may terminate this agreement at any time, with or without cause, by giving the other party ninety (90) days written notice of its intent to terminate the agreement.

Angelo State University

Howard College

Brian J. May
Dr. Brian J. May
President

8/21/2013
Date

Cheryl T. Sparks
Dr. Cheryl T. Sparks
President

9/6/13
Date