



**ARTICULATION AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY  
and  
SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE**

**Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies  
Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice  
Bachelor of Arts in International & Intercultural Communication, Spanish Emphasis  
Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communication, Social Media Concentration  
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology  
Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration  
Bachelor of Arts in Sociology  
Bachelor of Science in Communication Studies  
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice  
Bachelor of Science in Mass Communication, Social Media Concentration  
Bachelor of Science in Psychology  
Bachelor of Science in Public Administration  
Bachelor of Science in Sociology  
Bachelor of Social Work**

This Articulation Agreement is made and entered by and between STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY, an entity of the State of Texas, and SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE an entity of the State of Texas.

**I. Purpose of Agreement**

Stephen F. Austin State University, herein after referred to as “SFA,” located in Nacogdoches, Texas, and South Texas College, herein after referred to as “STC,” located in McAllen, Texas, share a common interest in expanding the availability of quality higher education to all Texans. Both entities agree to cooperate in furthering this objective to the mutual benefit of their students.

This articulation agreement provides guidelines and outlines areas of responsibility ensuring that students at STC can transfer completed courses to SFA without any loss of credit or recognition of approved courses applied toward the following degrees:

- Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies
- Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice
- Bachelor of Arts in International & Intercultural Communication, Spanish Emphasis
- Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communication, Social Media Concentration
- Bachelor of Arts in Psychology
- Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration
- Bachelor of Arts in Sociology
- Bachelor of Science in Communication Studies
- Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice
- Bachelor of Science in Mass Communication, Social Media Concentration
- Bachelor of Science in Psychology

- Bachelor of Science in Public Administration
- Bachelor of Science in Sociology
- Bachelor of Social Work

This agreement further provides guidelines and outlines areas of responsibility ensuring that students at SFA can transfer completed courses to STC without any loss of credit or recognition of approved courses applied toward associate degrees. Either institution may propose additional cooperative activities that shall become part of the general agreement upon being signed by both parties.

## **II. Terms**

The parties to this agreement, SFA and STC, agree to the terms and conditions set forth herein:

### **A. General**

1. SFA and STC will each designate an individual who will be responsible for the maintenance of this articulation agreement and sharing of information on the following degrees:
  - Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies
  - Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice
  - Bachelor of Arts in International & Intercultural Communication, Spanish Emphasis
  - Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communication, Social Media Concentration
  - Bachelor of Arts in Psychology
  - Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration
  - Bachelor of Arts in Sociology
  - Bachelor of Science in Communication Studies
  - Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice
  - Bachelor of Science in Mass Communication, Social Media Concentration
  - Bachelor of Science in Psychology
  - Bachelor of Science in Public Administration
  - Bachelor of Science in Sociology
  - Bachelor of Social Work

and associate degrees, new courses added to the degree programs, transcript evaluation, and other projects as needed.

2. The names of the designated persons are contained in Appendix 1. Any change to Appendix 1 shall not require renegotiating this agreement, and any such change made by one institution shall be communicated in writing to the other.
3. To be eligible for the program, students must meet all SFA admission requirements, be officially enrolled at SFA, and have an official transcript showing credit earned on file with the SFA Registrar's Office.
4. This Agreement is non-exclusive, and either party may enter into similar agreements with any other party.

### **B. STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY agrees to:**

1. Admit and enroll STC students in the following degree programs that are determined by SFA to be qualified for admission to SFA and the aforementioned degree programs.
2. Assist STC transfer students in the transition from STC into the aforementioned SFA programs. This may involve informing students of and assisting them in the application for scholarships and in course registration.
3. Maintain ongoing collaboration and monitoring of the program will be dependent on the program.

4. Continue to accommodate STC students into the aforementioned degree programs so long as this Agreement is in effect. Since SFA cannot guarantee the degree programs in perpetuity, this agreement does not constitute a binding contract regarding ongoing or future offerings of the academic program outlined herein.
5. SFA is an equal opportunity institution, and shall not discriminate unlawfully against any STC student, applicant, or employee, nor shall it deny the benefits provided its own degree-seeking student to any person on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, genetic information, citizenship, veteran status, or any other protected class status as defined by law or institutional policy.

**C. SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE agrees to:**

1. Provide, upon request by SFA, syllabi for any courses covered by this articulation agreement.
2. Communicate to students enrolling in the aforementioned degree programs about SFA academic requirements, policies, procedures, tuition and fees that will apply and may be subject to change, and to inform students that SFA future offerings cannot be guaranteed.
3. Maintain ongoing collaboration and monitoring of the program through the Director of the STC University Relations, Transfer and Articulation Center.
4. STC is an equal opportunity entity, and shall not discriminate unlawfully against any SFA student, applicant, or employee, nor shall it deny the benefits provided its own students to any person on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, genetic information, citizenship, veteran status, or any other protected class status as defined by law or institutional policy.

**D. Both Institutions agree to:**

1. Be responsible for its employees' actions or inactions, and liability arising there from. The institutions will maintain their own insurance including workers' compensation, general liability, or such other coverage necessary for their own institutional liability. Neither institution waives any immunity it may be afforded under law as a governmental entity in the State of Texas.
2. Conduct an annual program review.
3. Notify appropriate officials at the relevant institution of any complaints of sexual harassment or discrimination alleged to be committed by students or employees of the other institution.
4. Apply the policies and procedures of each institution to students enrolled with each institution. Disciplinary complaints falling under the jurisdiction of an institution shall be referred to the appropriate officials.
5. Initiate a biennial review of this agreement to evaluate any changes in competencies, content, or standards.
6. Strictly adhere to all statutes, court decisions and the opinions of the Texas Attorney General with respect to disclosure of public information under the *Texas Public Information Act*, Chapter 552, *Texas Government Code*.
7. Maintain accreditation by the applicable accrediting authority. Both parties agree to notify the other if such accreditation ceases to exist.
8. Comply with all laws regarding the confidentiality of the student's education records, including but not limited to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA"), and to comply with all applicable laws in safeguarding any non-public, sensitive, and/or confidential information of Institution's faculty and students which is in either Party's possession or control in the same manner and to the same extent that it protects its own employees' confidential or non-public sensitive information.

## **E. Transfer of Credit**

1. This articulation agreement provides a mechanism to enable students who have completed courses prescribed by this agreement to transfer those courses from STC to SFA and, thereby, satisfy up to 66 credit hours credit toward the aforementioned degree programs.
2. Appendix 2 contains programs and courses covered by this articulation agreement. Any change to Appendix 2 may be made by mutual written agreement of the Vice President of Academic Affairs at STC and the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at SFA.
3. This articulation agreement provides a mechanism to enable STC students who have transferred to SFA and who have earned enough credits to satisfy the Associate degree requirements to have those credits transferred back to STC. This **reverse transfer** process expands the SFA and STC partnership to help increase student transfer rates to the university and raise associate degree completion rates for the college.

SFA and STC agree to exchange information, within legal guidelines, about individual students with the goal of making students aware of the potential to satisfy associate degree requirements by transferring course work between both institutions.

SFA agrees to identify students who transfer from STC with at least 30 hours and who have indicated on the ApplyTexas Application that they would automatically allow for their transcript to be sent to STC once it has been determined that the student has completed 72 semester credit hours, and again upon graduation from SFA if they have not received an Associate degree. Once a student has achieved at least 90 semester credit hours, SFA shall follow the credit transfer for associate degree procedure in Tex. Educ. Code §61.833 and any applicable rules.

SFA agrees to provide a contact person who is knowledgeable about Reverse Transfer and who can work with STC to facilitate this process.

STC agrees to provide a list of students who are awarded an Associate degree annually to SFA.

## **F. Terms of Agreement and Termination**

1. This agreement shall be filed with SFA's Records and Admissions offices and with the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. This agreement shall be filed with STC's Vice President of Academic Affairs and the University Relations, Transfer and Articulation Center.
2. All required notices, demands, requests, and other communications shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been given when personally delivered or mailed to the administrators of the respective institutions.
3. This agreement may be amended at any time in writing upon signature of authorized representatives of both institutions.
4. This Agreement is subject to termination by either party upon sixty days written notice of a material breach to the breaching party. Alternatively, this Agreement can be terminated at any time without cause by mutual consent of the parties or by either institution with notice by May 1 that the program will not be offered for the next academic year.
5. The laws of the State of Texas (U.S.A.) shall govern the interpretation and application of this Agreement. Any dispute arising out of this Agreement or its operation, performance or nonperformance shall be resolved in accordance with Texas law and venue shall be solely and exclusively in the courts located in Nacogdoches County, Texas, U.S.A.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the undersigned parties hereto have set their hands by and through their duly authorized officers. This Agreement is effective the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

**STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY      <INSERT COLLEGE>**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Steve Westbrook  
Interim President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Shirley A. Reed  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Steve Bullard  
Provost and Vice President for  
Academic Affairs

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Anahid Petrosian  
Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Margartha Bischoff  
Dean. Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

## APPENDIX 1

### Individuals Designated to Maintain This Agreement

1. STC designates the following individual as the person responsible for maintaining this agreement. This designee shall contact the SFA designee no later than May 15 each year during the period for which this articulation agreement is in force for the purpose of carrying out the terms listed in this agreement.

Dr. Kelli Anne Davis  
Director, University Relations, Transfer and Articulation Center  
South Texas College  
3201 W. Pecan Blvd  
McAllen, TX 78501  
956-872-1990  
kajohnso@southtexascollege.edu

2. SFA designates the following individual as the person responsible for maintaining this agreement. This designee shall be in contact with the STC designee no later than May 15 each year for the purpose of carrying out the terms listed in this agreement.

Janet Tareilo  
Associate Provost for Academic Affairs  
Stephen F. Austin State University  
P.O. Box 13038, SFA Station  
Nacogdoches, TX 75962  
936-468-1881  
tareiloj@sfasu.edu

## APPENDIX 2

### Degree and Certificate Programs

The following degree programs are covered by this agreement:

- Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies
- Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice
- Bachelor of Arts in International & Intercultural Communication, Spanish Emphasis
- Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communication, Social Media Concentration
- Bachelor of Arts in Psychology
- Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration
- Bachelor of Arts in Sociology
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- Bachelor of Science in Sociology
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### Transfer of Courses

#### Core Courses

Core coursework will be transferred from <INSERT INITIALS> and applied toward SFA's core requirements in accordance with the relevant rules set by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. In cases where there is not an equivalent course at SFA, the course will be transferred as an enbloc and applied to the relevant core requirement.

#### Workforce Education Courses (WECM)

Workforce education courses (WECM) will be transferred enbloc and applied to the area of specialization. This does not include continuing education courses. In most cases, students will receive up to 36 credit hours for WECM coursework. Credit for WECM coursework is only applicable to the BAAS degree.