

Statewide Articulation and General Studies Program

University Senate June 10, 2008

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Establishment of AGSC/STARS

Legislative Act 94-202 Passed [March 17, 1994)

- Created the Alabama Articulation and General Studies Committee (AGSC) to implement provisions
- Designated the Statewide Transfer/Articulation Reporting System (STARS) as the vehicle for dissemination of information



AGSC Composition

- 3 Two-Year Representatives
- 2 Regional University Representatives (chosen from UNA, TU System, UWA, JSU, and UM)
- 1 Auburn University Representative
- 1 University of Alabama System Representative
- 1 University of South Alabama Representative
- 1 Alabama State Representative
- 1 Alabama A&M Representative
 TOTAL of 10 MEMBERS

(Each member has an alternate)



AGSC Charge

Legislative Act 94-202 Passed [March 17, 1994)

Four Basic Charges to AGSC:

- 1. Develop a statewide general studies curriculum by September 1, 1998
- 2. Develop a statewide articulation agreement by September 1, 1999
- 3. Examine the need for a uniform course numbering system, course titles and descriptions
- 4. Resolve problems in administration or interpretation of articulation agreement



AGSC General Studies

•	Area I	Written Composition	(6 SH)
•	Area II	Humanities and Fine Arts	(12 SH)
•	Area III	Natural Science and Math	(11 SH)
•	Area IV	History, Social, and Behavioral Sciences	(12 SH)
•	Area V	Pre-Professional/Pre-Major	(19-23 SH)

TOTALS 60-64 SH



Institutions Under Transfer Agreement

TW0-YEAR COLLEGES

Make up:

- 26 Community/Junior/Technical Colleges;
- Athens State University

FOUR-YEAR UNIVERSITIES

Make up:

• 14 Universities



Gen Ed Course Guidelines

- 1. Courses must be collegiate-credit courses at the freshman or sophomore level (i.e., 100 or 200 level);
- 2. Courses must be broad in scope, present major intellectual or aesthetic ideas, and not be specialized or vocational in purpose;
- 3. Courses must present the essential characteristics and basic processes of inquiry and analysis in the discipline



Gen Ed Course Guidelines

- 4. Courses must encourage the development of critical thinking skills and require students to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate knowledge;
- 5. Courses must consider the subject in its relation to other disciplines and its application to human concerns.



Templates

- 1. Outline of Areas I-IV (general education requirements) and Area V (Pre-professional requirements) by major;
- 2. Agreed upon by all four yr. institutions that offer degree;
- 3. At least half of the requirements in Area V must be common for all four yr. institutions that offer degree.



AGSC Committees (GSACs)

- General Studies Academic Committees (GSACs)
- Anthropology
- Area/Ethnic Studies
- Art and Art History
- Biological Science
- Chemistry
- English
- Economics
- Foreign Language
- Geography
- Geology and Earth Science
- History

- Interdisciplinary/Honors/ Innovative
- Mathematics
- Music and Music History
- Philosophy and Religious Studies
- Physics, Physical Science, Astronomy
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Speech
- Theatre and Dance



GSACs

Each GSAC consists of a representative from each baccalaureate institution with a major program in the discipline appointed by the chief academic officer and an equal number of representatives from the non baccalaureate institutions appointed by the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education.



GSACs

ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES of GSACs

- Annual review of discipline specific guidelines;
- Review and make recommendations to the AGSC for the approval of new courses (two-year and four-year);
- Periodic review of currently approved courses;
- Periodic review of discipline templates and development of new templates.



AGSC Committees (PACs)

- Pre-professional Academic Committees (PACs)
 - Allied Health
 - Business
 - Communication
 - Computer Science
 - Criminal Justice
 - Education
 - Engineering
 - Human Sciences/Home Economics
 - Nursing
 - Social Work
 - Speech Pathology
 - Technology



PACs

Each PAC consists of a representative of each baccalaureate institution that offers a program in the discipline appointed by the chief academic officer and two non-voting representatives from non-baccalaureate institutions appointed by the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education.



PACs

ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES of PACs

- Development of new templates
- Periodic review of existing discipline templates



Transfer Agreement

Alabama Articulation and General Studies Committee TRANSFER AGREEMENT

(Adopted 8/14/1998--Last Amended 11/07/2005)

This agreement guarantees the transferability of the course work listed on the attached guide among institutions of higher education. The same policies must be applied to transfer students as those applied to native students. This guarantee is subject to the following recommendations and restrictions:

3. This guide remains valid and is guaranteed only if the student continues in the major specified in this transfer agreement.



Transfer Agreement

Alabama Articulation and General Studies Committee TRANSFER AGREEMENT CONT.'

- 4. Completion of course work listed on this guide does not guarantee admission to any public institution of higher education in Alabama; nor to the major specified in this agreement; nor to any specific field of study. Students must be officially admitted according to the admission requirements as established by the receiving Institution.
- 5. The transfer of D grades will be in accordance with the policy of the receiving institution. The same policies must be applied to transfer students as those applied to native students.



Transfer Agreement

Alabama Articulation and General Studies Committee TRANSFER AGREEMENT CONT.'

8. The total number of hours required of a transfer student who has complied with the requirements of the articulation guide for a degree in a particular major field at the receiving institution shall not exceed the number of hours required of a native students at the receiving institution in the same program. (Added to original transfer agreement by vote of AGSC on 1/21/1999.)



AGSC STARS WEBSITE



