

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Academic and Student Affairs
Consent

AGENDA ITEM: 5 – J (3)
DATE: March 29-30, 2023

SUBJECT

Articulation Agreements – USD

CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

[BOR Policy 2:5](#) – Seamless Transfer of Credit

[BOR Policy 2:5:2](#) – External (Non-Regental System) Accredited University/College
Transfer of Credit

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

BOR Policy 2:5 – Seamless Transfer of Credit requirements for institutions seeking to develop program level agreements for interested transfer students. The policy further establishes the distinction between AA, AS, and AAS degrees which are classified as transferable, terminal, or non-transferable degrees (respectively). However, the AAS is “transferable when a specific degree articulation agreement exists between a given A.A.S. degree and a specific Baccalaureate degree.” Agreements established with regionally accredited institutions must be developed in conjunction with the faculty, following all institutional guidelines and are monitored as a function of the institutional program review process. Once approved, the agreements apply only at Regental institutions with equivalent programs.

IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION

To comply with BOR Policy 2:5, the University of South Dakota requests approval for the following articulation agreement:

- Students who have completed an AS degree in General Science Studies at Nebraska Indian Community College (NICC) may apply up to 67 credits toward the BS in Sustainability program at USD. USD was granted a waiver by the System Vice President for Academic Affairs to exceed 60 credit (50% of the degree).

Board staff recommends approval.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment I – USD Articulation Agreement: Nebraska Indian Community College (NICC)

DRAFT MOTION 20230329_5-J(3):

I move to approve the University of South Dakota’s articulation agreements with Nebraska Indian Community College (NICC), as presented.

PROGRAM TO PROGRAM ARTICULATION AGREEMENT
NEBRASKA INDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE (NICC)
and
THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA (USD)

Agreement with Respect to Applying the
GENERAL SCIENCE STUDIES
Associate of Science Degree Program at NICC
Towards the
SUSTAINABILITY
Bachelor of Science Degree Program at USD

I. Parties

The parties to this agreement are The University of South Dakota (USD) and Nebraska Indian Community College (NICC).

II. Purpose

The purpose of this agreement is to:

- A. have a signed articulation agreement that addresses the varying needs of students and complementary nature of the institutions' programs;
- B. provide increased educational opportunities for students from South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, and the region;
- C. extend and clarify educational opportunities for students;
- D. provide NICC students who have completed the AS degree in General Science Studies a seamless transition to the Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Sustainability.
- E. encourage students to graduate from both the AS (NICC) and Bachelor of Science in Sustainability (USD) program and work collaboratively on marketing and admissions guidance.

III. Academic Program

- A. USD will accept up to 67 course credits from NICC's Associate of Science degree in General Science Studies for students majoring in USD's Bachelor of Science degree in Sustainability. Students must successfully complete the AS degree in General Science Studies from NICC prior to applying to the USD Sustainability degree for this agreement to apply. Students must meet all South Dakota Board of Regents' (SDBOR) policies and university graduation requirements to receive a BS degree from USD.
- B. Requirements to be completed at USD for the Bachelor of Science degree in Sustainability are reflected in the catalog website. Students are eligible to complete either the Environmental Science specialization or Human and Natural Systems specialization.

- C. The general education coursework to meet Regental System General Education Requirements (SGR) must also be completed as outlined below. This coursework may be taken at NICC. Required general education coursework required for the AS degree in Sustainability are identified in the chart below. Additional general education coursework may be transferred if the Regental System General Education transfer requirements are met.

General Education Course Requirements

USD General Education Requirement		Credit Hours	NICC Equivalent	Credit Hours
SGR 1 Written Communication and Literacy Skills	ENGL 101 Composition	3	ENGL 1010 English Composition I	3
	Advanced Comp from SGR 1 list	3	ENGL 1020 English Composition II	3
SGR 2 Oral Communication	CMST 101 Fundamentals of Speech	3	SPCH 1110 Public Speaking	3
SGR 3 Social Sciences	6 credit hours of SGR #3 (in 2 disciplines/prefixes)	6	Approved social sciences options (need to choose 2 in 2 disciplines/prefixes): NASP 1080, 2300, PSYC 1810, 2000, 2030, 2500, SOCI 1010, 1400, ECON 2110, HIST 1110, 1111, 2010, 2020	6
SGR 4 Humanities & Fine Arts/	3 credit hours in Humanities course and 3 credit hours in Fine Arts from SGR 4 list	6	Approved humanities (3) ENGL 2100, 2170 SPAN 1010, 1020, 2010, 2020 NASP 1050, 1130, 1140, 1410, 1420, 1510, 1520, 2110, 2430, 2440, 2530, 2540, BSAD 2310 Approved fine arts (3) NASP 1090, 1100 MUSC 1010, ARTS 1010, 1050, 1060, 1100, 1200, 1300, 1400	6
SGR 5 Mathematics	Any course from SGR 5 list (3 credit hours)	3	MATH 1150 College Algebra	3
SGR 6 Natural Sciences	Two courses from the approved SGR #6 courses (must include a lab)	8	Choose 2 laboratory science courses: BIOS 1010/1014, 1110/1114, 1200/1204, 1210/1214, 2250/2254, 2260/2264, 2460/2464 CHEM 1050/1054, 1090/1094, 1100/1104, PHYS 1100/1104, 1200/1204	8

USD General Education Requirement		Credit Hours	NICC Equivalent	Credit Hours
Total General Education Credits		32		32

Arts & Sciences Bachelor of Science Degree Requirements		Credit Hours	NICC Equivalent	
	ENGL 210 Introduction to Literature	3	ENGL 2100	3
	Six credit hours of humanities or social science courses	6	Many NICC courses available	6
	Two courses in addition to laboratory courses meeting SGR#6 requirement. (Note: lab is not necessary)	6	BIOS 1010/1014, 1110/1114, 1200/1204, 1210/1214, 2250/2254, 2260/2264, 2460/2464 CHEM 1050/1054, 1090/1094, 1100/1104, PHYS 1100/1104, 1200/1204	6
	Mathematics Grade C or higher in MATH 123 Calculus I Or Approved MATH course and approved statistics course	5-12	Grade C or higher in MATH 1600 Or USD MATH 104 (No NICC equivalent), and MATH 1150 (USD MATH 114), and MATH 2170 (USD MATH 281)	5-12
Total Arts & Sciences Requirements		20-27		20-27

D. The Core Course Requirements for the Major and Foundational Course Requirements for the Environmental Science Specialization, if selected, must also be completed as outlined below. This coursework may be taken at NICC if equivalent courses are available and if delivered under the current General Education agreement with the Board of Regents. Foundational coursework required for the BS degree with a major in Sustainability are listed below and be transferred if the Regental System General Education transfer requirements are met. Equivalent courses are identified below:

Core Course Requirements for Major

USD Core Requirements for Major		NICC Equivalent	
BIOL 310 Environmental Science	3	CHEM 1050 Applied Environmental Chemistry & Conservation Biology	3
ECON 201 Principles of Microeconomics	3	ECON 2120 Principles of Microeconomics	3
POLS 226 Introduction to Public Policy	3	NASP 2010 Introduction to Tribal Nation Building OR NASP 2300 Tribal Government and Politics	3
PHIL/BIOL 454 Environmental Ethics	3	BSAD 2310 Ethics	3
Total Core Credits	12		12

Foundational Course Requirements for Environmental Science Specialization

USD Core Requirements for Major		NICC Equivalent	
BIOL 153/L General Biology II/General Biology II Lab	4	BIOS 1010 General Biology BIOS 1014 General Biology Lab	4
ESCI 101/L Dynamic Earth/Dynamic Earth Laboratory	4	BIOS 1210 Introduction to Geology BIOS 1214 Introduction to Geology Laboratory	4
CHEM 11/2/L General Chemistry I/General Chemistry I Laboratory	4	CHEM1090 General Chemistry CHEM1094 General Chemistry Laboratory	4
STAT 281 Introduction to Statistics	3	MATH 2170 Applied Statistics	3
Total Foundational Course Credits	15		15

Course Group Course Requirements for Environmental Science Specialization

USD Core Requirements for Major		NICC Equivalent	
BIOL 311/L Principles of Ecology/Principles of Ecology Lab	4	BIOS 1200 Concepts of Ecology BIOS 1204 Concepts of Ecology Laboratory	4
BIOL 407/L Plants and Civilization/Plants and Civilization Lab	4	BIOS 1110 General Botany BIOS 1114 General Botany Lab	4
Total Foundational Course Credits	8		8

Elective Course Requirements for Human and Natural Systems Specialization

USD Core Requirements for Major		NICC Equivalent	
BIOL 311/L Principles of Ecology/Principles of Ecology Lab	4	BIOS 1200 Concepts of Ecology BIOS 1204 Concepts of Ecology Laboratory	4
BIOL 407/L Plants and Civilization/Plants and Civilization Lab	4	BIOS 1110 General Botany BIOS 1114 General Botany Lab	4
Total Foundational Course Credits	8		8

IV. Pathway: Forward Articulation (completing AS degree in General Science Studies at NICC and transferring to USD to complete the Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Sustainability)

- A. Students may elect to participate in dual advising from NICC and USD while completing the AS in General Science Studies in preparation for the USD Sustainability degree. Students should work jointly with their advisors to ensure all requirements are met for the BS degree from USD.
- B. Students are eligible to apply to the USD Sustainability degree for admission when they have completed all the course requirements for the AS in General Science Studies from NICC and have met all additional program admission criteria. Once accepted into the BS in Sustainability, USD will accept all General Education (32 cr hrs), Sustainability major degree credits (up to 35 credits). A BS degree with a major in Sustainability will be conferred when all remaining courses are completed.
- C. Students must meet all Board of Regents policies and USD graduation requirements to receive a degree. This includes but is not limited to 15 of the last 30 hours in the USD program must be earned from USD. Further, of the total hours for the USD degree, 30 must be earned from USD.

Additional Courses Required for the Sustainability Major Delivered by USD

Course	Course Title	Credits
SUST 111	Sustainable Society	3
SUST 113	Sustainable Environment	3
SUST 113L	Sustainable Environment Lab	1
SUST 489	Sustainability Capstone	2
SUST 494 or 496 or 498	Sustainability Internship, Field Experience, or Undergrad Research/Scholarship	1

Students must select either the Environmental Science or Human and Natural Systems specialization and complete the remaining credits (up to 15 credits) for the selected specialization.

IV. Additional requirements

- A. All Board of Regents policies regarding instructor credentials must be met for general education courses to transfer.
- B. To be eligible for application to USD, students transferring coursework from NICC must meet USD admission criteria.
- C. Students must also complete all degree requirements for a Bachelor of Science degree within the College of Arts & Sciences at USD. This includes completion of a minor at USD.

V. Obligations

Both parties agree to confer with each other on a yearly basis regarding changes in curricula involved in this articulation agreement.

VI. Modification

This agreement may be modified from time to time by the South Dakota Board of Regents.

VII. Termination

This agreement may be terminated by either party upon one year's written notice to the other. Student(s) enrolled in the program at that time shall be allowed to complete the program.

This Agreement depends upon the continued availability of appropriated funds and expenditure authority from the Legislature for this purpose. If for any reason the Legislature fails to appropriate or grant expenditure authority or funds become unavailable by operation of law or federal funds reductions, this Agreement will be terminated by the University of South Dakota. Termination for any of these reasons is not a default by the University of South Dakota nor does it give rise to a claim against the University of South Dakota.

VIII. Effective Date of Agreement:

This agreement applies to students who graduated from NICC 2022 or later with an AS in General Science Studies.

For University of South Dakota:

_____ Date: _____
Dr. John Dudley
Dean, College of Arts & Sciences
University of South Dakota

_____ Date: _____
Sheila K. Gestring
President
University of South Dakota

For Nebraska Indian Community College:

_____ Date: _____
Dr. Kristine Sudbeck
Academic Dean
Nebraska Indian Community College

_____ Date: _____
Dr. Michael Oltrogge
President
Nebraska Indian Community College

APPENDIX A

Students will transfer up to 67 credits towards the 120 BS degree total.

Transfers 32 General Educational Requirements credits

Transfers up to 35 credit hours for the Environmental Science specialization of the Sustainability major – at least 17 credits to be completed at USD for the Environmental Science specialization of the Sustainability major.

Transfers up to 20 credit hours for the Human and Natural Systems specialization of the sustainability major – at least 17 credits to be completed at USD for the Human and Natural Systems specialization of the Sustainability major.

Students will need to complete a USD minor and at least 30 credit hours at the 300/400 level.

USD Year 1 Fall	Credits
SUST 111	3
SUST 113	3
SUST 113L	1
Sustainability course group/elective course	3
Minor course	3
Total credits	13

USD Year 1 Spring	Credits
Sustainability course group/elective course	3
Sustainability course group/elective course	3
Minor course	3
Minor course	3
ENGL 210 Introduction to Literature	3
Total credits	15

USD Year 2 Fall	Credits
Minor course	3
Minor course	3
MATH 104 Finite Mathematics	4
SS or Humanities Elective (if not filled)	3
Total Credits	13

USD Year 2 Spring	Credits
SUST 489	2
SUST 494/496/498	1
Minor course	3
Electives	5
Total Credits	11