

Advisors' Guide to The Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree

The goal of the Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree is to maximize the transfer process, meet the needs of students who enroll at a 2-year college with the intent to work toward a baccalaureate, and develop a universal transfer program for which the coursework completed in pursuit of the degree will be accepted by all public universities in the state. This Advisors' Guide is the first in a series of guides for the transfer degree that will accommodate as many students as possible with opportunities to progress smoothly from associate to baccalaureate degree programs. Subsequent guides will be more specific to a student's potential major. Because the course guides in *Phase I* are general in nature and provide maximum flexibility, it is essential that students take an active role in researching options and creating their path. In *Phase II*, more specific degree tracks will be created, with the first group ready for full implementation in Fall/2011. (See Appendix I for *example* of a degree track that would be accepted as lower division work at all universities.)

The transfer associate degree is designed to provide students with an opportunity to complete the first 60 hours of work toward a baccalaureate degree at a two-year or community college. Students who successfully complete a designated transfer associate program are eligible to enter a four-year public university as a junior, with all 60 (non-developmental) credits transferring to the receiving university.

The Louisiana transfer associate degree consists of a 39-hour General Education (GenEd) block and a 21-hour block of additional course work. Students who enter a four-year public university with this degree in hand will have met the institution's general education requirements and will be granted upper division (junior) status, with all of its concomitant rights and privileges. This guarantee applies to those who successfully complete the degree with a grade of "C" or better in each course.

Students may complete either an *Associate of Arts/Louisiana Transfer (AA/LT)* or *Associate of Science/Louisiana Transfer (AS/LT)* degree, depending on interests and aspirations for further study toward the baccalaureate. Upon deciding on a prospective major, it is important that students do some research and seek advice about what the program's prerequisite courses are so that they may be completed as a part of the AA or AS degree.

IN SUMMARY, the Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree* guarantees:

- Admission to a 4-year public university;
- Junior-level standing;
- Transfer of all 60 hours;
- Completion of General Education block requirements at any Louisiana public university;
- Equal opportunity to compete against 'native' students for admission to limited access programs.

** with grade requirement met*

The Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree does *not* guarantee:

- Admission to every university or degree program: student must meet institutional or degree program admission requirements (e.g., GPA, specific course completions, etc);
- That the courses taken for the transfer degree will meet specified course requirements of the major.

Check specific university transfer and program admission information at the articulation web site: [www_____](http://www.____.).

ADVISING

Advising and planning are key to a student's success in maximizing the transfer experience. All students who might be considering an eventual transfer from one institution to another should develop, with an advisor's assistance, a written degree plan of courses to take for the transfer associate degree.

Guides for course selection are offered in this document as tools to help develop a plan for graduation -- pathways within selected major areas. Students might also follow links to specific university curricula, readily available at the statewide articulation web site: _____.

It is the student's responsibility, with professional advice, to choose the array of courses that will optimize preparation for admission into specific senior colleges and timely completion of expected degree programs. Review of the degree plan will provide an opportunity to reflect on the qualifications conferred by the two-year transfer associate, which awards junior standing in a Louisiana public university.

GRADES

Graduates of the designated Transfer Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree programs must have achieved a grade of "C" or better in each course of the 60 hours applied toward the degree to qualify for block transfer guarantees. (Developmental courses do not apply to degree requirements.)

-1- The GENERAL EDUCATION BLOCK

The statewide General Education (GenEd) block is designed to assure that graduates of undergraduate degree programs attain a broad-based common educational experience. The Faculty at each state institution has designated courses to fulfill the 39-hour GenEd requirement that are suited to that institution but that share common characteristics essential to the study of academic disciplines. The specific GenEd courses offered may vary from one institution to another.

If a student graduates with the transfer associate of arts or associate of science degree at any SACS/COC accredited Louisiana public college, the GenEd block will be accepted in total by any other public postsecondary institution in Louisiana, and no further courses will be required to meet the *General Education* component. (The graduate must still meet any program- or college-specific admission or degree requirements.) However, if a student transfers prior to completing the degree, s/he may be required to take additional courses to meet the General Education core at the receiving university.

General Education Requirements*

Rather than a fixed set of courses that requires constant revision, following is a list of topical subject areas of courses that may be used to fulfill each requirement in the GenEd block. The student should consult the local course catalog to determine which courses are available and designated as *General Education* in the college at which s/he is enrolled. The GenEd Block of the Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree must include the components summarized in the table that follows.

General Education Components

English Composition	6 Hours (2 Courses)
Mathematics/Analytical Reasoning	6 Hours (2 Courses)
Natural Sciences	9 Hours (3 Courses) <i>2 courses in a biological or physical science area sequence + 1 in the other area.</i>
Humanities	9 Hours (3 Courses) <i>1 course must be in Literature. Some colleges may specify guidelines for the additional 2 courses.</i>
Social/Behavioral Sciences	6 Hours (2 Courses) <i>1 course must be at/above the sophomore level.</i>
Fine Arts	3 Hours (1 Course)

* Note: Developmental courses do not qualify for General Education or degree credit.

General Education Course Options for the Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree

This list provides basic descriptive titles for courses which currently qualify for general education credit. The list aims at clarity and simplicity, but students should follow the guidelines of their campus catalog. Notes to remember on General Education course selection follow.

- 1- *Survey* courses cover a wide range of material within a specific discipline or area of inquiry and acquaint students with a large section of the information or skills available in that area of inquiry. Likewise, a broadly defined course (e.g., sociology) might take many forms so long as it serves a genuine introductory purpose and covers a broad range of material.
- 2- *Appreciation* courses (e.g., Music Appreciation) are not skills courses but must teach the appreciation of work by others.
- 3- Students must achieve a grade of “C” or better in each course to qualify for block transfer guarantees.

ENGLISH COMPOSITION (6 Hours: 2 Courses)

English Composition, first semester
 English Composition, second semester
 Advanced English Composition (e.g., ENGL 2000)

MATHEMATICS/ANALYTICAL REASONING (6 Hours: 2 Courses)

Analytic Geometry and Calculus (any version)
 Calculus (any version)
 College Algebra
 Contemporary Mathematics
 Logic
 Mathematics (e.g., Finite; Nature of)
 Statistics
 Trigonometry

NATURAL SCIENCES (9 hours: 3 Courses, including sequence & biological/physical area mix)

Biological Sciences:

Ecology	Microbiology
General Biology (any version)	Physiology
Human Anatomy	Plant Systems (Botany)
Human Anatomy and Physiology	Zoology

Physical Sciences:

Chemical Fundamentals	General Physics (any version)
Chemistry of Life and Environment	Physical Science
General Chemistry (any version)	Stellar Astronomy
General Geology, Historical or Physical	The Solar System

Either Biological or Physical Sciences:

Environmental Science
Oceanography
Science and Society

HUMANITIES (9 hours: 3 Courses, including 1 in Literature)

Beginning/ Intermediate Courses in any Language (e.g., *French, German, Italian, Spanish*)

Argumentation and Debate	Old Testament
Cultural History (any survey)	Performing Literature
Fundamentals of Speech	Philosophy (any survey)
History (any survey)	Public Speaking
Interpersonal Communication	Religious Studies (any survey)
Literature (any survey)	Rome
Mass Media	Shakespeare
New Testament	Women's and Gender Studies

SOCIAL/BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES (6 hours: 2 Courses, including 1 at Sophomore Level)

American Government	International Politics
Archaeology	Macroeconomics
Comparative Politics	Microeconomics
Contemporary Global Issues	Physical Anthropology
Cultural and Social Anthropology	Political Theory
Economic Principles	Psychology
Entertainment and Media	Sociology
Fundamental Issues of Politics	State and Local Government
Gender, Race, and Nation	World Archaeology
Geography	World Ethnography
Human Societies	

FINE ARTS (3 hours: 1 Course)

Architecture	Music Appreciation
Cinema and Film	Music Fundamentals and Theory
Dance Appreciation	Music History Survey (any version)
Fine Arts	Philosophy of Art
History of Art (any survey)	Structure of Art
History of Interior Design	Theater and Dramatic Arts
History of Musical Forms (e.g., jazz, classical, folk)	
Landscape Architecture	

-2- GUIDES for COURSE SELECTION

The 21 remaining credits in the Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree are intended to not only focus and intensify a student's preparedness for upper-level study, but also to continue and enrich the initial GenEd experience. The 60-hour degree should give students the foundation to succeed in the baccalaureate and to make intelligent choices regarding majors for which they are best prepared.

A major value of the Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree is in providing flexibility for a student's selection of a major at the four year campus. Historical data indicates that the average student changes majors several times in his or her undergraduate career. In response, the faculty and Statewide Articulation and Transfer Council designed course guides that can be applied to any type of degree in the:

- Humanities
- Natural Sciences – Biological
- Natural Sciences – Physical
- Social/Behavioral Sciences
- Fine Arts

The guides will help students prepare for success in a university. Students who are relatively sure of their intended baccalaureate major or university should also consult university transfer/articulation web links for more specific course advisory tracks. These guides are *Phase I* of the transfer degree development. The Statewide Articulation and Transfer Council is committed to creating specific statewide degree tracks to help prepare students for success in specific baccalaureate majors at Louisiana public universities, with the first group to be ready for implementation in Fall, 2011. (See Appendix I for an *example* of a specific track.)

DEGREE PLAN

Students are advised to meet with a community college academic advisor before registering for courses!

Planning is key to a student's success in the 60-hour transfer degree. The guides that follow are tools for developing a written degree plan. It is the student's responsibility to choose the array of courses that will optimize preparation for admission into specific senior colleges and timely completion of expected major programs. For example, a student who has identified an interest in the discipline of English may follow the general humanities guide but should also gather information concerning a specific set of courses that would optimize the transition from a transfer associate degree in humanities to a university English major.

Academic advisors must provide guidance to students in developing a degree plan. Orientation resources such as campus catalogs and electronic advising tools must be available on campus and system web sites to help in developing a degree plan. The statewide *Articulation* web site (www._____) includes links to public university catalogs, and to individual system or campus transfer sites, for advisors and students to review curricular options for guidance toward specific majors.

As the state's public postsecondary community develops *common prerequisite courses* for specific degree programs, that information will be added to the web site. Such course lists will provide students with a centralized, standardized repository of information regarding the courses they will need to best prepare for upper division coursework. Likewise, students who choose not to complete the transfer associate degree may check individual course equivalencies on the Statewide Articulation Matrix, which is also posted on the *Articulation* web site.

Humanities Guide for Transfer AA Degree

As indicated on the list of General Education course topics, the Humanities area touches everything from communication, history and literature to philosophy and religion. Students should develop a working knowledge of a foreign language and choose a blend of courses across the humanities disciplines, including literature and history. Advisors, and the university catalogs and links on the *articulation* web site can provide more guidance on specific course recommendations depending on the student's area of interest and anticipated baccalaureate major.

60 Hour Core

- A. English (6: GenEd)**
- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Engl Comp I | 3 hours |
| 2. Engl Comp II/Adv Engl Comp | 3 hours |
- B. Math/Analytical Reasoning (6: GenEd)**
- | | |
|------------------------|---------|
| 1. College Algebra | 3 hours |
| 2. GenEd Math Elective | 3 hours |
- C. Natural Sciences (9-10 = 9 GenEd + 0-1 Lab)**
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|--|----------|
| 1. Biological & Physical (both, sequence in one) | 9 hours |
| 2. Lab Course to augment either of the above. | 0-1 hour |
- D. Humanities (24-30 = 9 GenEd + 21)**
- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1. Literature, GenEd | 3 hours |
| 2. History Sequence or GenEd Humanities | 6 hours |
| 3. Foreign Language series | 6-14 hours |
| 4. Humanities Electives | 6-12 hours |
- E. Social/ Behavioral Science (6-12 = 6 GenEd, include 1 course at Sophomore Level)**
- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Social Science GenEd courses | 6 hours |
| 2. Social Science electives | 0-6 hours |
- F. Fine Arts (3: GenEd)**
- | | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| 1. Fine Arts GenEd course | 3 hours |
|---------------------------|---------|

Check with an advisor. The anticipated major or area of interest will impact the type and number of humanities classes that should be completed.

Natural Sciences Guides for Transfer AS Degree

Natural Science disciplines require skill in mathematics theory and application. Students interested in science fields will need to study calculus and select the natural science course options offered 'for science majors' to develop a strong core knowledge in the sciences.

As an alternative to taking all of the science options, a student interested in further study in *biological science* majors may choose to add more courses in the Humanities area, e.g., foreign language (6-12 hours) to the degree plan in preparation for transfer into a baccalaureate program. Advisors, and the university catalogs and links on the *articulation* web site can provide more guidance on specific course recommendations depending on the student's area of interest and anticipated baccalaureate major.

Biological Sciences Guide

60 Hour Core

A. English (6: GenEd)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Engl Comp I | 3 hours |
| 2. Engl Comp II/Adv Engl Comp | 3 hours |

B. Mathematics/Analytical Reasoning (7-12 = 6 GenEd + 1-6)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. College Algebra/Trigonometry | 0-3 hours |
| 2. Trigonometry/Statistics | 3-4 hours |
| 3. Calculus I | 4-5 hours |

C. Natural Sciences (18-28 = 9 GenEd + 9-19)

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1. Biology I & Lab | 4 hours |
| 2. Biology II & Lab | 4 hours |
| 3. Chemistry I & Lab | 4 hours |
| <i>Choose at least 6 hours from:</i> | |
| 4. Chemistry (& Lab) | 3-8 hours |
| 5. Microbiology (& Lab) | 3-8 hours |
| 6. Organic Chemistry (& Labs) | 3-8 hours |
| 7. Other/additional Natural Sci Courses | 3-15 hours |

D. Humanities (9-21 = 9 GenEd + 0-12)

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1. Literature, GenEd | 3 hours |
| 2. History/Communications/Humanities elec | 3-6 hours |
| 3. Foreign Lang series or Humanities elec | 0-12 hours |

E. Social/ Behavioral Science (6: GenEd, include 1 course at Sophomore Level)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Social Science GenEd courses | 6 hours |
|---------------------------------|---------|

F. Fine Arts (3: GenEd)

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|---------------------------|--------|
| 1. Fine Arts GenEd course | 3 hour |
|---------------------------|--------|

Check with an advisor. The anticipated major or area of interest will impact the type and number of humanities classes that should be completed.

Natural Sciences Guides for Transfer AS Degree

Natural Science disciplines require skill in mathematics theory and application. Students interested in science fields will need to study calculus and select the natural science course options offered 'for science majors' to develop a strong core knowledge in the sciences.

As an alternative to taking all of the science options, a student interested in further study in *physical science* majors may choose to add more courses in the Humanities area, e.g., foreign language (6-12 hours) to the degree plan in preparation for transfer into a baccalaureate program. Advisors, and the university catalogs and links on the *articulation* web site can provide more guidance on specific course recommendations depending on the student's area of interest and anticipated baccalaureate major.

Physical Sciences Guide

60 Hour Core

A. English (6: GenEd)

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|-------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Engl Comp I | 3 hours |
| 2. Engl Comp II/Adv Engl Comp | 3 hours |

B. Math/Analytical Reasoning (8-10 = 6 GenEd + 2-4)

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|----------------|-----------|
| 1. Calculus I | 4-5 hours |
| 2. Calculus II | 4-5 hours |

C. Natural Sciences (17-27 = 9 GenEd + 8-18)

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|---|------------|
| 1. Chemistry I & Lab | 4 hours |
| 2. Chemistry II & Lab | 4 hours |
| 3. Biology I | 3 hours |
| <i>Choose at least 6 hours from:</i> | |
| 4. Organic Chemistry (& Lab) | 3-8 hours |
| 6. Biology (& Lab) | 3-8 hours |
| 7. Geology (& Lab) | 3-8 hours |
| 8. Physics (& Lab) | 3-8 hours |
| 9. Other/additional Natural Sci Courses | 3-15 hours |

D. Humanities (9-21 = 9 GenEd + 0-12)

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1. Literature, GenEd | 3 hours |
| 2. History/Communications/Humanities elec | 3-6 hours |
| 3. Foreign Lang series or Humanities elec | 0-12 hours |

E. Social/ Behavioral Science (6: GenEd, include 1 course at Sophomore Level)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Social Science GenEd courses | 6 hours |
|---------------------------------|---------|

F. Fine Arts (3: GenEd)

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| 1. Fine Arts GenEd course | 3 hour |
|---------------------------|--------|

Check with an advisor. The anticipated major or area of interest will impact the type and number of humanities classes that should be completed, or which type of physics class would be most appropriate.

Social Sciences Guide for Transfer AA Degree

Social and behavioral science disciplines study human behavior and the interrelationship of individuals and societal, political, and economic systems. Within the social science course category, students should choose courses in at least three different areas. Advisors, and the university catalogs and links on the *articulation* web site can provide more guidance on specific course recommendations.

60 Hour Core

A. English (6: GenEd)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Engl Comp I | 3 hours |
| 2. Engl Comp II/Adv Engl Comp | 3 hours |

B. Math/Analytical Reasoning (6: GenEd)

- | | |
|------------------------|---------|
| 1. College Algebra | 3 hours |
| 2. GenEd Math Elective | 3 hours |

C. Natural Sciences (9-10 = 9 GenEd + 0-1 Lab)

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Biological & Physical (both, sequence in one) | 9 hours |
| 2. Lab Course to augment either of the above. | 0-1 hour |

D. Humanities (9-21 = 9 GenEd + 0-12)

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|--|------------|
| 1. Literature, GenEd | 3 hours |
| 2. History Sequence or Humanities elective | 6 hours |
| 3. Foreign Language | 0-12 hours |
| 4. Humanities or related electives | 0-6 hours |

E. Social/ Behavioral Science (15-27 = 6 GenEd + 9-21)

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. Social Science GenEd courses | 6 hours (3 @ Sophomore Level) |
| 2. Social Science or related electives | 9-21 hours |

F. Fine Arts (3: GenEd)

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| 1. Fine Arts GenEd course | 3 hours |
|---------------------------|---------|

Check with an advisor. The anticipated major or area of interest will impact the type and number of classes that should be completed. For example, a student interested in business should choose business calculus, economics, communication studies, and introductory accounting courses. For anthropology or psychology, that student might focus more on courses in anthropology, history, psychology, and a foreign language.

Arts Guide for Transfer AA Degree

Students concentrating in the Arts area are interested in aesthetic creation and form, e.g., architecture, art history, dance, design, music performance or theory, theatre, visual arts, etc. Prospective arts majors may focus on their particular area of interest but should also choose a blend of courses across disciplines. Students planning to pursue a degree in music (BM/BME) must be prepared to demonstrate proficiency skills in theory, keyboard, music literature, and applied music (via audition/placement exams). Advisors, and the university catalogs and links on the *articulation* web site can provide more guidance on specific course recommendations.

60 Hour Core

A. English (6: GenEd)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Engl Comp I | 3 hours |
| 2. Engl Comp II/Adv Engl Comp | 3 hours |

B. Math/Analytical Reasoning (6: GenEd)

- | | |
|------------------------|---------|
| 1. College Algebra | 3 hours |
| 2. GenEd Math Elective | 3 hours |

C. Natural Sciences (9-10 = 9 GenEd + 0-1 Lab)

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Biological & Physical (both, sequence in one) | 9 hours. |
| 2. Lab Course to augment either of the above. | 0-1 hour |

D. Humanities (9-12 = 9 GenEd + 3)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Literature, GenEd | 3 hours |
| 2. Humanities GenEd courses (2) | 6 hours |
| 3. Related elective | 0-3 hours |

E. Social/ Behavioral Science (6-9 = 6 GenEd, w/ 1 course at Sophomore Level, + 3)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Social Science GenEd courses (2) | 6 hours |
| 2. Related elective | 0-3 hours |

F. Fine Arts (15-24 = 3 GenEd + 20)

1. Choose 15-24 hours (5-8 courses), including one from at least three of the areas below.
One course (3 hours) must be from the campus' GenEd Fine Arts course list.
 - History (e.g., Art, Architecture, Design, Music, Theatre)
 - Appreciation (e.g., Art, Drama, Music)
 - Theory (e.g., Color, Composition, Design)
 - Basic Skills (Drawing, Keyboard, Painting, Performance)
2. Free elective course (any area) 0-3 hours

Check with an advisor. The anticipated major or area of interest will impact the type and number of fine arts classes that should be completed. Many majors in music and the arts have selective admission based on audition or portfolio; successful completion of the transfer associate degree does not guarantee admission to the desired baccalaureate.

Student Benefits & Responsibilities for the Transfer Associate Degree:

1. The Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree guarantees admission to a Louisiana public 4-year university. However, admission to some high demand programs is competitive and can be based on grade point average and other academic requirements.

It is the student's responsibility to research and fulfill the admission requirements for such programs.

2. The Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree guarantees that transfer students will have an equal opportunity to compete with 'native' students to enter limited access programs at 4-year universities.

It is the student's responsibility to know the transfer admission requirements and to be as prepared as possible to compete for a place in the program.

3. The Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree guarantees that all 60 credits will transfer to the Louisiana public 4-year university.

However, if a student transfers prior to completing the 60 credit associate transfer degree, s/he may find that some courses do not transfer or that s/he is required to take additional courses to meet the general education requirement at the receiving 4-year university.

4. Graduates of the designated transfer Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree programs must have achieved a grade of "C" or better in each course of the 60 hours applied toward the degree to qualify for block transfer guarantees.

5. The Louisiana Transfer Associate is a two-year portable academic credential which awards junior standing in any Louisiana public university.

Advising and planning are key to success. All students who might be considering an eventual transfer from one campus to another should develop, with an advisor's assistance, a written degree plan. It is the student's responsibility to choose the array of courses that will optimize preparation for admission into specific senior colleges and timely completion of the expected baccalaureate major.

**Participating Two and Four Year Universities
Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree**

Two Year Universities:

Baton Rouge Community College
Bossier Parish Community College
Delgado Community College
Fletcher Technical Community College
Louisiana Delta Community College
LSU Eunice
Nunez Community College
River Parishes Community College
South Louisiana Community College
Southern University Shreveport
[SOWELA Technical Community College: *in Candidacy*]

Louisiana Public Four Year Universities:

Grambling University
LSU A & M
LSU Alexandria
LSU Shreveport
Louisiana Tech University
McNeese State University
Nichols State University
Northwestern State University
Southeastern University
Southern University A & M
Southern University New Orleans
University of Louisiana Lafayette
University of Louisiana Monroe
University of New Orleans