

THE MACRAO ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

Michigan Association of Collegiate
Registrars and Admissions Officers

Intent

The MACRAO Articulation Agreement was established to improve transfer student articulation between two-year and four-year colleges in Michigan. The intent of the Agreement is to insure a common understanding and agreement among signatory institutions as to general education requirements. Such agreement among institutions provides transfer students with program security and planning flexibility.

The adoption of this articulation agreement in Michigan does not affect the autonomy of individual institutions to introduce new courses or new programs, to establish concentration prerequisites, to determine specific requirements for native students, to evaluate the transferability of individual courses, or to require certain levels of quality for entrance. It does, however, insure that a student who receives an A.A. or A.S. degree from a Michigan community college would not be required to pursue further general education requirements at any four-year college or university.

Although the Articulation Agreement as written specifies that it applies to students who hold an appropriate degree from a participating two-year institution, it was not intended to limit an individual student's mobility. The Agreement was designed to allow a student to complete a specified program of general studies which will allow transfer at the most appropriate time for him/her with the assurance that no additional general education requirements would be imposed by the receiving institution. For example, a student who transfers after completing 45 semester hours at a participating two-year institution including curriculum provisions of the Agreement would be considered as having fulfilled the general education requirements of any receiving signatory four-year institution. Such interpretation does not imply that the student would be admissible if the receiving institution required an Associate Degree as an admission criterion, but only that if admitted, the student would not be required to pursue further general education requirements except as stipulated by signatory institutions.

The Articulation Committee feels that while the attainment of an Associate Degree is desirable for most prospective transfer students, individual objectives and circumstances are best considered by allowing each student maximum flexibility to determine the time of transfer.

MACRAO ARTICULATION AGREEMENT AND GUIDELINES

Effective 1973-74

MACRAO ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

The intent of the agreement is to ensure that a student who completes an Associate of Arts or an Associate of Science Degree at a public community college will have satisfied the basic two-year requirements of the four-year colleges.

1. Basic two-year requirements which must be included in the Associate of Arts and Associate of Science Degrees are as follows:
 - a. English Composition (6-semester hours or 9-quarter hours)
 - b. Natural Science (8-semester hours or 12-quarter hours) At least one of the natural sciences will be a laboratory course. Mathematics would be included in the natural science category. Courses will be taken in more than one academic discipline.
 - c. Social Science (8-semester hours or 12-quarter hours) Courses will be taken in more than one academic discipline.
 - d. Humanities (8-semester hours or 12-quarter hours) Courses will be taken in more than one academic discipline.
2. The inclusion of specific courses within a given category would be determined by the community colleges. For example, a course entitled Western Civilization might (depending on the content) be appropriately designated by an institution as either social science or humanities.
3. Courses which are not transferable, such as those of a technical, vocational, or developmental nature, will not be included in the basic requirements at the community colleges.
4. The four-year colleges may not require additional basic two year requirements regardless of their individual course evaluations if the transfer student has received the A.A. or A.S. Degree.
5. A student who has completed the basic two-year requirements but not the A.A. or A.S. Degree requirements of the community college will not be required to pursue further basic courses at the four-year college.
6. Each four-year college will determine the equivalence and applicability of basic two-year courses in meeting other graduation requirements.

7. Transfer students who have not completed the basic two-year requirements of the community college will meet the requirements of the four-year college as determined by an individual evaluation of his previous work.
8. Foreign language requirements for individual Baccalaureate Degree programs will be the prerogative of the four-year colleges.
9. Any limitations, provisos, or exceptions listed on the signed agreement will be honored.
10. A community college student must be admissible to a participating four-year college in order to benefit from this MACRAO Articulation Agreement.

GUIDELINES

1. The MACRAO Articulation Agreement applies to the basic two-year requirements only, and does not excuse the community college students from meeting specific course requirements for an area of study (Business Administration, Elementary Education, etc.) while enrolled at the community college.
2. The participating community colleges will develop and implement a process to identify and certify students who meet the MACRAO Articulation agreement basic two-year requirements. (Example: This student meets the basic two-year requirements of the MACRAO Articulation Agreement.)
3. In the event unresolved differences develop, the following process is recommended:
 - a. A representative from each of the two colleges involved will hold a meeting with the chairperson of the MACRAO Committee on College Articulation to resolve the differences.
 - b. If the differences are not resolved by “a”, it will be the responsibility of each college to state their concerns in writing to the chairperson of the Committee on College Articulation. The chairperson will submit the reports from each college along with recommendations of the Committee on College Articulation to the President of MACRAO. The president of MACRAO will invite the representatives from the colleges involved to a special meeting of the MACRAO Executive Committee in a final effort to resolve the differences.
 - c. If the differences are still not resolved as the result of “b”, it would appear that it would be appropriate for the colleges involved in the unresolved differences to reexamine their institutional commitment to the MACRAO Articulation Agreement.

Approved by the Academic Senate 4/18/78