

**PROPOSAL FOR A**

**UNIFORM ARTICULATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN**

**Signatory North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities**

**BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS PROGRAMS**

**and**

**North Carolina Community College System**

**ASSOCIATE IN FINE ARTS (AFA) IN VISUAL ARTS PROGRAMS**

**Effective: Fall 2019**

Approved by the State Board of Community Colleges on February 14, 2019

Approved by the Board of North Carolina Independent Colleges & Universities on November 9, 2019

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**I. Background**

Since the adoption of a revised Independent Comprehensive Articulation Agreement between the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) and the North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (NCICU) in 2015, the two organizations have worked collaboratively to strengthen the transfer relationship and to provide greater opportunity for students. Accordingly, community college and NCICU visual arts faculty, department chairs, and administrators have been focused on forging productive, collaborative relationships founded on the common goal of best serving students pursuing visual arts in North Carolina's institutions of higher education.

**The Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Articulation Agreement** is an agreement jointly created by the NCCCS Associate in Fine Arts (AFA) in Visual Arts programs and the signatory NCICU Bachelor of Fine Arts programs. The AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Articulation Agreement is focused on facilitating transfer for students who begin visual arts studies at a community college and then transfer to one of the signatory NCICU Bachelor of Fine Arts programs. There are multiple Bachelor of Fine Arts-granting institutions within the NCICU. While the individual names of these Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees may vary slightly between NCICU programs, for the sake of consistency and clarity we will refer to all such four-year degrees as "Bachelor of Fine Arts" within this document. The specific title of each degree will be listed in Appendix A, under Participating Programs.

## **II. Purpose and Rationale**

This document presents a uniform, statewide academic progression agreement that will promote educational advancement opportunities for Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts graduates moving between North Carolina community colleges and the signatory institutions of the North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities in order to complete Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees. It describes a progression degree plan that includes required general education and prerequisite courses that are acceptable to all signatory Bachelor of Fine Arts programs. AFA in Visual Arts graduates will meet entrance requirements at all of the signatory North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities and will meet entrance requirements for application directly to the Bachelor of Fine Arts programs. AFA in Visual Arts graduates must meet the admission requirements and associated timelines as published by each Bachelor of Fine Arts program. Acceptance into any Bachelor of Fine Arts program is not guaranteed.

The goal of this agreement is the creation of a more seamless and rational transfer process for community college Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts students.

### III. Policies

The AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Articulation Agreement is made between the State Board of the North Carolina Community College System and signatory NCICU institutions. It applies to all North Carolina community colleges that offer the Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts program and to those signatory NCICU institutions that operate Bachelor of Fine Arts Programs. For the list of participating programs, see Appendix A. The AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Articulation Agreement applies to all community college students who successfully complete the AFA in Visual Arts Degree.

#### **A. AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Independent Transfer Committee (AFABFAITC)**

Authority to interpret and make changes in the AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts rests with the AFA to Bachelor of Fine Arts Independent Transfer Committee (AFABFAITC). The AFABFAITC is an ad-hoc eight-member co-chaired committee appointed by the Chief Academic Officer (CAO) of the North Carolina Community College System and the President of North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities. Questions concerning the AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts should be directed to the appropriate system's Chief Academic Officer with an explanation of the institutional policy that may (appear to) conflict with the AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts. The CAO will forward unresolved questions to the AFABFAITC for resolution. Each entity will appoint one ex-officio non-voting member of the AFABFAITC. For further details, see Appendices B and C.

#### **B. Transfer Credit Appeal**

AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts students who perceive that the terms of the AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts have not been honored may follow the AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Transfer Credit Appeal Process as outlined in Appendix D.

### IV. Regulations

#### **A. Transfer of Credits**

The AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Articulation Agreement establishes the procedures governing the transfer of credits for students who graduate from North Carolina Community College AFA in Visual Arts programs and apply to Bachelor of Fine Arts programs at signatory NCICU institutions. The AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Articulation Agreement does not address admission to a specific institution or Bachelor of Fine Arts program within an institution, nor does it imply a specific time toward degree completion.

**1. Eligibility**

To be eligible for the transfer of credits under the AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Articulation Agreement, an applicant must earn an AFA in Visual Arts degree in a North Carolina Community College with a GPA of at least 2.0 and a grade of C or better in all transfer courses. An applicant must meet the receiving institutions admissions requirements.

The student's program of study must meet the criteria set forth in the AFA in Visual Arts curriculum standard as defined in Appendix E.

**2. Procedures governing transfer of Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts into Bachelor of Fine Arts**

- a. The agreement enables students who have graduated from a NCCCS institution with an AFA in Visual Arts to complete a common list of courses that meet the entrance requirements at all of the Bachelor of Fine Arts programs at signatory NCICU institutions. NCICU visual arts program admissions are competitive, therefore no student is guaranteed admission to a visual arts program. In addition to meeting entrance requirements, transfer students may also be required to submit evidence of their creative work and/or portfolio, depending on the requirements for each institution.
- b. A student who completes an AFA in Visual Arts with a GPA of at least 2.0 and a grade of C or better in the AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts courses listed in Appendix E and meets the receiving institution's admissions requirements will have fulfilled the Bachelor of Fine Arts program entry requirements, and all courses in the Universal General Education Transfer Component will transfer with course equivalency to fulfill general education requirements for the Bachelor of Fine Arts. This agreement does not exempt students from meeting the minimum admissions requirement.
- c. Graduates of the AFA in Visual Arts program will receive at least 60 semester hours of academic credit for courses with a grade of C or better toward the appropriate Bachelor of Fine Arts degree upon admission to a signatory NCICU institution.

**3. Certification of the Associate of Fine Arts in Visual Arts degree completion**

Certification of completion of the Associate of Fine Arts in Visual Arts degree is the responsibility of the community college at which the courses were completed. Transcript identification of the Universal General Education Transfer Component Courses is also the responsibility of the community college at which the courses were completed.

#### **4. Transfer of Courses not originated at North Carolina community colleges**

Transfer courses that do not originate in a North Carolina Community College or signatory NCICU institution may be used under the AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Articulation Agreement with the following stipulations:

- a. Courses must be completed at a regionally accredited institution of higher education;
- b. Courses must meet general education requirements; and
- c. Courses may total no more than 14 hours of general education course credit.
- d. If the courses are used to complete the AFA in Visual Arts degree, the courses will transfer as part of the degree.

#### **5. Transfer of Advanced Placement (AP) course credit**

Advanced Placement (AP) course credits, awarded for a score of three or higher, are acceptable as part of a student's successfully completed AFA in Visual Arts degree under the Agreement.

### **B. Impact of the AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts on other articulation agreements**

The AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts takes precedence over bilateral articulation agreements established between signatory NCICU institutions and the North Carolina Community College System but does not necessarily preclude such agreements.

Institution-to-institution articulation agreements that fall within the parameters of the AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts and enhance transferability of students from community colleges to senior institutions are acceptable. Institutional agreements conflicting with the AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts are not permitted.

# Appendices

## **Appendix A** **Participating Programs**

as of July 1, 2018

North Carolina Community Colleges with approval to offer the Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts (A10600) degree:

Alamance Community College	Gaston College
Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College	Guilford Technical Community College
Blue Ridge Community College	Lenoir Community College
Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute	Mitchell Community College
Cape Fear Community College	Piedmont Community College
Carteret Community College	Pitt Community College
Catawba Valley Community College	Richmond Community College
Central Piedmont Community College	Roanoke-Chowan Community College
Cleveland Community College	Rockingham Community College
Coastal Carolina Community College	Rowan-Cabarrus Community College
College of the Albemarle	Sandhills Community College
Craven Community College	South Piedmont Community College
Durham Technical Community College	Southwestern Community College
Fayetteville Technical Community College	Surry Community College
Forsyth Technical Community College	Tri-County Community College
	Vance-Granville Community College
	Wake Technical Community College
	Western Piedmont Community College

North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities Signatory Institutions:

Barton College	Meredith College ((Appendix F)
Brevard College	North Carolina Wesleyan College
Chowan University	Pfeiffer University
Greensboro College	Queens University of Charlotte
Guilford College	Salem College
Lenoir-Rhyne University	St. Andrews University (Appendix F)
Mars Hill University	University of Mount Olive
Saint Augustine's University	† † #

*For the most current list of community colleges approved to offer the Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts (A10600), please visit the NC Community College System Catalog at <http://www.nccommunitycolleges.edu/academic-programs/education-catalog>.*



## **Appendix B**

### **AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Articulation Agreement Independent Transfer Committee Procedures**

Articulation between the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) and signatory North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (NCICU) is a dynamic process. To ensure the currency of the AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Articulation Agreement, occasional modifications to that agreement may be necessary. The AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Independent Transfer Committee (AFABFAITC) will receive requests for modification only upon the recommendation of the chief academic officer of the NCCCS or NCICU. Because the modification process involves faculty and administrative review, this process may require up to 12 months for final action. Decisions made by the AFABFAITC will be consistent with all pertinent accreditation standards.

## Appendix C

### **Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Independent Transfer Committee (AFABFAITC) Membership**

AFABFAITC members shall serve on an ad hoc basis as cases arise.

The AFABFAITC shall have co-chairs, one from the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) members, and one from the North Carolina Independent Colleges and University (NCICU) members. Co-chairs shall be designated at the time representatives are appointed by the NCCCS and the NCICU as outlined below.

#### *NCCCS Members:*

- Four representatives to be appointed by the Chief Academic Officer of NCCCS including:
  - One representative from the NCCCS administration (Non-Voting)
  - One representative from the North Carolina Community College AFA Association Executive Committee.
  - Two representatives from two community colleges approved to offer the AFA in Visual Arts.

#### *NCICU Members:*

- Four representatives to be appointed by the President of the NCICU, including:
  - One representative from NCICU Staff (Non-Voting)
  - Three representatives from the NCICU signatory institutions

## Appendix D

### **Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Independent Articulation Agreement Transfer Credit Appeal Procedure**

**Guiding Principle:** If a student from a North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) college believes the terms of the AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Independent Articulation Agreement have not been honored by a signatory NCICU institution to which the student has been admitted, the student may invoke the AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Articulation Agreement Transfer Credit Appeal Procedure.

#### **Steps in Filing an Appeal**

**Step #1:** **No later than the last day of classes of the first semester for which admission is offered,** the student must submit a Transfer Credit Appeal Form along with any supporting documentation to the Visual Arts Chair/Executive (or other campus designee) at the signatory NCICU campus to which the student has been admitted. Students first enrolling at the senior institution in a summer session must submit their appeal by the end of the subsequent fall semester.

**The student must specify on the appeal form the specific AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Articulation Agreement language that is in contention. Appeals that lack this information will not be considered.**

The Visual Arts Chair/Executive (or other campus designee) will review the appeal and respond in writing (email or letter) to the student within 15 business days of receiving the student's appeal.

**Step #2:** If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Visual Arts Chair/Executive (or other campus designee), the student may appeal on the same form to the next designated administrator i.e. Dean/Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer (Provost) of the specific signatory NCICU institution within 15 days of written notice of the director's decision.

The designated administrator will review the appeal and respond in writing (email or letter) to the student within 15 business days of receiving the student's appeal.

**Step #3** If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the designated administrator, the student may appeal to the AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Independent Transfer Committee. The student must submit the appeal to the committee within 15 days of the receipt of the Provost's decision. The appeal to the AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Independent Transfer Committee appeals subcommittee should be sent to:

AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Independent Transfer  
Committee  
North Carolina Independent Colleges & Universities  
530 North Blount Street

Raleigh, NC 27604

The committee will review the appeal and notify the student of the final decision within 10 business days of receiving the appeal.

**NCCCS Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts to NCICU Bachelor of Fine Arts Articulation Agreement  
Transfer Credit Appeal Form**

**Section 1: Student Information** *(to be completed by the student submitting the form)*

The completed form and any supporting documentation **must be submitted to the signatory NCICU institution's Visual Arts Chair/Executive no later than the last day of classes of the first semester for which admission is offered or by the end of the subsequent fall semester for students enrolling in the summer.**

Specify the nature of the appeal and cite the specific AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Articulation Agreement language that is in contention. Appeals that do not include this information cannot be considered.

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First: \_\_\_\_\_ MI: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print or type)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number and Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Area code/Number)

NC Community College from which AFA in Visual Arts was earned: \_\_\_\_\_

NCICU institution offering admission: \_\_\_\_\_ beginning (semester/year) \_\_\_\_\_

Course title in question: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 2: Basis for your appeal:** State your concern(s), citing specific language in the AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Articulation Agreement that is applicable to your contention. Attach AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Articulation Agreement supporting documents.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Received by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Appendix E**

Effective Term: Fall 2016

**Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts (A10600)****Curriculum Standard**

The Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts degree shall be granted for a planned program of study consisting of a minimum of **60 semester hours** of college transfer courses. Within the degree program, the institution shall include opportunities for the achievement of competence in reading, writing, oral communication, fundamental mathematical skills, and basic computer use.

**UNIVERSAL GENERAL EDUCATION TRANSFER (UGETC) COMPONENT**

*All Universal General Education Transfer Component courses will transfer for equivalency credit.)*

**English Composition (6 SHC)**

ENG 111	Writing and Inquiry	(3 SHC)
ENG 112	Writing/Research in the Disciplines	(3 SHC)

**Communications and Humanities/Fine Arts (6 SHC)**

*Select two courses from two different disciplines.*

ART 111	Art Appreciation	(3 SHC)
COM 231	Public Speaking	(3 SHC)
ENG 231	American Literature I	(3 SHC)
ENG 232	American Literature II	(3 SHC)
ENG 241	British Literature I	(3 SHC)
ENG 242	British Literature II	(3 SHC)
MUS 110	Music Appreciation	(3 SHC)
MUS 112	Introduction to Jazz	(3 SHC)
PHI 215	Philosophical Issues	(3 SHC)
PHI 240	Introduction to Ethics	(3 SHC)

**Social/Behavioral Sciences (6 SHC)**

*Select two courses from two different disciplines.*

ECO 251	Principles of Microeconomics	(3 SHC)
ECO 252	Principles of Macroeconomics	(3 SHC)
HIS 111	World Civilizations I	(3 SHC)
HIS 112	World Civilizations II	(3 SHC)
HIS 131	American History I	(3 SHC)
HIS 132	American History II	(3 SHC)
POL 120	American Government	(3 SHC)
PSY 150	General Psychology	(3 SHC)
SOC 210	Introduction to Sociology	(3 SHC)

**Math (3-4 SHC)**

Select one course from the following:

MAT 143	Quantitative Literacy	(3 SHC)
MAT 152	Statistical Methods I	(4 SHC)
MAT 171	Precalculus Algebra	(4 SHC)
MAT 271	Calculus I	(4 SHC)
MAT 272	Calculus II	(4 SHC)

**Natural Sciences (4 SHC)**

Select 4 SHC from the following:

AST 111 Descriptive Astronomy (3 SHC) and AST 111A Descriptive Astronomy Lab (1 SHC)  
 AST 151 General Astronomy I (3 SHC) and AST 151A General Astronomy I Lab (1 SHC)  
 BIO 110 Principles of Biology (4 SHC)  
 BIO 111 General Biology I (4 SHC)  
 CHM 151 General Chemistry I (4 SHC)  
 GEL 111 Geology (4 SHC)  
 PHY 110 Conceptual Physics (3 SHC) and PHY 110A Conceptual Physics Lab (1 SHC)

**ART (15 SHC)****Additional Universal General Education Transfer Courses: ART**

ART 114	Art History Survey I	(3 SHC)
ART 115	Art History Survey II	(3 SHC)

**Other Required: ART**

ART 121	Two-Dimensional Design	(3 SHC)
ART 122	Three-Dimensional Design	(3 SHC)
ART 131	Drawing I	(3 SHC)

An additional 18-20 SHC of courses should be selected from the courses classified as pre-major, elective, general education, or UGETC within the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement. Students should select these courses based on their intended major and transfer university.

**Academic Transition (1 SHC)**

ACA 122	College Transfer Success	(1 SHC)
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**Total Semester Hours Credit (SHC) in Program: 60-61\***

\*One semester hour of credit may be included in a 61 SHC Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts program of study. The transfer of this hour is not guaranteed.

Students must meet the receiving university's foreign language and/or health and physical education requirements, if applicable, prior to or after transfer to the senior institution.

Approved by the State Board of Community Colleges on February 19, 2016; Editorial revision 06/29/2016

**Appendix F**

**North Carolina Independent Colleges & Universities Institutions Honoring the  
Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Articulation Agreement**

*The following institutions do not award Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees but offer a degree in visual arts other than a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree and agree to honor the AFA in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Articulation Agreement.*

*Meredith College*

*St. Andrews University*



## ICAA – Fine Arts

Whereas, on November 9, 2018, the Board of North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities approved the Articulation Agreement in Fine Arts designed in conjunction with the Independent Comprehensive Articulation Agreement between the North Carolina Community College System and Signatory Institutions of North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (hereafter “ICAA-FA”); and

Whereas, on February 14, 2019, the State Board of Community Colleges approved said ICAA-FA.

Now, therefore comes Gardner-Webb University (Signatory Institution) and agrees to the terms and conditions set forth in the ICAA-FA between the North Carolina Community College System and Signatory Institutions of North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities beginning with the academic year 2019-2020 and continuing until such time as it remains a Signatory Institution or the ICAA-FA is terminated or superseded.

This the 17<sup>th</sup> day of June 2019



Ben C. Leslie  
Provost and Executive Vice President

Name and Title

Gardner-Webb University  
PO Box 997  
Boiling Springs, NC 28017

Signatory Institution