

# INSTITUTIONAL ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

FRANCISCAN UNIVERSITY OF STEUBENVILLE

AND

WEST VIRGINIA NORTHERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

This Institutional Articulation Agreement is made between Franciscan University of Steubenville ("Franciscan") and West Virginia Northern Community College ("West Virginia Northern") in recognition of the need to facilitate the transfer of students from West Virginia Northern to Franciscan to pursue and achieve their educational goals.

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, located in southeastern Ohio, Franciscan integrates strong academics with a dynamic faith environment to form a vibrant Catholic intellectual and faith community of over 2,400 students from all 50 states and 12 countries. With 40 plus undergraduate degrees, 12 graduate programs, and a popular study-abroad program in Austria, Franciscan has ranked in the elite top tier of Midwest universities in U.S. News & World Report's guidebook on "America's Best Colleges" since 1998. It is also on FORBES select list of America's Top Colleges, Kiplinger's Best Values in Private Universities, and the Cardinal Newman Society's Guide to Choosing a Catholic College. Franciscan is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission ([hlcommission.org](http://hlcommission.org)), a regional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

WHEREAS, West Virginia Northern is a comprehensive community college responsible for educational programs of two years or less duration for high school graduates and adults. As a comprehensive community college, Northern offers a wide variety of programs and courses in the arts and sciences, career-technical education, developmental studies and community service. Under an open-door enrollment policy, the College admits all adults desiring postsecondary education. High school students recommended by their schools for early entrance are also admitted. Graduates receive Associate in Arts degrees, Associate in Science degrees, Associate in Applied Science degrees and Certificates.

WHEREAS, it is understood by the parties that both institutions are committed to, and will adhere to, applicable laws and regulations, as well as to applicable government and accreditation agency policies and guidelines, as they may be effective after the date of this Agreement.

WHEREAS, while this Agreement is active and for a period of five years after its completion, the parties agree to maintain auditable records of all charges pertaining to this Agreement, and West Virginia Northern hereby agrees to make such records available to Franciscan as Franciscan may reasonably require. Likewise, Franciscan agrees to make such records available to West Virginia Northern as may reasonably be required.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises set forth herein and to ease the transfer process and to promote the closer coordination of academic courses, programs and degrees offered by our institutions, the parties hereby enter into the following Institutional Articulation Agreement:

1. West Virginia Northern and Franciscan wish to provide a mechanism whereby students have

access to a seamless educational path starting with a West Virginia Northern Associate of Arts degree in Pre-Early Childhood Education and leading to the completion of a Franciscan Bachelor of Science in Education degree. Students successfully completing the 2+2 Program will receive an Associate of Arts degree from West Virginia Northern. Upon successfully completing the remaining specified credit hours at Franciscan University, they will receive a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education (Elementary Education PK-5), with eligibility for the initial Ohio teaching license upon successful completion of the educator preparation program.

The "2+2" term is used to refer to a transfer agreement through which a student completes an Associate degree at WVNCC and finishes a Bachelor's degree at another institution. Because of individual student factors, part-time or full-time status, need for developmental education coursework, scheduling and availability of courses, or other factors, all students may not be able to complete this degree in two (Associate's) or four (Bachelor's) years. The term "2+2" does not imply a guarantee that a student will be able to complete all requirements in four years.

2. Transfer students from West Virginia Northern shall be subject to the catalog in force at the time of their admission to Franciscan and to any revisions that occur after its publication and prior to their enrollment. Once admitted, such transfer students shall be subject to the same regulations governing applicability of catalog requirements (including, but not limited to major, GPA, graduation, and/or residency requirements, policies, procedures, and standards) as native Franciscan students. Furthermore, West Virginia Northern transfer students shall be accorded the same class standing and other privileges as native Franciscan students on the basis of the number of credits earned.
3. In addition to the West Virginia Northern courses, applicants for admission to a Franciscan University Teacher Education program must meet the following criteria:
  - Submit a transcript to Franciscan University verifying an overall grade point average of 2.5.
  - Successful completion of the PRAXIS CORE (reading, mathematics, & writing).  
*(Note: Students must provide evidence that they have passed all parts of the PRAXIS prior to acceptance & enrollment in classes in the Teacher Preparation Program. Students who do not pass the PRAXIS CORE are not eligible for licensure.)*
  - Submit a written application for admission to teacher education to the Department of Teacher Preparation Programs.
  - Submit two positive recommendations from faculty.
  - Positive recommendation by the Education Unit faculty.
4. West Virginia Northern students who have not completed their AA degree, or who have earned a cumulative grade point average below 2.5, or those who have been dismissed previously from another institution, will be considered for admission according to the admissions policy and standards of Franciscan, according to catalog requirements.
5. If an Education major transfer student has been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor for any reason, State or National credentialing boards, licensing boards, and agencies which require criminal background checks on potential employees and students may deny the student employment. Likewise, the Franciscan University Education Department may deny the student placement in field settings, even if the student has completed all academic requirements. If a student has been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor, the student shall be instructed to contact the appropriate Program Director or Division Chair at West Virginia Northern or Franciscan University.

6. Franciscan and West Virginia Northern will work together to maximize the acceptance and application of transfer credit. Students transferring credit outside of programmatic articulation Agreements will have the application of transfer credit done on a course-by-course basis by Franciscan. Ultimately, the acceptance and application of West Virginia Northern transfer credit is the decision of Franciscan.
7. Franciscan will provide West Virginia Northern with course equivalent information regarding Franciscan courses and their Franciscan equivalents. Franciscan will update the information and provide the most current equivalencies to West Virginia Northern for the upcoming academic year, annually no later than July 1st.
8. Due to curriculum structures and the variability in student enrollment patterns and transferred coursework, Franciscan cannot guarantee that West Virginia Northern students who transfer under the provisions of this Agreement will complete all the requirements to graduate from Franciscan within two years or by earning an additional 67 semester hours at Franciscan.
9. Franciscan will annually report to West Virginia Northern the total number of transfer students from West Virginia Northern for the previous academic year no later than July 1<sup>st</sup>.
10. Federal regulations mandate that financial aid can be disbursed to a student by only one institution during any given term. Financial aid eligibility through West Virginia Northern ends when the student completes their West Virginia Northern degree [or leaves West Virginia Northern] and commences working upon a degree program at Franciscan. Financial aid consortium agreements will be available to students pursuing a bachelor degree at Franciscan and exercised where permissible, with Franciscan, serving as the home institution.

#### **Term, Renewal, and Termination of this Agreement**

The Vice President for Academic Affairs at Franciscan and the Provost at West Virginia Northern, or their designees, are responsible for identifying and communicating to the other party any changes in the policies and/or requirements of their respective institutions that affect this Agreement.

This Agreement shall take effect, as of the date of its signing, for students entering West Virginia Northern in the 2021 summer semester and thereafter. It is understood that this Agreement will be reviewed annually by the appropriate parties at each institution, as designated by the officers listed below, and will be renewed automatically until superseded by either a new Agreement or formal termination. Either institution may terminate this Agreement at any time by written notice of at least one year in advance of the effective date of termination.

#### **General Provisions**

- A. **Amendments and Assignment.** The terms and provisions of this Agreement may be modified or amended only by the written consent of both Parties.
- B. **Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be considered an original and all such counterparts, together, shall constitute one and the same legal instrument.
- C. **Force Majeure.** Neither party will be liable for failure or delay to perform obligations under this Agreement, which have become practicably impossible because of circumstances beyond the

reasonable control of the applicable party. Such circumstances include without limitation natural disasters or acts of God; riots, acts of terrorism; labor disputes or stoppages; war; government acts, recommendations, guidelines, or orders including but not limited to COVID-19 or other epidemics, pandemics or outbreak of communicable disease (including but not limited to the suspension and/or cancellation of on-campus activities by the University due to the epidemics, pandemics or outbreak of communicable disease such as COVID-19); quarantines; national or regional emergencies; fire, explosion; utility, internet, or telecommunication service interruptions or outages; or any other cause, whether similar in kind to the foregoing or otherwise, beyond the party's reasonable control. Written notice of a party's failure or delay in performance due to force majeure must be given to the other party as soon as possible (within 24 hours) following the force majeure event commencing, which notice shall describe the force majeure event and the actions taken to minimize the impact thereof.

*All delivery dates under this Agreement affected by force majeure shall be tolled for the duration of such force majeure. The parties hereby agree, if feasible, not to cancel but reschedule the pertinent obligations and deliverables for mutually agreed dates as soon as practicable after the force majeure condition ceases to exist.*

- D. Relationship of the Parties. This Agreement is not intended, nor should anything herein be construed, to create the relationship of partners, joint venturers, principal and agent, employer and employee, or other fiduciary relationship between the Parties hereto. The Parties shall have the status of independent contractors and neither party shall have the authority to bind the other in any matters relating to this Agreement. Neither party will be entitled to receive workers' compensation benefits from the other party.
- E. Indemnification and Release. West Virginia Northern shall indemnify and hold harmless Franciscan, its Board of Trustees, administration, officers, faculty, and employees for and against damages, liabilities, losses, costs, and expenses, but only to the extent caused by the intentional, reckless, or negligent acts, errors, or omissions of West Virginia Northern, or of those for whom West Virginia Northern is legally liable, which arise out of West Virginia Northern's performance of its professional services under this agreement.
- Franciscan shall indemnify and hold harmless West Virginia Northern, its officers, and employees from and against damages, liabilities, losses, costs, and expenses, but only to the extent caused by the intentional, reckless, or negligent acts, errors, or omissions of Franciscan, or of those for whom Franciscan is legally liable, which arise out of the FUS's performance of its professional services under this agreement.
- Neither West Virginia Northern nor Franciscan shall be obligated to indemnify the other party in any manner whatsoever for the other party's negligence.
- F. Non-Exclusive. Nothing herein is intended nor shall be construed as creating an exclusive arrangement between Franciscan and West Virginia Northern.
- G. Use of Name. Neither Party shall use the name or marks of the other in any press materials or web-based or other publication without the prior written permission of the other Party.
- H. Dispute Resolution. In case of any dispute, the Parties agree to attempt to resolve such dispute amicably.
- I. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed and construed according to the laws of the



**Course Equivalents and Requirements for Elementary Education PK-5**  
**WVNCC/FUS Articulation**

WVNCC			FUS		
COURSE HEADING	COURSE TITLE	CR. HRS	COURSE HEADING	COURSE TITLE	CR HRS
ART 150	Art Appreciation	3		Fine Arts core	3
ART 256	Creative Expression in Fine Art	3	EDU 215	Activities, Games, & Drama	3
BIO 110 OR GSC 100	Principles of Biology OR Science in the Contemp. World	4	BIO 106 OR PHY105	Survey of Biological Science OR Survey of Physical Science	(4)
CIT 117	Microsoft Applications	3	CSC 155	Computers & Instruction Tech I	3
ECCE 100	Foundations of Education	3	EDU 218	Foundations of Education	3
ECCE 220	Language & Literacy	3	EDU 305	Teaching Language Arts	3
ECCE 214	Child Observation & Assessment	3	EDU 345	Reading Diagnosis & Assessment	3
ENG 101	College Composition I	3	ENG 280	Phonics & History of Language	3
ENG 102	College Composition II	3	ENG 210	Epic & the Person	3
GEOG 205	World Geography	3	GEO 122	Introduction to Geography	3
HIST 100 or 101	World Cultures I or II (History Core)	3	HST 105 or 106	History of Civilization I or II	3
HS 147	Understanding Human Diversity	3	SWK 309	Issues of Culture and Diversity	3
MATH 204	Math for Elementary Teachers I	4	MTH 121	Mathematics for Early and Middle Grade Teachers I	(4)
MATH 205	Math for Elementary Teachers II	4	MTH 122	Mathematics for Early and Middle Grade Teachers II	(4)
PHIL 200	Introduction to Philosophy	3	PHL 113	Philosophy of the Human Person	3
POLS 102	American Nat'l Government	3	POL 220	American Nat'l Government (AFP core)	3
PSYC 208	Developmental Psychology	3	PSY 206	Psychology of Human Development I	3
PSYC 218	Exceptional Children	3	EDU 112	Introduction to Individuals with Disabilities	3
SPCH 105	Fundamentals of Speech Communication	3	ENG 290	Speech Communication (elective)	3
	TOTAL CREDIT HOURS	60		TOTAL CREDIT HOURS	60

**WVNCC/FUS ARTICULATION AGREEMENT**  
**ASSOCIATE OF ARTS DEGREE IN PRE-EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (WVNCC)**  
**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN PREK-5 ELEMENTARY EDUCATION (FUS)**  
**Typical Program Guide**

**FRESHMAN YEAR**

FALL SEMESTER	CR	SPRING SEMESTER	CR
EDU 213 Pre-Field Seminar <b>FUS</b>	2	BIO 150 Nutrition or BIO 203 Human Embryology <b>FUS</b>	3
EDU 218 Foundations of Education <b>WVNCC:ECCE100</b>	3	CSC 155 Computers & Instructional Tech <b>WVNCC:CIT117</b>	3
ENG 280 Phonics & History Language <b>WVNCC:ENG101</b>	3	EDU 318 Children's Literature <b>FUS</b>	3
MTH 121 Math Early/Middle Grades <sup>(core)</sup> <b>WVNCC:MATH204</b>	(4)	MTH 122 Math Early & Middle Grades II <b>WVNCC:MATH205</b>	(4)
THE 101 Fnd Catholicism or THE 110 Sacred Scripture & Tradition (THE Core) <b>FUS</b>	3	PSY 206 Psych Human Development I <b>WVNCC:PSYC208</b>	3
EDU 112 Intro Individuals w/ Disabilities <b>WVNCC:PSYC218</b>	3	American Founding Principles Core <b>WVNCC:POLS102</b>	3
Credits	18	Credits	19

**SOPHOMORE YEAR**

EDU 109 Early Experience I <b>FUS</b>	2	PHL 212 Foundations of Ethics (PHL Core) <b>FUS</b>	3
EDU 321 Inclusive Early Childhood Education <b>FUS</b>	3	Catholic Traditions in Fine Arts Core <b>WVNCC:ART150</b>	3
GEO 122 Introduction to Geography <b>WVNCC:GEOG205</b>	3	ENG 210 Epic and The Person or ENG 211 Lyric and the Person (Lit Core) <b>WVNCC:ENG102</b>	3
EDU 215 OL Activities, Games, Drama <b>WVNCC:ART256</b>	3	HST 105 or 106 HST of Civilization I or II (HST Core)	3
SWK 309 Race and Minority <b>WVNCC:HS147</b>	3	<b>WVNCC:HIST100or101</b>	3
EDU 325 Identification & Assessment of Young Children with Special Needs (AEP; PR: Edu 112) <b>FUS</b>	3		
Credits	17	Credits	12

**JUNIOR YEAR**

EDU 209 Early Experience II <b>FUS</b>	2	EDU 300HY Active Learning for Young Children in Science & Social Studies <b>FUS</b>	3
EDU 305 Teaching Language Arts (AEP) <b>WVNCC:ECCE220</b>	3	EDU 320 Content Area Reading (AEP) OR EDU 554OL Content Area Reading*** <b>FUS</b>	3
PHY 105 Survey of Physical Science or BIO 106 Survey of Biology (NS Core) <b>WVNCC:BIO110orGSC100</b>	(4)	EDU 330 Math Methods in Early & Middle Grades (AEP) <b>FUS</b>	3
EDU 365 Integrating Social Studies <b>FUS</b>	3	EDU 344 Teaching Reading (AEP; PR: ENG 280) <b>FUS</b>	3
THE 115 Christian Moral Principles (THE Core) <b>FUS</b>	3	EDU 366 Preparing Educators for Virtual Contexts (AEP) <b>FUS</b>	3
EDU 348 Class Organization & Management Mild/Mod Needs (PR: Edu 112) <b>FUS</b>	3		
Credits	18	Credits	15

**SENIOR YEAR**

PSY 301 OL Educational Psychology <b>FUS</b>	3	EDU 405 Teaching Strategies <b>FUS</b>	3
EDU 345 Reading Diagnosis & Assessment (AEP) <b>WVNCC:ECCE214</b>	3	EDU 410 Early Childhood Student Teaching <b>FUS</b>	9
EDU 360 Middle School Curriculum Methods (AEP) OR EDU 511 Curriculum*** <b>FUS</b>	3	EDU 435 Student Teaching Seminar <b>FUS</b>	1
PHL 113 Philo of Human Person (PHL Core) <b>WVNCC:PHIL200</b>	3		
Elective <b>WVNCC:SPCH105</b>	3		
Credits	15	Credits	13

**Total 127 Credits (60 WVNCC; 67FUS)**

**(A minimum of 124 credits are required for a Bachelor degree at Franciscan.  
Three surplus credits are acquired from WVNCC due to three 4 credit classes.)**

\*\*\* Indicates Accelerated Master's Program Course: Prior Program Acceptance Required  
 PR: Pre-requisite required AEP: Acceptance to Education Program

## Franciscan University Education Program Professional Progression

### **Freshman: Pre-Application to Teacher Education Program (Pre-Education)**

- Prepare for Praxis Core exams <https://www.ets.org/praxis/>
- Review Course Embedded Field Hours and Dispositions
- Create Your E-Portfolio
- Background Checks and Clearances (as needed for EDU 109, field)
- Get Involved and be a Leader!

### **Sophomore: Application to Teacher Education Program**

- How's your GPA? Must maintain 2.5
- Background Checks and Clearances (as needed for EDU 209, field)
- Add to your e-Portfolio
- Professional Dispositions, Reflective Essays and Sophomore Packet
- Pass your Praxis Core exams (Reading, Writing & Mathematics)

### **Junior: Application for Graduation and Student Teaching**

- How's your GPA? Must maintain 2.5
- Have you added to your e-Portfolio?
- Background Checks and Clearances (as needed for EDU 209 and/or Student Teaching)
- Apply for Graduation (1 year prior) <https://www.franciscan.edu/Registrar/>
- Apply for Student Teaching (1 semester prior)

### **Senior: Student Teaching**

- How's your GPA? Must maintain 2.5 (C+ in Student Teaching)
- E-Portfolio submission prior to Student Teaching
- Professional/Licensure Assessments prior to Student Teaching (i.e., OAEs)
- EdTPA during Student Teaching

### **Graduation**

- Completion of 124 credits, last 30 hours at FUS
- Keep in Touch!!
- Facebook: Franciscan Education Majors; Twitter: @spoyo
- Where are you Teaching?
- Entry Year Resident Educator (RESA) for Ohio