

# 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 do 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 Social Work and leading to the completion of a Franciscan University Bachelor of Science in Social Work degree. Students completing this option will receive an Associate of Arts degree from West Virginia Northern. Upon being accepted to, and successfully completing the additional required credit hours at Franciscan University of Steubenville, they will receive a Bachelor of Science Degree in Social Work. Most of the 62 credit hours from West Virginia Northern will transfer as equivalent courses, with the remaining transferring as general electives.

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. To be considered for acceptance into the Social Work Program at FUS, the student must apply for formal admission into the Social Work program in addition to applying for general admission to FUS. The prospective student must:
  - Complete the application for admission to the Social Work program at FUS.
  - Submit a resume.
  - Submit two letters of reference.
  - Complete a personal interview with program faculty member at FUS.
  - Fulfill any additional admissions requirements of FUS.
4. In addition to the West Virginia Northern courses, applicants for admission to FUS must have an overall grade point average of 2.0 and meet other program admissions requirements of Franciscan University to be eligible under this transfer program. Students must also make separate application to the Social Work Program and fulfill other program admissions requirements.
5. West Virginia Northern students who have not completed their AA degree, or who have earned a cumulative grade point average below 2.0, 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.
6. If a Social Work 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 Social Work Program 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.

7. 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.
8. 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 1<sup>st</sup>.
9. 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 62 semester hours at Franciscan.
10. 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>.
11. 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 University 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





**Course Equivalents and Requirements for Social Work WVNCC/FUS Articulation**

WV NORTHERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE			FRANCISCAN UNIVERSITY		
COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	Cr hrs	COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	Cr hrs
BIO 110	Principles of Biology	4	BIO 110	Survey of Biological Science	(4)
ECON 104	Principles of Macroeconomics	3	ECO 201	Principles of Economics I (Macro)	3
ENG 101	College Composition I	3	ENG 103	Freshman English I	3
ENG*	Literature Core requirement	3	ENG	Literature Core requirement	3
GSC 100	Science in the Contemp. World	4	PHY 106	Survey of Earth & Space Science	(4)
HIST 100 or 101	World Cultures I or II	3	HST 105 or 106	History of Civilization I or II	3
ART 150	Art Appreciation	3	Fine Arts	Fine Arts core	3
HS 100	Intro to Social Work & Human Services	3	SWK 203	Introduction to social work	3
HS 147	Understanding Human Diversity	3	SWK 309	Issues of Culture & Diversity	3
HS 150	Introduction to Substance Abuse	3	SWK 319	Social Work & Addictions	3
HS 200	Social Welfare Institutions	3	SWK 205	The History of Social Welfare	3
HS 210	Intro to Case Management & Counseling	3	SWK 307	Generalist Practice I (or SW Elective)	3
MATH 210	Statistics	3	PSY 204	Research Statistics	3
PHIL 200	Introduction to Philosophy	3	PHL	Philosophy core requirement	3
POLS 102	American Nat'l Government	3	POL 220	American National Government	3
PSYC 105	Introduction to Psychology	3	PSY 105	General Psychology	3
PSYC 208	Developmental Psychology	3	PSYC 206 OR SWK 210	Psychology of Human Development I OR Human Behavior & the Social Environment I	3
PSYC/HS #	PSYC/HS elective	3		SWK Elective or general elective	3
SOC 125	Intro to Sociology	3	SOC 101	Introductory Sociology	3
SPCH 105	Fundamentals of Speech Communication	3	ENG 290	Speech Communication	3
	<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>	62		<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>	62

# - PSYC/HS elective should be chosen from: HS 101 (Understanding Group Processes & Dynamics), PSYC 200 (Abnormal Psychology), PSYC 210 (Child Development), or PSYC 218 (Exceptional Children)

\* Choose from: ENG 200, 201, 210, or 211

All courses require a "C" or better for transfer

**WVNCC/FUS ARTICULATION AGREEMENT IN SOCIAL WORK**

**WVNCC: ASSOCIATE OF ARTS DEGREE**  
**FUS: BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN SOCIAL WORK**  
(Program of Study)

**FRESHMAN YEAR**

FALL SEMESTER	CREDITS	SPRING SEMESTER	CREDITS
SOC 101 Intro to Sociology WVNCC: SOC 125	3 ( )	SWK 203 Intro to Social Work WVNCC: HS 100	3 ( )
BIO 110 Human Bio or BIO133 Anat/Phys I WVNCC: BIO110	4 ( )	SWK 205 History of Social Welfare WVNCC: HS 200	3 ( )
PSY 105 General Psychology WVNCC: PSYC 105	3 ( )	Natural Science Core WVNCC: GSC 100	4 ( )
THE 101 Foundations of Catholicism FUS	3 ( )	PHL 113 Philosophy of Human Person WVNCC: PHIL200*	3 ( )
History Core WVNCC: HIST 100 or 101	3 ( )	Elective WVNCC: ENG 101	3 ( )
Semester Totals	16	Semester Totals	16

**SOPHOMORE YEAR**

SWK 309 Issues of Culture and Diversity WVNCC: HS 147	3 ( )	Catholic Traditions in Fine Arts Core WVNCC: ART 150	3 ( )
SWK 210 Human Behavior & Social Env I WVNCC: PSYC208	3 ( )	Literature Core WVNCC: Literature Core**	3 ( )
ECO 201 Principles of Economics I WVNCC: ECON 104	3 ( )	THE 110 Scripture & Tradition (or PHL 211) FUS	3 ( )
PSY 204 Research Statistics WVNCC: MATH 210	3 ( )	THE 115 Christian Moral Principles FUS	3 ( )
Elective FUS	3 ( )	Elective WVNCC: SPCH 105	3 ( )
Semester Totals	15	Semester Totals	15

**JUNIOR YEAR**

SWK 307 Generalist Practice I WVNCC: HS 210***	3 ( )	SWK 308 Generalist Practice II FUS	3 ( )
SWK 315 Human Rights, Social Justice, Social Policy FUS	3 ( )	SWK 313 Social Work Research FUS	3 ( )
SWK 331 Human Behavior & Social Environment II FUS	3 ( )	SWK Social Work Elective WVNCC: PSY/HS elective****	3 ( )
SWK Elective WVNCC: HS 150 (FUS: SWK 319)	3 ( )	PHL 212 Foundations of Ethics FUS	3 ( )
THE 341 Christian Marriage FUS	3 ( )	POL 220 American National Government WVNCC: POLS 102	3 ( )
Semester Totals	15	Semester Totals	15

**SENIOR YEAR**

SWK 409 Generalist Practice III FUS	3 ( )	SWK 411 Field Practicum II FUS	6 ( )
SWK 410 Field Practicum I FUS	6 ( )	Social Work Elective FUS	3 ( )
Social Work Elective FUS	3 ( )	SWK 437 Senior SWK Capstone FUS	3 ( )
Elective FUS	3 ( )	Elective FUS	3 ( )
Elective FUS	3 ( )		
Semester Totals	18	Semester Totals	15

**125 credits: 62 credits at WVNCC; 63 credits at Franciscan University**

**Social Work Electives:** Students may pick one of the following courses: SWK 316 Social Work With the Elderly; SWK 317 Social Work in Health Care Settings; SWK 318 Working with Children and Adolescents; SWK 319 Social Work and Addictions; SWK 321 Social Work and Corrections; SWK/PSY 351 Spirituality in the Helping Professions; SWK 413 Death, Dying, and Bereavement.

\* PHIL 200 may be applied to any philosophy core at Franciscan (113, 211, or 212).

\*\* WVNCC literature core options include ENG 200, 201, 210, or 211.

\*\*\* HS 210 may apply as SWK 307 or a social work elective.

\*\*\*\* WVNCC PSY/HS elective may be selected from HS 101, PSYC 200, PSYC 210, or PSYC 218.