Educational Session

**2378 - A Statewide Transfer Agreement: The Illinois Articulation Initiative & Its Partner Institutions**

Partnerships and Collaboration, Credits and Degree Pathways

This session will provide an overview of a statewide transfer agreement called the Illinois Articulation Initiative which has been in place since 1998 and includes over 100 participating public and private colleges and universities throughout the state. Come learn about this faculty-driven innovative program which includes a general education core curriculum package as well as major course recommendations for students that are unsure about their intended transfer institution.

**Malinda Aiello, State Director of the Illinois Articulation Initiative**

Illinois Articulation Initiative housed at Illinois State University
A Statewide Transfer Agreement:

**THE ILLINOIS ARTICULATION INITIATIVE**

& Its Partner Institutions

MALINDA AIELLO, STATE DIRECTOR OF IAI

- NISTS 2022 CONFERENCE: SESSION #2378 -
  FEBRUARY 3, 2022
Presentation Overview

Part 1: Mapping the landscape of higher ed in IL
Part 2: The nuts & bolts of IAI
Part 3: Q & A
Illinois Higher Education Landscape

*AVERAGE AROUND 500,000 TOTAL ENROLLED UNDERGRAD STUDENTS EACH YEAR WHICH INCLUDES OVER 40,000 TRANSFER STUDENTS*

Institution Overview

• 60 Public Institutions
  – 12 Public Universities (includes 2 systems)
  – 48 Community Colleges (includes 2 systems)
  – No statewide university or community college system
  – With a few exceptions, all are self-governed and act autonomously
• Almost 100 Private Institutions
  – 85 Independent Not-For-Profit Institutions
  – 12 Independent For-Profit Institutions
• About 40 Out-Of-State Institutions approved to operate in IL

Structure Overview

• 2 Coordinating Boards (no centralized governing body)
  – Illinois Board of Higher Education
  – Illinois Community College Board
• No common course numbering
• IAI / Statewide Transfer Agreement
STATEWIDE FOCUS & COMMITMENT TO TRANSFER

Even though the yearly TS population only averages around 10% of the total undergrad student population, Illinois has been supporting successful student transfer for over five decades!

- IBHE Transfer Dashboard
- Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI)
- Illinois MyCreditsTransfer Transferology tool
- Institutional articulation agreements, partnerships, & collaboration
- State laws, policies, & procedures
- Statewide Transfer Coordinators group

According to the 2018 National Student Clearinghouse transfer report, Illinois led the nation in bachelor's degree completion rates among community college students who transferred to four-year institutions.

(Note that '18 was the last year this report was published by the NSC)
The Illinois Articulation Initiative

- Overview & State Policy
- GECC Package & Major Recommendations
- iTransfer Website
- iManage System
What is the IAI?

• Initiative was **jointly launched** in the ‘90s for IL colleges and universities by the:
  - Illinois Board of Higher Education
  - Illinois Community College Board
  - Illinois Transfer Coordinators

• **Faculty-Driven Process:**
  - 21 public & private faculty slots per panel
  - CAOs, Provosts, & TCs serve on panels too
  - Over 275 GECC & Major descriptors
  - Almost 9,000 courses currently approved

How does it work for students?

• **Seamless transfer** among 100+ IL institutions
• **Transferable GECC package**
• Includes **course recommendations for** transferring into 18 **Majors**
• **Statewide quality assurance**; one of the most comprehensive processes in the nation
• Designed to **serve students** that are undecided and/or self-advising
• Assists **students who know they want to transfer, but are undecided about destination**

**IAI Purpose:**

*Ease the transfer of students among Illinois public and independent, associate and baccalaureate degree-granting institutions*
**Key Concepts Guiding IAI...**

*Note: All 60 public institutions are mandated by law to participate in IAI*

01

2-year and 4-year institutions are **equal partners** in educating freshmen and sophomores in Illinois

02

**Faculty** members should take primary responsibility for developing and maintaining program and course articulation

03

Institutions must work together to assure that lower-division courses at both 2-year and 4-year institutions are comparable in **scope, quality, and academic rigor**
All IL public community colleges and universities shall participate in IAI through the submission and review of their courses for statewide transfer.

All public institutions shall maintain a complete IAI GECC package.

All courses approved for IAI GECC codes must be accepted for transfer as part of the GECC package.

Students completing the full GECC package must not be required to take additional lower-division general education courses and must be able to transfer seamlessly.

The IAI Act codifies what was already being practiced.
The General Education Core Curriculum Package (aka “the GECC package” or “the package”) serves as the foundation of IAI:

37-41 Credit hours of courses in Communications, Humanities & Fine Arts, Life & Physical Sciences, Mathematics, and Social & Behavioral Sciences

Students can complete the IAI GECC package to satisfy general education requirements at any of the 100+ participating public and private institutions regardless of the program or institution later decided upon by the student.

The GECC transfers in as a package and replaces the receiving institution’s general education requirements; it does not guarantee the articulation of individual courses.

As of January 2019, IL Community Colleges are now granting the GECC Credential.
### The IAI General Education Core Curriculum (GECC) Package*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Communications</strong></td>
<td>Composition 1 &amp; 2, Speech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(9 cr. hrs.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Humanities &amp; Fine Arts</strong></td>
<td>3 courses from at least 2 disciplines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(9 cr. hrs.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Life &amp; Physical Sciences</strong></td>
<td>1 Life Science, 1 Physical Science &amp; at least one of the courses must have a lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(7 – 8 cr. hrs.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mathematics</strong></td>
<td>1 – 2 courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3 – 6 cr. hrs.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Social &amp; Behavioral Sciences</strong></td>
<td>3 courses from at least 2 disciplines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(9 cr. hrs.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Total of 37-41 Credit Hours for a Complete GECC Package*
The IAI Majors

- Agriculture
- Art
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Criminal Justice
- Early Childhood Education
- Engineering
- English
- History
- Mathematics
- Media & Communication Arts
- Physics
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Theater Arts

Example:

Business IAI Major Recommendations

- Business Core Course (12-16 semester credits)
  - BUS 501 - Business Statistics (3-4 semester credits)
  - BUS 502 - Computer Applications and Business Systems Concepts (3-4 semester credits)
  - BUS 503 - Financial Accounting (3-4 semester credits)
  - BUS 504 - Managerial Accounting (3-4 semester credits)
The iTransfer.org Website & Portal
IAI Panel Membership

There are 6 GECC panels and 16 active Major panels...

A Fully-Complemented Panel Consists of 26 Members:
• Nine (9) faculty members from community colleges
• Eight (8) faculty members from public universities
• Four (4) faculty members from independent institutions
• One (1) academic officer or approved designee from a community college
• One (1) dean or approved designee from a public university
• Three (3) transfer coordinators, one from each sector: community college, public university, independent institution

Panel Members serve three-year terms, which can be extended by the appropriate board, as necessary.
• IBHE handles panel membership for all university seats
• ICCB handles panel membership for all community college seats

Panels typically meet only twice each year:
• Spring Season = March 1 through first week of May
• Fall Season = October 1 through first week of December
P1900: General Education Physics (3-5-semester credits)
A course that examines the concepts and methods of physics, with topics selected from mechanics, fluids, heat, electricity and magnetism, optics, waves and modern physics. Policies on the acceptance of AP credit vary among academic programs and from institution to institution, so AP credit toward the GECC or major requirements is not guaranteed. A score of 3 or higher on the AP Physics 1 and Physics 2 exams may be considered as equivalent to successful completion of postsecondary courses approved for IAI GECC P1 900. Feb 2016

Course Approval Criteria Document Example: GECC Physical Sciences Panel
In addition to ensuring alignment to the panel’s course descriptor, institutions must also ensure all required information indicated in the panel’s Course Approval Criteria document is submitted for panel review.
INSTITUTIONS PARTICIPATING IN IAI

**Full Participants** (78) maintain a complete IAI GECC package of courses and agree to accept a completed GECC package from any other participating institutions as meeting all lower-division general education requirements.

- 48 Community Colleges
- 12 Public Universities
- 18 Private Colleges & Universities

**Receiving-Only Participants** (30) agree to accept a completed GECC package from any other participating institution as meeting all lower-division general education requirements of the institution.

- All 30 are Private Colleges & Universities

Collaboration and faculty buy-in are IAI's keys to success!
The IAI Process in a nutshell:

1) Vetted courses are submitted by the Institutional Submitter through the iManage system to the appropriate IAI GECC and Major panel(s) every spring and fall

2) Panel members review and vote in the iManage system on all New & Ongoing Review submitted courses using the panel’s descriptors and course approval criteria to make decisions regarding approval for an IAI code
THE IMANAGE INSTITUTIONAL DASHBOARD
The iManage Course Submission System

Submit a Course to Web Review (Step 1 of 3)

Note: The following course will be submitted to IAI administrator for submission to course review process. Deadlines for course submission are October 03 for Fall review and March 01 for Spring review.

Course Information

- Institution Name: Illinois State University
- IAI Course Number: No Course Selected
- Institution's Course Number: (blank)
- Institution's Course Title: (blank)
- Number of Credit Hours: (blank) [Semester or Quarter Credit]

Prerequisite and Corequisite Information

- Institution's Prerequisite Course Number or NA if Not Applicable: (blank)
- Institution's Prerequisite Course Name or NA if Not Applicable: (blank)

If this is a corequisite course, be very specific on corequisite course(s) details, including the structure, semester hours, and contact hours of the course. You have up to 1000 characters for the description. You may attach a document to explain this information if you cannot do so in 1000 characters.
THE IMANAGE COURSE REVIEW SYSTEM

Course Summary

Concordia University Chicago
GEO 1200: World Geography
3 semester credit
Added: 1/20/2022 11:25:15 AM

Prerequisites
Prerequisite Number: NA
Prerequisite Title: NA

Documents Submitted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>File Type</th>
<th>View</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Representative Syllabus</td>
<td>View</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Status

Votes:
Approve: 0,
Return: 0,
Not Enough Information: 0,
Needs More Discussion: 0,
Undecided: 0,
Conditionally Approve: 0,
Missing Vote: 17
Vote deadline: Thursday, March 24, 2022 (approx 52 days left)

Course Notes

Course Description

S4 906: World Geography
(3 semester credit/ 4.5 quarter credit)
A thematic or regional introduction to the basic concepts of how world regions are constructed or classified.
Using spatial analysis of both traditional and digital maps factors will be explored to assess how regions evolve, change over time, and are classified. Concepts will explore both developed and undeveloped regions connecting both human and physical geographical factors shaping and defining the classification of regions and interrelationships between them.
Created 10/27/2017 - Effective Spring 2018 - AVAILABLE FOR NEW SUBMISSIONS!
Thank you for attending the IAI session today!

Please complete the Session Evaluation (#2378) via the conference app.

Malinda Aiello
State Director of the Illinois Articulation Initiative
maiello@itransfer.org
itransfer@itransfer.org