

COMPLEMENTARY COURSES

By Edwin Roman, Academic and Transfer Resources Coordinator

Last year a first semester student connected with me to begin exploring transfer options (see the transfer planning timeline on the back page). His questions had to do with understanding the difference between a career as a psychiatrist versus one as a psychologist. He was puzzled because he had heard both words used interchangeably. Both psychiatry and psychology are key parts of the mental health field that examine the human mind, but their focus and real-world application are different: psychiatrists are medical doctors, while psychologists are not.

Once we explored the differences between the two careers, the student then conveyed that he still was not sure which one he wanted to pursue. I noted that the great thing about attending a community college is that it gives you the time and space to explore possible majors and career paths. He then asked if there was a way to concurrently prepare for both psychiatry and psychology while at BCC, to which I responded

with a resounding YES! First, I recommended that he pursue the AA in Liberal Arts, Psychology. We then discussed some details with regards to course selection, notably in Pathways.

Pathways is CUNY's general education and once a student has completed a requirement at BCC, it is met at all CUNY colleges. Pathways is also an excellent opportunity to take courses to complement, as well as explore, educational and career aspirations. For both psychiatry and psychology, I recommended that he take MTH 23.5 Probability and Statistics with Algebra or MTH 23 Probability and Statistics to fulfill the Pathways Mathematical and Quantitative Reasoning requirement because there will likely be an advanced statistic class at the baccalaureate level and these courses offer much needed preparation. With regards to the Life and Physical Sciences and Scientific World requirements, for psychiatry



I recommended BIO 23 and BIO 24 Human Anatomy and Physiology I & II. These are key courses students in nursing, radiologic technology, nuclear medicine, therapeutic recreation, and exercise science majors complete, as well as in pre-medical programs. For psychology, I recommended BIO 21 The Human Body and BIO 20/HLT 20 Aspects of Human Sexuality. I also recommend these two courses for students interested in careers in the human services (e.g., social work) because there are physiological aspects that they should be cognizant of. Be mindful that not all complementary courses have to be

> completed at BCC and may also be taken as part of a minor at the fouryear school.

> A college minor is an area of study you can choose when completing your bachelor's degree that can complement your major. To earn your bachelor's degree, you must declare a major and take a certain number of courses. The specifics differ by college, but your major will likely make up one-third to one-half

of the typical 120 credits required to graduate (60 of which will be transferred from BCC). A minor can be typically completed with 12-18 credits, which is applied toward the overall degree. Examples of complementary majors and minors that I have recommended to other students include a business degree with a minor in a foreign language; a political science degree with a minor in English; and a computer science major with a minor in cybercrime.

The best place to start exploring complementary courses is by doing research on careers using the *Occupational Outlook Handbook* (available online at no cost) and then following up with an exploration of four-year degrees and beyond. Of course, visit Career Development and Transfer Services for additional resources and advisement.

WHY TRANSFER STUDENTS SHOULD ATTEND ORIENTATION

By Edwin Roman, Academic and Transfer Resources Coordinator

There are two things I always convey to students when I finish working with them on transfer applications. The first is to encourage them to maintain a good GPA at the four-year school: a 3.0 or better in case they have graduate school aspirations. The second is to attend student orientation. While you may have attended student orientation at BCC, this does not mean that you have attended orientation for all of CUNY or any other four-year school.

Student orientation is focused on providing students with information the college believes is vital to their success as a student at their institution. It is also a wonderful opportunity to explore the campus, meet faculty, and talk to advisors. Attending orientation is vital for students transferring from BCC to a four-year college. The transition can feel overwhelming, so understanding the expectations of the new school is the best way to get started. It is also a great way to connect with other transfer students who may be going through similar experiences.

No one starts a new experience knowing all the particulars. Don't hesitate to speak up and ask questions. Chances are someone else is wondering the same thing. And if you are not comfortable asking in front of a group, stop a staff member afterward and ask one-on-one. If you think of questions after you leave, connect with orientation staff.

Suggested Pre-orientation Checklist Have vou...

- Signed up for orientation?
- Completed your FAFSA for
- the forthcoming academic year?Sent your immunization records
- (for schools outside of CUNY)?
- Secured your school e-mail?
- Read the college catalog and become familiar with your major?
- Reviewed course prerequisites?
- Connected with an advisor?
- Reviewed transfer credits?
- Looked at a campus map?
- Figured out how you will get to school?

Interesting Fact About Lehman College...



Did you know that there is a network of underground tunnels under the Lehman campus that allows student to walk between buildings? According to the Lehman College student

newspaper, *The Meridian*, the tunnels were "built in 1931 during construction of what was then the Hunter College Bronx campus, the tunnels extend for a length of 1230 linear feet, or 0.23 miles. They connect the Music building to the Old Gym, as well as Carman, Davis, Gillet, Shuster, and the Science Hall." Speaking as an alumnus, I found these tunnels very helpful whenever I need to go to the cafeteria during the winter months.

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Interesting Facts About John Jay College...



John Jay College's namesake was the first Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court and one of the founding fathers of the United States.

He was a native of New York City and served as governor of New York State. According to John Jay's website, "In 1964, a committee convened by the Board of Higher Education recommended establishing an independent, degree-granting school of police science. The College of Police Science (COPS) of the City University of New York was subsequently founded and admitted its first class in September 1965. Within a year, the school was renamed John Jay College of Criminal Justice to reflect broader education objectives in criminal justice."

OPEN HOUSE OR CAMPUS TOUR?

I have always encouraged students to visit the campus they are interested in transferring to. I have often been asked what the difference is between an open house and campus tour. Open houses are more immersive than campus tours. Prospective students often get to meet with professors, club leaders, and current students. Campus tours tend to take less time and are a brief look at a college and its campus. There aren't usually as many activities planned as there are in open houses. A campus tour might only consist of a walk around campus, and a question-and-answer session. No matter which one you choose, always visit!

ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS & OTHER PARTNERSHIPS

An **articulation agreement** is an agreement between two schools that helps course credit at one school to be accepted or transferred and applied toward a degree at another school.

A **joint degree program** agreement stipulates that following successful completion of the associate degree program and graduation from Bronx Community College, students will be automatically accepted into the specified baccalaureate program of the named senior college.

 $\label{eq:product} A \, \textbf{memorandum of understanding}$

(MOU) is an agreement between institutions that expresses an agreed course of action and conditions under which the receiving institution will accept students for matriculation.

BCC Associate in Applied Science, Accounting

to

Lehman College Bachelor of Business Administration

(Articulation Agreement)

About the Program

The B.B.A. program equips students with the necessary managerial skills to function in today's rapidly changing business environment. The program, stressing the place of business organizations in the larger community, prepares its enrollees to meet this challenge by helping them develop appropriate technical, conceptual, and interpersonal competencies. The curriculum also emphasizes the role of non-profit and governmental organizations in societal life. As such, students majoring in this program are introduced to the art and science of planning, organizing, controlling, and leading the physical, financial, human, and informational resources of any and all organizations —private or public, for-profit or not-for-profit, corporate or entrepreneurial.

Advising notes

Students are advised to complete MTH 23 or MTH 23.5 in the Mathematical & Quantitative Reasoning Pathways requirement as well as ECO 11 and ECO 12 the Pathways U.S. Experience in Its Diversity and Individual & Society requirements respectively. Students are also advised to complete BUS 41 instead of BUS 111 in the major requirements.

See all of BCC's articulation agreements and partnerships on the Transfer Services website:

https://www.bcc.cuny.edu/campus-resources/transfer-services/transfer-agreements/

TRANSFER SERVICES EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS



The Office of Transfer Services offers an array of events and workshops that includes:

- The Transfer Fair
- Transfer Planning Workshop
- Four Year College On-Campus Tabling
- Scholarship 101 Workshop

Please visit our website and click on the links for Events and/or Workshops for dates and times.

https://www.bcc.cuny.edu/campus-resources/transfer-services/



DR. MILTON SANTIAGO Interim President

DR. LUIS MONTENEGRO

Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

DR. ALEXANDER OTT

Associate Dean for Curriculum Matters and Academic Programs

TRANSFER SERVICES

EDWIN ROMAN

Academic and Transfer Resources Coordinator *Transfer Talk* Editor edwin.roman@bcc.cuny.edu

THOMAS BRACKEN

Transfer Specialist thomas.bracken@bcc.cuny.edu

Transfer Services provides students with services to inform and facilitate transfer to appropriate senior colleges.

Transfer Services can help you:

- Understand the educational paths that will move you toward your intended career
- Ensure that your degree
 program is consistent with
 your objectives
- Select courses to maximize the number of credits transferred
- Take charge of your planning for transfer by teaching you how to conduct research
- Understand the benefit of articulation agreements

Transfer Services addresses student needs via advisement, coordination of the transfer fair, the *Transfer Talk* newsletter, videos, and workshops.



TRANSFER PLANNING: WHAT TO DO AND WHEN TO DO IT

The primary reason for early and continuous transfer planning is to ensure that the desired degree program and curriculum are consistent with future career or educational plans. Waiting until the last semester may limit options. Articulation agreements and other partnerships are excellent tools for transfer planning because they provide a course of action for students, including an outline of the most appropriate courses to schedule.

0-12 Credits

- **Read the College Catalog** (students are responsible for knowing what their degree entails).
- Become familiar with DegreeWorks, CUNYfirst, OSSES, and Transfer
 Explorer.
- Visit Career Development to **explore** career options and their requirements.
- Attend a Transfer Planning workshop.
- Select your degree program.
- Read articulation agreements.
- Explore Pathways course options.

13-24 Credits

- Attend the Transfer Fair.
- Check for new articulation agreements.
- Visit college websites.
- Check your progress on Degree-Works.
- Visit Career Development and write your resume.

25-35 Credits

- Attend the Transfer Fair.
- Attend a Scholarship Workshop.
- Explore transfer options.
- Attend senior college open house events.
- Begin scholarship search.
- Check your progress on DegreeWorks.
- Check for new articulation agreements.

36-45 Credits

- Check your progress on DegreeWorks.
- Update your resume.
- Attend the Transfer Fair.
- Apply for scholarships.
- Check for new articulation agreements.

Final Semester

- Apply for graduation.
- Send applications.
- Apply for financial aid and scholarships.
- Attend orientation at your new school.

TRANSFER APPLICATION ESSENTIALS BCC CEEB Code: 2051

Get other college and high school CEEB codes at

http://www.suny.edu/Student/apply_tables_codes.cfm

CUNY Priority Application Deadlines: Spring Admissions: September 15 Fall Admissions: February 1

CUNY Transfer Application is

available on-line at **www.cuny.edu.** You will need your CUNYfirst log-in information to complete application.

CUNY Application Processing Center: 212.997.CUNY

SUNY Recruitment Response Center: 1.800.342.3811

- Students should be mindful that good grades are an important part of transferring to the institution or program of choice.
- Students transferring to a CUNY four-year college should check if there are specific grade requirements for courses as well as for the program of choice.
- Students applying to a CUNY fouryear college should also note that if more than one college was attended, the GPA for admissions will be determined through a combination calculation of all attempted coursework.

TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIPS

Be sure to visit the page on our website that details everything you need to apply for scholarships including CUNY, SUNY, and prestigious scholarships as well as searches and book recommendations.

https://www.bcc.cuny.edu/campus-resources/transfer-services/transfer-scholarships/