



TRANSFER TALK

BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE OFFICE OF TRANSFER SERVICES

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LOOKING FORWARD

INTERESTING AND UNIQUE MAJORS

By Edwin Roman, Academic and Transfer Resources Coordinator

I often convey to students that passion for a major translates into higher-quality work. However, sometimes finding the right major can be a challenge, especially if you are not aware of its existence.

Years ago, a student connected with me because she was looking to transfer to a major that complemented her position at the Bronx Zoo working with children. She was pursuing the AA in Liberal Arts and wanted to be able to discuss the animals with greater authority but was not necessarily interested in a STEM major. I suggested that she explore the **CUNY Baccalaureate for Unique and Interdisciplinary Studies**. Also known as the CUNY BA program, it gives students the responsibility for the content of their degree. I assisted that student with a proposal for a major in Animal Behavior where she was able to take a wide range of courses at different CUNY schools that included science communication, animal cognition, and research methods in psychology. On the CUNY BA program website, you can see other proposed majors such as Art and Social Change, Digital Game Narrative, and Storytelling and Community Justice. Similarly, **SUNY Empire State University** (SUNY ESU) also gives students the flexibility to design their own degree programs. The possibilities are remarkable. And while these two institutions offer incredible prospects, there are other interesting majors across CUNY to explore.

The **CUNY School of Professional Studies** (CUNY SPS) offer several unique online majors related to human services and social sciences. The **B.A. in Disability Studies** is the first undergraduate degree of its kind that explores disability through overlapping perspectives that includes the social sciences, hu-

manities, science, and law. The program “provides graduates with the skills to improve the lives of people with disabilities and with an educational credential to advance their careers.” CUNY SPS also offers a **B.A. in Human Relations** that prepares students to understand and respond to the various challenges of human behavior and relationships in an evolving and

technologically oriented workplace. As noted in their catalog, the major draws “on the fields of psychology, sociology, business, communications, and the humanities, students examine the organizational forms, practices, and policies that can foster or hinder the development of productive relationships and organizational success.” The **B.A. in Youth Studies** provides the tangible skill development needed to work with young people under the age of 24 while “infusing an approach rooted in critical youth studies and a commitment to a social justice orientation.”

CUNY SPS also offers unique online majors for **registered nurses** that concurrently provide a smooth pro-

gression to master’s programs. The **R.N. to B.S.-M.S. in Nursing Organizational Leadership** prepares nurses to be able to contribute to the health, education, and social structure of communities by assuming positions of leadership. The **R.N. to B.S.-M.S. in Nursing Education** prepares nurses to develop curricula and graduates are qualified to serve as educators in community colleges and universities, as well as in academic health centers and community-based health facilities. The **R.N. to B.S.-M.S. in Nursing Informatics** guides nursing professionals to assess institutional data needs, manage data effectively, and improve patient care quality. Informatics nurses use, integrate,



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and analyze technology to make changes in nursing practice, advance health outcomes, and facilitate research and education. Nursing informatics is a specialty that transforms data into needed information and leverages technologies to improve health and health care equity, safety, quality, and outcomes

According to the McWilliams School of Biomedical Informatics at UTHealth Houston, Biomedical Informatics studies the acquisition, communication, processing, integration, analysis, retrieval, interpretation, and presentation of data and determines how to transform data to actionable knowledge with the aim of solving problems in disease prevention and healthcare delivery. **New York City College of Technology (City Tech)** offers a **B.S. in Biomedical Informatics** that **Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science** and **Mathematics** students can transfer into: "The program offers two interrelated component areas of Biomedical Informatics: Molecular Bioinformatics, centered on the use of conformational and genomic data to elucidate biological phenomena; and Health Informatics, focused on the secure electronic storage, retrieval, and use of biomedical information in healthcare delivery and research." **Computer Science** and **Mathematics** students may also consider City Tech's **B.S. in Data Science** which the U.S. Census Bureau defines as "a field of study that uses scientific methods, processes, and systems to extract knowledge and insights from data." City Tech also offers a **B.S. in Data Analytics** which is primarily focused on answering questions based on analysis of existing datasets.

Business majors can consider City Tech's **B.S. in Business and Technology of Fashion**, that offers modules in Global Fashion, Innovation in E-Commerce, and

Fashion Merchandising Administration. **English** majors can consider the **B.S. in Professional and Technical Writing** where students learn to create content that connects technical expertise with the needs of different audiences by mastering writing, editing, and design skills using industry-standard digital tools and practices. The **B.S.Ed. in Career and Technical Education** equips students with teaching experience through internships and student teaching. The program has trained many well-prepared teachers and administrators in career and technical education areas such as **electronics, computer technology, and graphic arts**.

What I have noted here is a sample of what can be found throughout CUNY. There are also unique and interesting majors at SUNY and private schools. Connect with Transfer Services to learn more about them or if you want advisement for any of the majors detailed here.

Additional Sources

Administrator. "What Is Data Analytics? [Your Guide to Career Opportunities, Salary Info & More]." *University of San Diego Online Degrees*, 16 July 2025, onlinedegrees.sandiego.edu/what-is-data-analytics/.

Bureau, US Census. "Data Science." *Census.Gov*, 7 July 2022, www.census.gov/topics/research/data-science.html.

Nursing Informatics: Scope and Standards of Practice. American Nurses Association, 2016.

"What Is Biomedical Informatics?" *About - McWilliams School of Biomedical Informatics at UTHealth Houston, UTHealth Houston*, sbmi.uth.edu/about/what-is-bmi.htm. Accessed 11 July 2025.

WELCOME BACK TOM BRACKEN



Last semester we reported that Thomas Bracken, Transfer Specialist, was retiring after 22 years with Bronx Community College. We are happy to report that Tom has had a change of heart. --- please join us in welcoming him back! He is a valued colleague who brought a lot of experience and thoughtfulness to his work with Transfer Services.

THANK YOU FELIPE AYALA



After Tom retired in February 2025, Felipe Ayala, ASAP Academic Advisor, worked with Transfer Services part-time. We want to profoundly thank Felipe for bringing his extensive advising experiences to Transfer Services and assisting during the spring semester.

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.

A **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-BARUCH BUSINESS ACADEMY

The Baruch Business Academy is a transfer support program that helps students move smoothly from BCC to Baruch College's Zicklin School of Business, one of the top business schools in New York City. Academy students complete the Business Administration Associate degree at BCC and transfer to Baruch to complete their Bachelor's degree in any of Baruch's business majors. Academy students receive personalized support, guidance, and mentorship every step of the way through a clear, structured transfer pathway designed to help them succeed at BCC, at Baruch, and in future business careers.

Why join the Baruch Business Academy?

- A clear path through BCC and Baruch: Know exactly which courses to complete at BCC to stay on track for transfer to Baruch
- Dedicated support: Access support from both BCC and Baruch on your transfer planning and business career preparation
- Community: Join the Academy's networking events, community meet-ups, and career preparation workshops to connect with other Baruch-bound students and prepare for Baruch and beyond
- Peer mentorship: Work with the Academy peer mentors, business students who can share insights and advice on the Baruch transfer student experience
- Guaranteed Baruch admission: Unlock guaranteed admission to Baruch upon the completion of your Associate degree at BCC with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 and additional academic requirements

Who is eligible for the Baruch Business Academy?

- Business Administration A.S. major with 24 earned credits or less
- Students in other majors must have fewer than 15 earned credits and be willing to change your major to Business Administration A.S. immediately for the next term

Learn more at: <https://www.bcc.cuny.edu/campus-resources/transfer-services/baruch-business-academy/>

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/>



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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).
- **Explore Pathways course options.** (Pathways is CUNY's general education)
- Visit Career Development to **explore career options and their requirements.**
- **Read articulation agreements.**
- Become familiar with DegreeWorks, CUNYfirst, and **Transfer Explorer.**
- **Attend a Transfer Planning workshop.**
- Select your degree program.

13-24 Credits

- Attend the Transfer Fair.
- **Check for new articulation agreements.**
- Visit college websites.
- **Check your progress on DegreeWorks.**
- 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 four-year 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, book recommendations and video workshops.

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