

## Transfer Credit Policy for Texas Southern University

Prior to 2014, the University's transfer credit policy (as noted in the 2012-2014 Undergraduate Catalog) stated that no more than sixty-six (66) credits from the junior and community colleges may be transferred to Texas Southern University. From a review of best practices regarding transfer policies from peer institutions, the University's transfer credit policy was revised for the 2014-2016 Undergraduate Catalog, with the following language:

*"No limit is placed on the total amount of courses credit accepted in transfer from either junior- or senior level institutions; however, students are required to complete the last thirty hours in residence at TSU. Additionally, academic deans in each college and school will determine which transfer credits will apply to the student's degree." (Texas Southern University 2014-2016 Undergraduate Catalog, page 18.)*

As of 2014, the University accepts all transfer credit with grades of "C" or better earned from regionally-accredited institutions, at both junior and senior level institutions. Junior and community college courses may only transfer as lower-division (freshman or sophomore) credit. Undergraduate courses from senior colleges transfer at the same level, lower- or upper-division, as they were taken. The academic department of the student's major has the final authority for the transferability of courses to the University in adherence with university policy.

There are, however, some courses taken at the community or junior college level in Texas which are currently not transferable by the academic departments for equivalent credits. Examples of these courses including the following:

- Biology 1108: Introduction to Biology I (not accepted at TSU for any Biology credit)
- Biology 1309: Introduction to Biology II (not accepted at TSU for any Biology credit)
- Chemistry 1305: Introduction to Chemistry I (not accepted at TSU for any Chemistry credit)
- Chemistry 1307: Introduction to Chemistry II (not accepted at TSU for any Chemistry credit)
- Speech Communication 1311: Introduction to Speech Communication (not accepted at TSU for any Speech Communication credit)
- Psychology 1300: Learning Framework (not accepted at TSU for any Psychology credit)

For these courses, the departments' rationale for not accepting the equivalent transfer credit is that the courses are not equivalent in content, for example with Biology 1108 (Introduction to Biology I) , the

course is not equivalent in content to Biology 1406 (General Biology I) which is transferable to TSU as Biology 131/111 (Biological Science I).

The Office of Admissions continues to work with the academic departments and its community college partners to increase the number of transfer credits accepted by the department for transfer credit (beyond accepting the courses as miscellaneous credits). Current and pending articulation agreements and transfer plans with these institutions greatly assist our ability to attract and service more transfer students seeking admission to the University.