

The “Art” in Articulation

AP, IB, ASSIST,
OSCAR, C-ID...

...AICCU, CIAC, NCIAC,
SCIAC, TAG, CCC, UC, CSU,
GE, IGETC, IMPAC,

(Are you dizzy yet?)

If you are confused and wondering what these acronyms mean, can you imagine what our students are feeling? My goal is to provide a glimpse into the wonderful world of “articulation” and your crucial role as a faculty member in making it happen.



OK, so what is Articulation?

The articulation process determines which MJC courses are accepted for baccalaureate credit, General Education Breadth (GE) patterns, Course-to-course (by department agreements), and Lower-Division Major Preparation agreements.

The process of developing a formal, bilateral, written agreement that identifies a course (or sequence of courses) on a “sending” campus that are comparable to, or acceptable in lieu of, specific course requirements at a “receiving” campus.

California Intersegmental Articulation Council (CIAC)

MJC is the “sending” institution, while CSU, UC and private institutions are considered “receiving” institutions. According to CIAC, articulated courses need not be defined as “equivalent” but rather as **comparable to, or acceptable in lieu of each other [at least 80%]**.

The content of courses on each campus should be such that a student’s satisfactory completion of the course on a sending campus assures the student can progress to the next level of instruction at the receiving campus.

Establishing UC Transferability or MJC-GE/IGETC/CSU-GE Placement

Step 1:
Faculty author determines the

intent of the course:

When reviewing any course, faculty need to think of the “intent” of the course.

- Do you intend for this course to transfer to CSU or UC (baccalaureate credit)?
- Do you intend for this course to qualify for GE requirements for MJC, CSU-GE or IGETC?
- Do you intend for this course to articulate with a specific course at a four year university; therefore, satisfying a lower division prep course?

Step 2: Learn and Plan

Each “intent” will require that you learn and apply knowledge of various standards for the “intent.” In addition,

you will need to be cognizant of internal and external timelines and processes that are critical to making the intent a reality. To begin learning about the above:

1. Go to the **curriculum website** <http://curriculum.comm.mjc.edu/>.
2. Click on “**manual**” located in the left hand column
3. Scroll down to **Section V: Establishing Transfer (Articulation) with Other Institutions.**
4. Find the right **reference** to learn about what is required for articulation:

1. Do you want this course to **transfer to a CSU or UC institution** (for baccalaureate credit)?

- *Read CSU EO 167: Community Colleges may determine CSU Baccalaureate Level Courses*
- *2014-15 UC-TCA Transfer Course Agreement Guidelines*

2. Do you want this course to qualify for placement on MJC-GE, CSU-GE or IGETC? Read one or more of the following:

- *Title 5 Guidelines for AA & AS Degrees (approved by MJC Curriculum committee 03/15/2011)*
- *CSU-GE Breadth Requirements (CSU Executive Order 1100)*
- *2015 Guiding Notes for CSU-GE and IGETC Reviewers*
- *Reviewing Courses for “American Institutions” Requirement*
- *CSU-EO 405 - Establishing*

Criteria for American Institutions

- *IGETC-Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum v. 1.5 (June 5, 2014)*

3. Do you want this course to be regarded as comparable to a specific lower-division course at a four year university?

- *Let Ruth know that you would like your course to be submitted directly for a particular course at a four-year university. Otherwise, she will wait until summer to submit courses to four-year universities based on the ASSIST Report search of comparable course titles.*

Step 3: Revise the curriculum to meet the criteria above.

Once you grasp what is required to achieve your “intent”, you will need to review and adjust your course outline of record. You have resources to aid you in this process:

- Your Curriculum representative
- Yours truly (Ruth Cranley)
- **ASSIST Reports**, Faculty Access Instructions

You may also want to contact the faculty at the receiving institution.

Step 4: Launch it locally!

Once a course is launched in CurricUNET and reviewed for technical accuracy, it will appear on the subsequent curriculum agenda. The Curriculum Committee will review this course for content, and how it affects various programs, and also evaluate whether the course should be approved/submitted for

transferability and GE consideration. The committee also refers to the standards for transferability and GE pattern placement. Once approved, Ruth will submit the course outline(s) by a designated deadline to OSCAR/ASSIST.

Step 5: Wait for External Approval

Courses are evaluated by various external entities to determine articulation. The CSU System Office decides CSU-GE and IGETC placement (for CSU courses). The UC Office of the President determines UC course transferability and IGETC placement as well. For course-to-course agreements, Ruth independently corresponds with four-year institutions to negotiate and establish agreements.

Deadlines Faculty Authors Must Know

To meet internal and external deadlines, you must:

1. Request UC transferability (baccalaureate credit) – by the end of the spring semester in order for it to be effective the upcoming fall semester.
2. Launch a “request” for pattern placement using CurricUNET no later than early October of each year to be effective for the next academic year.

To learn more about Articulation, visit the following sites:

- *Articulation 101 - What is Articulation?*
- *How MJC Courses come to be articulated*

I would be delighted to help you achieve your articulation goals, and can be reached at cranleyr@mjc.edu or extension 6713.