Improving the transfer of General Education coursework

January 23, 2023
Meeting Objectives

- Identify ongoing challenges with general education application to Ohio Transfer 36
- Determine steps needed to address challenges and to improve the transfer of general education coursework
Barriers for Transfer Students

- Inconsistent Information
- Uncertainty
- Having to take an excess of additional GE credit hours after transfer
Background

Spring 2022
OATN Oversight Board
GE Steering Committee

Summer 2022
Mapping Survey

Fall 2022
Mapping Survey analyzed
OATN Advisory Council
OATN Oversight Board
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ohio Transfer 36 Requirements</th>
<th>Institutional General Education Requirements</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Writing (at least 3 credit hours)</td>
<td>Perspectives - English Composition (3 credits)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics, Statistics, &amp; Logic (at least 3 credit hours)</td>
<td>Perspectives: Mathematics &amp; Formal Reasoning (3 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natural Sciences (at least 6 credit hours)</td>
<td>Perspectives: Natural Sciences (6 credits)</td>
<td>One course must be a lab course. One course (3 credits) must be a biological science course, and one course (5 credits) must be a physical science course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social &amp; Behavioral Sciences (at least 6 credit hours from two different disciplines)</td>
<td>Perspectives: Social Sciences (6 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Humanities (at least 6 credit hours from two different disciplines)</td>
<td>Perspectives: Creative Arts AND Perspectives: Humanities (6 credits)</td>
<td>One course (3 credits) must be a creative arts course, and one course (3 credits) must be a humanities course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversity, Equity, &amp; Inclusion (not required, please note which, if any, Institutional requirement(s) an approved Ohio Transfer 36 DEI course would be)</td>
<td>Perspectives: Global Citizenship - DEI or Intercultural Consciousness (8 credits)</td>
<td>Both of our DEI and Intercultural Consciousness courses align well with the OT36 DEI outcomes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Ohio Transfer 36 approved coursework (up to 12 credit hours)</td>
<td>OT36 Second Writing Course (3 credits); OT36 Electives (courses with global emphasis recommended)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credit Hours Awarded (36-40 credit hours)</td>
<td>36</td>
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</table>
GE Mapping Survey Results

All universities completed the mapping

21 out of 23 community colleges completed the mapping
Under your current policies, if a student transfers in with a completed Ohio Transfer 36, does the completed Ohio Transfer 36 fulfill the entirety of your lower-level general education requirements, regardless of which courses the student has taken?

Universities
- Yes, 5
- No, 8

Community Colleges
- Yes, 12
- No, 8

- Second writing: 4
- Undergraduate Success Seminar: 1
- Physical Activity: 1
- Oral Communication: 1
- DEI/Intercultural Consciousness: 4
- Integrated and Applied Learning: 1
- Other: 2
Are lower-level general education requirements complete at your institution if a student transfers in with the Ohio Transfer 36 and are awarded credit as indicated in the mapping?

- Second Writing: 4
- DEI/Intercultural Consciousness: 2
- Physical Activity: 1
- Undergraduate Student Success Seminar: 1
- Oral Communication: 3
- Other: 1

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**Universities**

- Yes: 5
- Maybe: 1
- No: 6
- Varies by degree: 2

**Community Colleges**

- Yes: 8
- Varies by degree: 5
- No: 1
- N/A: 4

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- Varies by degree, 2
- Universities
- Community Colleges
- Yes
- Maybe
- No
- N/A
Would a student who transfers in with the Ohio Transfer 36 still need to complete upper-level general education requirements? (There is no expectation that Ohio Transfer 36 fulfills upper-level general education requirements; this is for informational purposes only.)

- Capstone: 7
- DEI/Intercultural: 3
- Experiential Learning: 3
- Integrated and Applied Learning: 1
- Other: 3
Under your current policies, which, if any, general education requirements are fulfilled if a student transfers in with only a portion of the Ohio Transfer 36 completed?

**Universities**
- Course by Course Equivalency, 9
- GE Fulfilled if GE Completed at Sending Institution, 1
- Count toward GE if OT36 approved, 2
- None, 1

**Community Colleges**
- Course by Course Equivalency, 17
- Same Portion as Completed at Sending Institution, 1
- Varies by program, 1
- Varies by program
- Same Portion as Completed at Sending Institution
Under your current policies, what credit is awarded if a student transfers in with an Ohio Transfer 36-approved course for which there is no direct equivalent at your institution? Will this credit be applied to the general education category at your institution that aligns to the equivalent Ohio Transfer 36 category?

Yes/Apply to GE category, 33

No credit (?), 1
Other challenges identified through email responses

• Not all general education courses are approved for Ohio Transfer 36.
• Students complete the Ohio Transfer 36, but upon transfer, the student does not meet the specificity of general education at the other school (e.g., more advanced coursework required by major, hours differentiation, programmatic requirements, etc.).
• Students may choose the wrong major at a community college for the intended major at the four-year institution (e.g., student chooses an applied degree if they want Engineering at the four-year institution).
• Receiving institution may not accept or apply some courses even when they are approved for Ohio Transfer 36.
Breakout Discussion: Challenges

Which additional challenges are critical to address for the transfer of Ohio Transfer 36 coursework?

Which three or four challenges of those mentioned in the presentation or in your experiences are presenting the greatest barriers to students transferring to or from your institution?
What might the best possible GE transfer system look for students?

- Ohio Transfer 36 completion = fulfillment of a consistent set of institutional GE
- Consistent application of a portion of the Ohio Transfer 36
- Use of the OGTPs
- Ohio Transfer 36 completion recorded on student transcripts
- Visible and transparent appeals process
Does your website already provide a mapping for how your general education fits with the Ohio Transfer 36?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Colleges</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universities</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Yes: 10%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, 100%
No: 10%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, 100%
Do you note the completion of the Ohio Transfer 36 on student degree audits?

Community Colleges
Yes, 6
No, 14

Universities
Yes, 6
No, 7

All
Yes, 12
No, 21

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%
Yes  No

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<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Colleges</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universities</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Do you note the completion of the Ohio Transfer 36 on student transcripts?

Community Colleges
- Yes, 12
- No, 8

Universities
- Yes, 8
- No, 5

All
- Yes, 20
- No, 13

[Bar chart showing percentages for Yes and No across different categories]
What is your review/appeals process for students who believe they were not awarded appropriate transfer credit for their Ohio Transfer 36 coursework or who believe that their transfer credit was not appropriately applied to fulfill general education requirements?
Opportunities/Best Practices identified through email responses

• Honoring a course that fulfills a general education requirement at the sending institution by allowing it to count towards the equivalent requirement at the receiving institution

• Majors that require a specific general education course should either have the course approved as Ohio Transfer 36 or they should consider changing the requirement

• Increasing the number of courses approved for Ohio Transfer 36

• Identification of Transfer 36 completion on transcripts at public institutions

• Establishing funding/scholarships specifically for transfer students
Clear Alignment of Institutional GE and the Ohio Transfer 36

- Provides consistency and transparency in the application of credit for students who complete the Ohio Transfer 36.
- Allows existing course equivalencies to be honored and utilized.
- Students who do not complete the Ohio Transfer 36 would still be able to see which components of an institution’s GE have been completed.
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<td>First Writing (at least 3 credit hours)</td>
<td>Foundation: Writing and Information Literacy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics, Statistics, &amp; Logic (at least 3 credit hours)</td>
<td>Foundation: Math, Quantitative Reasoning, or Data Analysis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Sciences (at least 6 credit hours)</td>
<td>Foundation: Natural Sciences (4 credits/1 class) and Choice Theme (3-4 credits/1 class)</td>
<td>The second course in this category will be mapped to one of the two courses in our &quot;Theme&quot; requirement via category matching rather than articulation of specific courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social &amp; Behavioral Sciences (at least 6 credit hours from two different disciplines)</td>
<td>Foundation: Social and Behavioral Sciences (3 credits) and either Foundation: Race, Ethnicity, and Gender Diversity OR second course within chosen theme</td>
<td>If the course taken for the second SBS requirement is not a DEI course, it can satisfy the second course required in the Theme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Humanities (at least 6 credit hours from two different disciplines)</td>
<td>We will articulate the Ohio Transfer A &amp; H credits to the Foundations: Literature, Visual, and Performing Arts category and to the Foundations: Historical or Cultural Studies category.</td>
<td>If the course taken for the second A &amp; H requirement is not a DEI course, it can satisfy the second course required in the Theme</td>
</tr>
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<td>Diversity, Equity, &amp; Inclusion (not required, please note which, if any, institutional requirement(s) an approved Ohio Transfer 36 DEI course would fulfill)</td>
<td>Foundation: Race, Ethnicity, and Gender Diversity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Ohio Transfer 36 approved coursework (up to 12 credit hours)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Most majors require additional prerequisite coursework outside of the GE</td>
</tr>
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<td>Total Credit Hours Awarded (36-40 credit hours)</td>
<td>36</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>First Writing (at least 3 credit hours)</td>
<td>Element 1: Communication</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics, Statistics, &amp; Logic (at least 3 credit hours)</td>
<td>Element 2: Mathematics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Sciences (at least 6 credit hours)</td>
<td>Element 6: Natural Science</td>
<td>We require 8 hours with two lecture/lab courses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social &amp; Behavioral Sciences (at least 6 credit hours from two different disciplines)</td>
<td>Element 5: Social Science, Element 3: Global Traditions, and/or Additional Core Course</td>
<td>Applicability for Element 3: Global Traditions would consider comparable learning outcomes related to global studies first.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Humanities (at least 6 credit hours from two different disciplines)</td>
<td>Element 4: Arts/Humanities, Element 8: Global Traditions History, Element 3: Global Traditions, or Additional Core Course</td>
<td>Applicability for Element 3: Global Traditions would consider comparable learning outcomes related to global studies first.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversity, Equity, &amp; Inclusion (not required, please note which, if any, institutional requirement(s) an approved Ohio Transfer 36 DEL course would fulfill)</td>
<td>Element 3: Global Traditions, Multicultural Competence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Ohio Transfer 36 approved coursework (up to 12 credit hours)</td>
<td>Element 1: Communication (2nd Writing), Additional Core Courses (6 hours), Element 3: Global Traditions</td>
<td>We also allow a public speaking communication course to apply to satisfy the additional core course requirement.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Credit Hours Awarded (36-40 credit hours)</td>
<td>38</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
Breakout Discussion: Success Strategies

Which changes in policy and/or practice, both at the state level and at an institutional level, are necessary to overcome the most pressing challenges in transfer and application of Ohio Transfer 36 coursework that we previously discussed?

How would you prioritize these changes and why (e.g., degree of impact upon students, ease of implementation, etc.)?

What can the Ohio Articulation and Transfer Network team do to support your institution in implementing these changes and continuing to improve students' transfer experience?

Would it be helpful for the Ohio Articulation and Transfer Network to post the transfer policy questions and responses in addition to the mapping?
Next Steps