

From Zero to Pathway in One Year

A Case Study of the Pathway Project at A-B Tech

Heather Vaughn
Chair of English – A-B Tech

Dr. Beth Stewart
Vice President of Instructional Services – A-B Tech



About A-B Tech

Located in Western North Carolina

Service Area Population = 259,082

Fall 2016 Head Count = 7,216

2016-2017 FTE = 6,992 (estimated)

194 Full-time faculty and 326 Adjuncts

More than 3,000 students enrolled in transfer degree programs

A-B Tech's challenges

Course Proliferation

Low Retention and Completion Rates

Inadequate Advising

Financial Aid

Financial Constraints

Timing

How we developed a Pathway Project

Decided to focus on the AA and AS only

Step 1 – Reduce the number of courses.

Step 2 – Create buy-in.

Step 3 – Let's build pathways!

Step 4 – We're bored, so let's take over advising!

Bonus – Surprises, next steps, and DATA

Step 1 – Reduce the number of courses.

Not going to lie – this was painful.

Courses that had not been offered/made in 3 academic years or that did not fulfill a specific requirement were on the chopping block.

2011-2012 Catalog = 276 Courses

Step 1 – Reduce the number of courses.

2016-2017 Catalog = 139 Courses

This is an ongoing process.

Step 2 – Create buy-in.



Step 2 – Create buy-in.

Key Stakeholders

Executive Leadership Team

Department Chairs

Faculty

Student Services

This step initially took approximately three months.

Step 3 – Let's build pathways!

Guidance

Zero choice

ACA 122, ENG 111, and gateway math in first semester

All students complete in two to three years

Focus on three universities: ASU, UNC-Asheville, & WCU

Step 3 – Let's build pathways!

Process

Department chairs reviewed eight semester guides from universities.

Departments then developed full-time and part-time pathways.

Pathways were checked to ensure compliance with the NC Comprehensive Articulation Agreement.

Pathways were published in the catalog and on program sheets.

Step 3 – Let's build pathways!

We made meta majors but nobody had a clue what that meant!

We call it a common first semester.

Biology Chemistry Mathematics	English Philosophy	Communication Psychology Sociology	History Political Science
ACA 122	ACA 122	ACA 122	ACA 122
ENG 111	ENG 111	ENG 111	ENG 111
COM 231	COM 231	COM 231 or SOC 210	HIS 111
MAT 171 or 172	MAT 143	MAT 152	MAT 152
BIO 111 or CHM 151 or ECO 251	PSY 150	PSY 150	ART 114

**All college transfer courses submitted for graduation require a minimum grade of "C."
25% of all credits must be taken at A-B Tech to receive a degree.**

General Education

Universal General Education Transfer Component		
English Composition (6 semester hours)		
1. ENG 111 Expository Writing (3)	<input type="checkbox"/>	ENG 111
2. ENG 112 Writing/Research in the Disciplines (3)	<input type="checkbox"/>	ENG 112
Humanities/Fine Arts/Communication (9 semester hours) All courses are 3 SHC.		
1. COM 231 Public Speaking	<input type="checkbox"/>	COM 231
2. ENG 231 American Lit I or ENG 232 American Lit II	<input type="checkbox"/>	ENG
3. One additional course from the list below are required.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ART 111 Art Appreciation	ENG 231 American Lit I	MUS 112 Intro. To Jazz
ART 114 Art Hist. I	ENG 232 American Lit II	PHI 215 Philosophical Issues
ART 115 Art Hist. II	MUS 110 Music Appreciation	PHI 240 Intro. To Ethics
Social/Behavioral Sciences (9 semester hours) All courses are 3 SHC.		
Select three courses from at least two disciplines. At least one course must be a history course.		
ECO 251 Microeconomics	HIS 112 World Civ. II	POL 120 American Government
ECO 252 Macroeconomics	HIS 131 American His. I	PSY 150 General Psychology
HIS 111 World Civ. I	HIS 132 American His. II	SOC 210 Intro. To Sociology
Mathematics (3-4 semester hours)		
MAT 143 Quantitative Literacy (3)	MAT 171 Precalculus Algebra (4)	<input type="checkbox"/>
MAT 152 Statistical Methods (4)		
Natural Sciences (4 semester hours) All courses are 4 SHC including a lab component.		
Select one course.		
AST 111/111A Descriptive Astronomy	BIO 111 General Biology	GEL 111 Introductory Geology
BIO 110 Principles of Biology	CHM 151 General Chemistry	PHY 110/110A Conceptual Physics

Additional General Education Hours (13-14 semester hours)

1. HUM 220 Human Values and Meaning (after successful completion of 40 semester hours)	<input type="checkbox"/>	HUM 220
2. Select one general education humanities/fine arts/communications course from the following list		
ART 111 Art Appreciation (3)	ENG 231 American Lit I (3)	MUS 112 Intro. To Jazz (3)
ART 114 Art Hist. I (3)	ENG 232 American Lit II (3)	PHI 215 Philosophical Issues (3)
ART 115 Art Hist. II (3)	MUS 110 Music Appreciation (3)	PHI 240 Intro. To Ethics (3)
3. Select one of the following		
AST 111/111A Descriptive Astronomy (4)	CHM 132 Organic and Biochemistry (4)	MAT 171 Precalc Algebra (4)
BIO 110 Principles of Biology (4)	CHM 151 General Chemistry I (4)	MAT 172 Precalc Trigonometry (4)
BIO 111 General Biology I (4)	CHM 152 General Chemistry II (4)	MAT 263 Brief Calculus (4)
BIO 112 General Biology II (4)	GEL 111 Introductory Geology (4)	MAT 271 Calculus I (4)
BIO 120 Introductory Botany (4)	GEL 230 Environmental Geology (4)	PHY 110/110A Conceptual Phys. (4)
BIO 130 Introductory Zoology (4)	MAT 143 Quantitative Literacy (3)	PHY 251 General Physics I (4)
BIO 140/140A Environmental Biology (4)	MAT 152 Statistical Methods (4)	PHY 252 General Physics II (4)
4. Select remaining semester hours (3-4 SHC) from all classes listed on this page or classes with an asterisk (*) on page 2.		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Total General Education Hours Required: 45

Other Required Hours (15 hours)

All courses are 3 SHC unless otherwise noted.

1. ACA 122 College Transfer Success (1) Must be completed in first 15 SHC.	<input type="checkbox"/>	ACA 122
2. HEA 110 Personal Health and Wellness (3)	<input type="checkbox"/>	HEA 110
3. Additional 11 hours selected from the list below and/or from those courses listed on page 1		
ACC 120 Prin. Financial Accounting (4)	CJC 141 Corrections	
ACC 121 Prin. Managerial Accounting (4)	COM 110 Intro. To Communication*	
ANT 210 General Anthropology*	COM 120 Interpersonal Comm.*	
ANT 240 Archaeology*	COM 140 Intro to Intercultural Communication*	
ART 121 Two-Dimensional Design	COM 150 Intro to Mass Communication	
ART 122 Three-Dimensional Design	CSC 134 C++ Programming	PED 110 Fit & Well for Life (2)
ART 131 Drawing I	CSC 151 JAVA Programming	PED 117 Weight Training I (1)
ART 132 Drawing II	CTS 115 Info System Business Concepts	PED 118 Weight Training II (1)
ART 171 Computer Art I	DFT 170 Engineering Graphics	PED 119 Circuit Training (1)
ART 231 Printmaking I	ECO 151 Survey of Economics*	PED 120 Walking for Fitness (1)
ART 240 Painting I	EGR 150 Intro to Engineering (2)	PED 122 Yoga I (1)
ART 241 Painting II	EGR 220 Engineering Statics	PED 123 Yoga II (1)
ART 244 Watercolor	ENG 114 Pro. Research & Reporting*	PED 125 Self-Defense - Beginning (1)
ART 261 Photography I	ENG 125 Creative Writing I	PED 126 Self-Defense - Inter. (1)
ART 264 Digital Photography I	ENG 235 Survey of Film as Literature	PED 128 Golf - Beginning (1)
ART 265 Digital Photography II	ENG 241 British Literature I*	PED 130 Tennis - Beginning (1)
ART 266 Videography I	ENG 242 British Literature II*	PED 143 Volleyball - Beginning (1)
ART 267 Videography II	ENG 243 Major British Writers*	PED 145 Basketball - Beginning (1)
ART 271 Computer Art II	ENG 261 World Literature I*	PED 171 Nature Hiking (1)
ART 281 Sculpture I	ENG 262 World Literature II*	PED 211 New Games (1)
ART 283 Ceramics I	FRE 111 Elementary French I*	PED 217 Pilates I (1)
ART 284 Ceramics II	FRE 112 Elementary French II*	PED 218 Pilates II (1)
BIO 155 Nutrition	FRE 211 Intermediate French I*	PED 235 Tai Chi (1)
BIO 163 Basic Anatomy & Physiology (5)	FRE 212 Intermediate French II*	PHY 151 College Physics I (4)*
BIO 168 Anatomy and Physiology I (4)	GIS 111 Introduction to GIS	PHY 152 College Physics II (4)*
BIO 169 Anatomy and Physiology II (4)	HEA 112 First Aid and CPR (2)	PSY 115 Positive Psychology
BIO 175 General Microbiology	HIS 162 Women and History	PSY 241 Developmental Psychology*
BIO 250 Genetics (4)	HIS 212 Medieval History	PSY 281 Abnormal Psychology*
BIO 271 Pathophysiology	HIS 236 North Carolina History	REL 110 World Religions*
BIO 275 Microbiology (4)	HUM 110 Technology and Society*	SOC 213 Sociology of the Family*
BUS 110 Introduction to Business	HUM 115 Critical Thinking*	SOC 220 Social Problems*
BUS 115 Business Law I	HUM 120 Cultural Studies*	SOC 225 Social Diversity*
BUS 137 Principles of Management	HUM 160 Introduction to Film*	SOC 234 Sociology of Gender
CIS 110 Introduction to Computers	HUM 230 Leadership Development	SOC 240 Social Psychology*
CIS 115 Intro to Programming and Logic	MAT 272 Calculus II (4)*	SPA 111 Elementary Spanish I*
CHM 130/130A Gen.,Org, Biochem (4)	MAT 273 Calculus III (4)*	SPA 112 Elementary Spanish II*
CHM 132 Organic & Biochemistry (4)*	MAT 280 Linear Algebra	SPA 211 Intermediate Spanish I*
CHM 251 Organic Chemistry I (4)	MAT 285 Differential Equations	SPA 212 Intermediate Spanish II*
CHM 252 Organic Chemistry II (4)	MUS 131 Chorus I (1)	
CHM 271 Biochemical Principles	MUS 132 Chorus II (1)	
CJC 111 Intro. to Criminal Justice	MUS 231 Chorus III (1)	
CJC 121 Law Enforcement Operations	MUS 232 Chorus IV (1)	

Associate in Arts: Psychology Pathway

All Pathways are designed to transfer to a four-year institution for eventual completion of a BA/BS degree.

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behavior. People who study psychology are interested in how the mind works and why we behave the way we do. The topics covered in psychology courses may include neuroscience, learning, memory, sensation, perception, human development, cognition, intelligence, motivation, emotion, gender and sexuality, personality, social psychology, psychological disorders and treatments. A degree in psychology also provides a strong foundation for many career fields (see some of these fields listed below).

Research
Management
Business Administration
Human Resources
Criminal Justice
Education
Health and Medicine
Human Services
Law
Marketing
Counseling/Therapy

For More Information:

Contact Kelly McEnany by email at kellyqmcenany@abtech.edu or call 828-398-7831

Total Cost Estimate

Tuition per Semester (NC Resident) (Subject to change)	\$1,216.00 (16+ credit hours) \$76.00/credit hour (1-15 hours)
Activity Fee	\$32/semester (9+ credit hours) \$22/semester (1-8 credit hours)
Computer Use and Technology Fee	\$48/semester
Student Insurance	\$2/semester
CAPS Fee	\$10/semester
Books	cost may vary

	Course Prefix	Course Name	Credit Hours
First Semester	ACA 122	College Transfer Success	1
	COM 231	Public Speaking	3
	ENG 111	Writing and Inquiry	3
	MAT 152	Statistical Methods 1	4
	PSY 150	General Psychology	3
Second Semester	BIO 110	Principles of Biology	4
	ENG 112	Writing/Research in the Disc	3
	SPA 111	Elementary Spanish I (or FRE 111)	3
	HIS 112	World Civilizations II	3
	PSY 237	Social Psychology	3
(UNC-Asheville or Appalachian State University)			
Third Semester	ANT 220	Cultural Anthropology	3
	SPA 112	Elementary Spanish II (or FRE 112)	3
	MUS 110	Music Appreciation	3
	PSY 241	Developmental Psych	3
	SOC 210	Introduction to Sociology	3
(Western Carolina University)			
Third Semester	HEA 110	Personal Health/Wellness	3
	SPA 112	Elementary Spanish II (or FRE 112)	3
	MUS 110	Music Appreciation	3
	PSY 241	Developmental Psych	3
	SOC 210	Introduction to Sociology	3
Fourth Semester	BIO 140	Environmental Biology	3
	BIO 140A	Environmental Biology Lab	1
	SPA 211	Intermediate Spanish I (or FRE 211)	3
	HUM 220	Human Values and Meaning	3
	PHI 240	Introduction to Ethics	3
PSY 281	Abnormal Psychology	3	
Program Totals:			61

Step 3 – Let's build pathways!

For 2017-2018, we had 18 pathways.

This step took approximately four months.

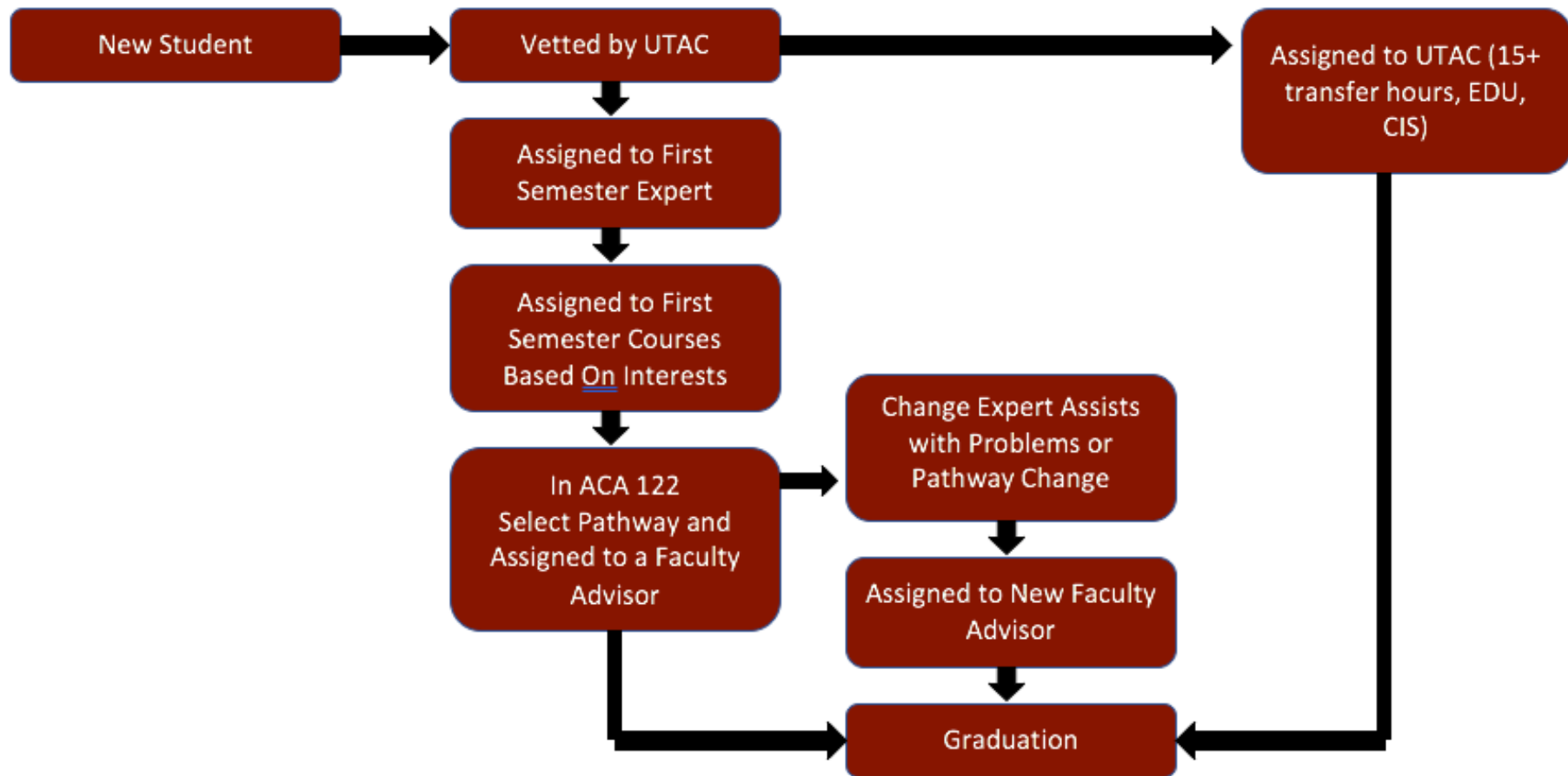
Step 4 – We're bored, so let's take over advising!

Previously, all AA/AS students went through the University Transfer Advising Center.

We returned to faculty advisors.

Advisors are not responsible for building schedules.

A-B TECH'S ADVISING MODEL FOR THE ASSOCIATE OF ARTS AND ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREES



Surprises

Students LOVE it.

Faculty are okay with it.

There is a sudden interest in the first semester experience.

First Year Findings

For the First Year Of the Pathway Project

- 34% increase in the number of students taking ACA 122
- 16% increase in the number of students taking ENG 111
- 29% increase in the number of students taking Gateway Math

First Year Findings

In 2016-17, the mean # hours earned was 15, **not including credits earned in the summer.**

In 2015-16, the mean # hours earned was 17, including credits earned in the summer.

We believe the mean # hours earned will be higher when summer credits are included.

First Year Findings

Regarding Performance Measures

- Only 46% of AAS students took ACA 115 in their first year.
- Only 32% of AAS students took ENG 111 in their first year.

Next Steps

We will expand the pathway project to AAS programs.

We will constantly be adding and deleting pathways.

We will make further improvements to our advising process.

We will be reviewing our data.

Questions

Questions?