

**STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES**  
**Associate in Fine Arts Uniform Articulation Agreement**

**Request:** The State Board of Community Colleges is requested to approve the *Proposal for a Uniform Articulation Agreement Between The University of North Carolina Baccalaureate of Fine Arts Programs and the North Carolina Community College System Associate in Fine Arts Visual Arts Programs*, which is an agreement jointly created by the North Carolina Community College System and the University of North Carolina Baccalaureate of Fine Arts Visual Arts programs.

**Background:** Since 2013 community college and university visual arts faculty, department chairs, and administrators have been focused on forging productive, collaborative relationships founded on the common goal of best serving students pursuing the visual arts in North Carolina's public community colleges and universities. The implementation of the 2014 *Comprehensive Articulation Agreement* between the two systems presented motivation for visual arts programs across North Carolina's institutions of public higher education to re-evaluate the needs of students, to improve curriculum, and to commit to improving inter-institutional collaboration in order to put student success first. There is strong evidence of the successes of these efforts, with highlights including the establishment of the NC Community College AFA Association (NCCCAFAA), the creation of the annual NC Community College Fine Arts Conference (a statewide conference for both community college and university faculty that is in its fourth year in 2017), the inaugural joint visual arts Foundations Summit of September 2016 hosted by the UNC Greensboro College of Visual and Performing Arts, and the creation of the Alliance of Visual Arts Programs (AVAP), a joint alliance of visual arts department chairs and directors from NC's community college and university programs.

The Alliance of Visual Arts Programs and the NC Community College Associate in Fine Arts Association have worked together to develop improvements in the transfer process that include the following actions: the creation, submission, and implementation of community college AFA Visual Arts curriculum standard revision; the establishment of a community college visual arts core that is closely aligned with a university foundations core; and the creation of the proposed agreement for articulation of the AFA Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Articulation Agreement.

**Rationale:** The Uniform Articulation Agreement is focused on developing seamless transfer for students who begin visual arts studies at a community college and then transfer to one of the UNC baccalaureate of fine arts visual arts programs.

**Contact Person:**  
Wesley Beddard, Associate Vice President

**PROPOSAL FOR A UNIFORM ARTICULATION AGREEMENT**

**BETWEEN**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
BACCALAUREATE OF FINE ARTS PROGRAMS**

**AND**

**NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM  
ASSOCIATE IN FINE ARTS IN VISUAL ARTS PROGRAMS**

**Effective: Fall 2017**

Approved by the State Board of Community Colleges on **XXXXXXXXXX**

Approved by The UNC Board of Governors on **XXXXXXXXXX**

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## I. Background

Since 2013 community college and university visual arts faculty, department chairs, and administrators have been focused on forging productive, collaborative relationships founded on the common goal of best serving students pursuing the visual arts in North Carolina's public community colleges and universities. The implementation of the 2014 Comprehensive Articulation Agreement between the two systems presented motivation for visual arts programs across North Carolina's institutions of public higher education to re-evaluate the needs of students, to improve curriculum, and to commit to improving inter-institutional collaboration in order to put student success first. There is strong evidence of the successes of these efforts, with highlights including the establishment of the NC Community College AFA Association (NCCCAFAA), the creation of the annual NC Community College Fine Arts Conference (a statewide conference for both community college and university faculty that is in its fourth year in 2017), the inaugural joint visual arts Foundations Summit of September 2016 hosted by the UNC Greensboro College of Visual and Performing Arts, and the creation of the Alliance of Visual Arts Programs (AVAP), a joint alliance of visual arts department chairs and directors from NC's community college and university programs.

The AVAP and the NCCCAFAA have worked together to develop improvements in the transfer process that include the following actions: the creation, submission, and implementation of community college AFA VA curriculum standard revision; the establishment of a community college visual arts core that is closely aligned with a university foundations core; and the creation of AFAVA to BFA AA.

**The Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts to Bachelor of Fine Arts Articulation Agreement (AFAVA to BFA AA)** is an agreement jointly created by the North Carolina Community College System and the University of North Carolina BFA visual arts programs. The AFAVA to BFA AA is focused on developing seamless transfer for students who begin visual arts studies at a community college and then transfer to one of the UNC BFA visual arts programs. There are seven BFA-granting institutions within the UNC system whose focus is on the visual arts. While the individual names of these seven BFA degrees may vary slightly between program, for the sake of consistency and clarity we will refer to all four-year BFA [visual arts] degrees as "BFA" within this document. The specific title of each degree will be listed in Appendix A, under Participating Programs.

## II. Purpose and Rationale

This document presents a uniform, statewide academic progression agreement that will promote educational advancement opportunities for Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts graduates moving between North Carolina community colleges and the constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina in order to complete Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. It describes a progression degree plan that includes required general education and prerequisite courses that are acceptable to all state-funded visual arts Bachelor of Fine Arts visual arts programs. AFA in Visual Arts graduates will meet entrance requirements at all of the North Carolina public universities and will meet entrance requirements for application directly to the Bachelor of Fine Arts programs. AFA in Visual Arts graduates must meet the portfolio submission requirements and associated timelines as published by each BFA program. Acceptance into any BFA program is not guaranteed. Each student must follow the admissions process of the specific receiving institution.

This proposal supports the mission of the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges and Goals 1 and 2 of the University of North Carolina's strategic document *Our Time Our Future, University of North Carolina Strategic Direction*. It moves these objectives forward by creating a more seamless and rational transfer process for community college Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts students.

## III. Policies

The AFAVA to BFA AA is made between the State Board of the North Carolina Community College System and The University of North Carolina Board of Governors. It applies to all North Carolina community colleges that offer the Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts program and to those constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina that operate Bachelor of Fine Arts Programs. For the list of participating programs, see Appendix A. The AFAVA to BFA AA applies to all community college students who enter the Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts degree program after the effective date of this agreement and who successfully complete the AFA in Visual Arts degree.

**A. AFA in Visual Arts to BFA Transfer Committee (AFABFATC)** Authority to interpret and make changes in the AFAVA to BFA AA rests with the AFA to BFA Transfer Committee (AFABFATC). The AFABFATC is an eight-member co-chaired committee appointed by the Presidents of the North Carolina Community College System and The University of North Carolina. Questions concerning the AFAVA to BFA AA should be directed to the appropriate system's chief academic office (CAO) with an explanation of the institutional policy that may (appear to) be in conflict with AFAVA to BFA AA. The CAO will forward unresolved questions to the AFABFATC for resolution. Each system will appoint one ex-officio non-voting member of the AFABFATC For further details, see Appendices B and C.

## **B. Transfer Credit Appeal**

If an AFAVA to BFA AA student perceives that the terms of the AFAVA to BFA AA have not been honored, s/he may follow the AFAVA to BFA AA Transfer Credit Appeal Process as outlined in Appendix D.

## **IV. Regulations**

### **A. Transfer of Credits**

The AFAVA to BFA AA establishes the procedures governing the transfer of credits for students who graduate from North Carolina Community College AFA in Visual Arts programs and apply to BFA [visual arts] programs at constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina. The AFAVA to BFA AA does not address admission to a specific institution or BFA program within an institution.

#### **1. Eligibility**

To be eligible for the transfer of credits under the AFAVA to BFA AA, an applicant must enter a community college AFA in Visual Arts program on or after the effective date of this agreement and must earn an AFA in Visual Arts degree in a North Carolina Community College with a GPA of at least 2.0 and a grade of C or better in all transfer courses.

In order to use the AFAVA to BFA AA effectively, students should follow the prescribed AFA in Visual Arts course list. (Appendix E)

#### **2. Procedures governing transfer of Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts into Bachelor of Fine Arts**

- a. The AFAVA to BFA AA enables students who have graduated from North Carolina community college AFA in Visual Arts programs to complete a

common list of courses that meet the entrance requirements at all of the BFA in visual arts programs at the constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina. However, because visual arts program admissions are competitive, no student is guaranteed admission to a visual arts program. In addition to meeting entrance requirements transfer students may also be required to submit a portfolio of their creative work, depending on the portfolio requirements for each institution.

- b. A student who completes an AFA in Visual Arts with a GPA of at least 2.0 and a grade of C or better in the AFAVA to BFA AA courses listed in Appendix E will have fulfilled the BFA program entry requirements, and all courses in the Universal General Education Transfer Component will transfer with course equivalency to fulfill General Education requirements for the BFA.
- c. These students will receive at least 60 semester hours of academic credit upon admission to a UNC institution.

### **3. Certification of the Associate of Fine Arts in Visual Arts degree completion**

Certification of completion of the Associate of Fine Arts in Visual Arts degree in is the responsibility of the community college at which the courses were completed. Transcript identification of the Universal General Education Transfer Component Courses is also the responsibility of the community college at which the courses were completed.

### **4. Transfer of Courses not originated at North Carolina community colleges**

Transfer courses that do not originate in a North Carolina Community College or UNC institution may be used under the AFAVA to BFA AA with the following stipulations:

- a. Courses must be completed at a regionally accredited institution of higher education;
- b. Courses must meet general education requirements; and
- c. Courses may total no more than 14 hours of general education course credit.
- d. If the courses are used to complete the AFAVA degree, the courses will transfer as a part of the degree.

### **5. Transfer of Advanced Placement (AP) course credit**

Advanced Placement (AP) course credits, awarded for a score of three or higher, are acceptable as part of a student's successfully completed AFAVA degree under the AFAVA to BFA AA.

## **B. Impact of the AFAVA to BFA AA on other articulation agreements**

The AFAVA to BFA AA takes precedence over bilateral articulation agreements established between constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina and the North Carolina Community College System but does not necessarily preclude such agreements. Institution-to-institution articulation agreements that fall within the parameters of the AFAVA to BFA AA and

enhance transferability of students from community colleges to senior institutions are acceptable. Institutional agreements conflicting with the AFAVA to BFA AA are not permitted.

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**Appendices**

**Appendix A:**  
**Participating Programs**  
**NCCCS Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts**  
**Programs As of December 22, 2016**

The following North Carolina community colleges have received approval to offer the Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts (A10600) degree:

Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College	Guildford Technical Community College
Blue Ridge Community College	Mitchell Community College
Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute	Pitt Community College
Cape Fear Community College	Roanoke-Chowan Community College
Carteret Community College	Rockingham Community College
Catawba Valley Community College	Rowan-Cabarrus Community College
Central Piedmont Community College	Sandhills Community College
Cleveland Community College	South Piedmont Community College
Coastal Carolina Community College	Southwestern Community College
College of the Albemarle	Surry Community College
Craven Community College	Tri-County Community College
Durham Technical Community College	Vance-Granville Community College
Fayetteville Technical Community College	Wake Technical Community College
Forsyth Technical Community College	Western Piedmont Community College

**UNC System BFA Programs with Degree Titles**

Appalachian State University – BFA in Studio Art  
East Carolina State University – BFA in Art  
UNC Asheville – BFA in Art  
UNC Chapel Hill – BFA in Studio Art  
UNC Charlotte – BFA in Art  
UNC Greensboro – BFA in Studio Art  
Western Carolina University – BFA in Art

## **Appendix B:**

### **AFAVA to BFA AA Transfer Committee Procedures**

Articulation between the North Carolina Community College System and The University of North Carolina is a dynamic process. To ensure the currency of the AFAVA to BFA AA, occasional modifications to that agreement may be necessary. The AFAVA to BFA AA Transfer Committee (AFABFATC) will receive requests for modification only upon the recommendation of the chief academic officer of the NCCCS or UNC. Because the modification process involves faculty and administrative review, this process may require up to 12 months for final action. Decisions made by the AFABFATC will be consistent with all pertinent accreditation standards.

## **Appendix C**

### **AFAVA to BFA AA Transfer Committee Membership**

AFABFATC members shall serve three-year, staggered terms. An individual may serve no more than two consecutive terms. Some initial appointments may be for 1 or 2 years to allow for staggering of terms.

The AFABFATC shall have co-chairs, one from the NCCCS members, and one from the UNC members. Co-chairs shall be elected by the membership, and shall serve staggered terms.

#### *NCCCS Members:*

- Four representatives including:
  - One representative from the NCCCS administration (Non-Voting)
  - One representative from the NCCC AFA Association Executive Committee (an AFA in Visual Arts representative)
  - Two representatives from the community college AFA in Visual Arts schools. This member will be nominated by their peers and appointed by the CAO of the NCCCS. Self-nomination with endorsement by peers is permitted.

#### *UNC Members:*

- Four representatives including:
  - One representative from the University of North Carolina (Non-Voting)
  - Three representatives from the university BFA institutions. These three members will be nominated by their peers and appointed by the CAO of UNC. Self-nomination with endorsement by peers is permitted.

## Appendix D

### **AFAVA to BFA Articulation Agreement Transfer Credit Appeal Procedure**

**Guiding Principle:** If a student from a North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) college believes the terms of the AFAVA to BFA AA have not been honored by a University of North Carolina (UNC) institution to which the student has been admitted, the student may invoke the AFAVA to BFA AA Transfer Credit Appeal Procedure.

#### **Steps in Filing an Appeal**

##### **Step #1:**

- **By the last day of classes of the first semester for which admission is offered**, the student must submit an AFAVA to BFA AA Transfer Credit Appeal Form along with any supporting documentation to the Director of Admissions or other campus designee at the UNC campus to which the student has been admitted. Students first enrolling at the senior institution in a summer session must submit their appeal by the end of the subsequent fall semester.
- **The student must specify on the appeal form the specific AFAVA to BFA AA language that is in contention. Appeals that lack this information will not be considered.**
- The Director of Admission or other campus designee will review the appeal and respond in writing (email or letter) to the student within 15 business days.

##### **Step #2:**

- If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Director of Admission or other campus designee, he/she may appeal on the same form to the Chief Academic Officer (Provost) of the specific University within 15 days of written notice of the director's decision.
- The Provost will review the appeal and respond in writing (email or letter) to the student within 15 business days of receiving the student's appeal.

##### **Step #3**

- If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Provost, he/she may appeal to the AFA to BFA Transfer Committee (AFABFATC) appeals subcommittee, composed of the Co-chairs, a representative from the UNC General Administration, and a representative from the NCCCS. The student must submit the appeal to the subcommittee within 15 days of the receipt of the Provost's decision. The appeal to the AFA to BFA Transfer Committee (AFABFATC) appeals subcommittee should be sent to:

UNC-GA AFA to BFA Transfer Committee (AFABFATC)  
AFAVA to BFA AA Appeal  
PO Box 2688, Chapel Hill, NC 27515

If a consensus is reached by the subcommittee, the student will be notified within 15 business days; if a consensus resolution is not reached, the appeal will be forwarded by the subcommittee to the full AFABFATC within 10 business days. The AFABFATC will review the appeal and notify the student of the final decision within 10 business days of receiving the appeal.

**AFAVA to BFA AA Transfer Credit Appeal Form**

**University of North Carolina/North Carolina Community College System**

**Section 1: Student Information** *(to be completed by the student submitting the form)*

- The completed form and any supporting documentation **must be submitted to the UNC institution's Director of Admission by the last day of classes of the first semester for which admission is offered or by the end of the subsequent fall semester for students enrolling in the summer.**
- You must specify the nature of the appeal and cite the specific AFAVA to BFA AA language that is in contention. Appeals that do not include this information cannot be considered.

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First: \_\_\_\_\_ MI: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print or type)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number and Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Area code/Number)

Community College from which AFAVA was earned: \_\_\_\_\_

UNC institution offering admission: \_\_\_\_\_ beginning (semester/yr) \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 2: Basis for your appeal:** State your concern(s), citing specific language in the AFAVA to BFA AA that is applicable to your contention. Attach AFAVA to BFA AA supporting documents.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Appendix E**

Effective Term: Fa2016

**Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts (A10600) Curriculum Standard**

*Approved by the State Board of Community Colleges on February 19, 2016; Editorial revision 06/29/2016.*

The Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts degree shall be granted for a planned program of study consisting of a minimum of **60 semester hours** of college transfer courses. Within the degree program, the institution shall include opportunities for the achievement of competence in reading, writing, oral communication, fundamental mathematical skills, and basic computer use.

**UNIVERSAL GENERAL EDUCATION TRANSFER (UGETC) COMPONENT**

*All Universal General Education Transfer Component courses will transfer for equivalency credit.*

**English Composition (6 SHC)**

ENG 111 Writing and Inquiry (3 SHC)

ENG 112 Writing/Research in the Disciplines (3 SHC)

**Communications and Humanities/Fine Arts (6 SHC)**

*Select two courses from two different disciplines.*

ART 111 Art Appreciation (3 SHC)

COM 231 Public Speaking (3 SHC)

ENG 231 American Literature I (3 SHC)

ENG 232 American Literature II (3 SHC)

ENG 241 British Literature I (3 SHC)

ENG 242 British Literature II (3 SHC)

MUS 110 Music Appreciation (3 SHC)

MUS 112 Introduction to Jazz (3 SHC)

PHI 215 Philosophical Issues (3 SHC)

PHI 240 Introduction to Ethics (3 SHC)

**Social/Behavioral Sciences (6 SHC)**

*Select two courses from two different disciplines.*

ECO 251 Principles of Microeconomics (3 SHC)

ECO 252 Principles of Macroeconomics (3 SHC)

HIS 111 World Civilizations I (3 SHC)

HIS 112 World Civilizations II (3 SHC)

HIS 131 American History I (3 SHC)

HIS 132 American History II (3 SHC)

POL 120 American Government (3 SHC)

PSY 150 General Psychology (3 SHC)

SOC 210 Introduction to Sociology (3 SHC)

**Math (3-4 SHC)**

*Select one course from the following:*

- MAT 143 Quantitative Literacy (3 SHC)
- MAT 152 Statistical Methods I (4 SHC)
- MAT 171 Precalculus Algebra (4 SHC)
- MAT 271 Calculus I (4 SHC)
- MAT 272 Calculus II (4 SHC)

**Natural Sciences (4 SHC)**

*Select 4 SHC from the following:*

- AST 111 Descriptive Astronomy (3 SHC) *and* AST 111A Descriptive Astronomy Lab (1 SHC)
- AST 151 General Astronomy I (3 SHC) *and* AST 151A General Astronomy I Lab (1 SHC)
- BIO 110 Principles of Biology (4 SHC)
- BIO 111 General Biology I (4 SHC)
- CHM 151 General Chemistry I (4 SHC)
- GEL 111 Geology (4 SHC)
- PHY 110 Conceptual Physics (3 SHC) *and* PHY 110A Conceptual Physics Lab (1 SHC)

**ART (15 SHC)**

**Additional Universal General Education Transfer Courses: ART**

- ART 114 Art History Survey I (3 SHC)
- ART 115 Art History Survey II (3 SHC)

**Other Required: ART**

- ART 121 Two-Dimensional Design (3 SHC)
- ART 122 Three-Dimensional Design (3 SHC)
- ART 131 Drawing I (3 SHC)

*An additional 18-20 SHC of courses should be selected from the courses classified as pre-major, elective, general education, or UGETC within the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement. Students should select these courses based on their intended major and transfer university.*

**Academic Transition (1 SHC)**

- ACA 122 College Transfer Success (1 SHC)

**Total Semester Hours Credit (SHC) in Program: 60-61\***

*\*One semester hour of credit may be included in a 61 SHC Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts program of study. The transfer of this hour is not guaranteed.*

*Students must meet the receiving university's foreign language and/or health and physical education requirements, if applicable, prior to or after transfer to the senior institution.*

**Appendix F**

**North Carolina Public College and Universities Honoring the AFAVA to BFA AA**

**The following institutions do not award BFA degrees but offer BA degrees  
in the visual arts and agree to honor the AFAVA to BFA AA.**

D  
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A  
F  
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T