

NEW MATHWAYS PROJECT TRANSFER CHAMPIONS INITIATIVE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets forth the terms and understanding between Paris Junior College and Texas A&M University-Commerce, for the purpose of improving student success in developmental and entry-level college mathematics in Texas through participation in the New Mathways Project.

Background

Approximately half of all students who begin in community college are referred to developmental education. Too few of these underprepared students successfully progress through developmental mathematics and a college-level mathematics course. These milestones are critical momentum points for students who seek to complete a degree, license, or certificate with labor market value.

At the same time, 78% of students who complete bachelor's degrees in Texas have taken courses at community colleges. Students in Texas are among the most mobile in the nation. Community colleges and universities across the state have a shared responsibility for student success and to help address the challenges of developmental and gateway math course success.

The New Mathways Project (NMP) is a systemic response to these issues. The NMP is a joint initiative of the Charles A. Dana Center at The University of Texas at Austin and the Texas Association of Community Colleges. In 2012, all 50 community college districts in the state unanimously agreed to participate in the NMP.

The NMP is a systemic approach to improving student success and completion that implements processes, strategies, and structures based on four fundamental principles.

1. Multiple pathways with relevant and challenging math content aligned to specific fields of study,
2. Acceleration that allows students to complete a college-level math course more quickly than in the traditional developmental math sequence,
3. Intentional use of strategies to help students develop skills as learners, and
4. Curriculum design and pedagogy based on proven practice.

NMP courses are designed to enable students placed into developmental mathematics to complete a credit-bearing, transferable mathematics course on an accelerated timeline, while building skills for long-term success in college and in life.

The NMP Transfer Champions Initiative supports this goal by improving the predictability of transfer pathways and the applicability of mathematics courses to majors. Participants are promoted throughout Texas and beyond as models of collaboration between two-year and four-year institutions.

Implementing the NMP

Essential to statewide scale of the initiative is ensuring that students at Paris Junior College who participate in the NMP can seamlessly transfer college-level mathematics courses that satisfy general education core requirements and/or major-specific mathematics course requirements at Texas A&M University-Commerce.

I. Parties

This agreement is entered into by Paris Junior College and Texas A&M University-Commerce. Paris Junior College participates in the New Mathways Project. Texas A&M University-Commerce accepts in transfer many students from Paris Junior College.

II. Purpose of the Agreement

The MOU is entered into between both parties in order to articulate clearly the majors at Texas A&M University-Commerce that align to the NMP Statistical Reasoning and Quantitative Reasoning pathways. This agreement identifies the majors that allow Math 1342/1442 (Elementary Statistical Methods) and majors that allow Math 1332 (Contemporary Mathematics). College Algebra is not required for the majors listed in this MOU, but will be accepted as an option to meet degree requirements. The agreement will also foster regular communication so that each institution is building upon and coordinating with the requirements of the other.

III. Scope

- a. Paris Junior College offers the NMP Statistical Reasoning pathway and/or the Quantitative Reasoning pathway. These courses have been developed with support from the Charles A. Dana Center at the University of Texas at Austin. They are taught by Paris Junior College instructors. Successful completion of the Statistical Reasoning pathway includes completion of a Math 1342/1442 course as outlined in the Texas Academic Course Guide Manual (ACGM) and satisfaction of Texas Success Initiative (TSI) liability for non-algebraically intensive entry-level mathematics courses. Successful completion of the Quantitative Reasoning pathway includes completion of a Math 1332 course as outlined in the ACGM and satisfaction of TSI liability for non-algebraically intensive entry-level mathematics courses.
- b. Texas A&M University-Commerce's core curriculum approved for the 2014-2015 school year requires 3 hours of mathematics selected from the following: Math 1314 (College Algebra), 142, 1324, 176, 179, 2413, or 192.
- c. Texas A&M University-Commerce has approved Math 1342 to satisfy core mathematics requirements, effective Fall 2015 semester onwards.

d. Math 1342/1442 satisfies core mathematics requirements for the following majors at Texas A&M University–Commerce. College Algebra is not a requirement for these majors, but will be accepted as an option to meet degree requirements.

i. College of Science and Engineering

1. Applied Arts and Sciences
2. General Studies

ii. College of Education and Human Services

1. Global E-Learning
2. Health (with teacher certification)
3. Human Performance
4. Kinesiology and Sport Studies
5. Nursing
6. Organizational Leadership
7. Psychology
8. Public Health
9. Social Work
10. Sport and Recreation Management

iii. College of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Arts

1. Art
2. Criminal Justice
3. English (*does not include Middle School Teaching Cert.)
4. History (*does not include 4-8 Teaching Cert.)
5. Journalism
6. Liberal Studies
7. Music
8. Paralegal Studies
9. Radio and Television
10. Sociology
11. Spanish
12. Speech Communication
13. Studio Arts
14. Theatre
15. Visual Communication

e. Texas A&M University–Commerce accepts Math 1332 as equivalent to Math 179 (Math Applications and Philosophy) for transfer credit. Math 1332 satisfies a degree requirement to the following majors. College Algebra is

not a requirement for these majors, but will be accepted as an option to meet degree requirements.

i. College of Science and Engineering

1. Applied Arts and Sciences
2. General Studies

ii. College of Education and Human Services

1. Global E-Learning
2. Health (with teacher certification)
3. Human Performance
4. Kinesiology and Sport Studies
5. Organizational Leadership
6. Psychology
7. Public Health
8. Social Work
9. Sport and Recreation Management

iii. College of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Arts

1. Art
2. Criminal Justice
3. English (*does not include Middle School Teaching Cert.)
4. History (*does not include 4-8 Teaching Cert.)
5. Journalism
6. Liberal Studies
7. Music
8. Paralegal Studies
9. Radio and Television
10. Sociology
11. Spanish
12. Speech Communication
13. Studio Arts
14. Theatre
15. Visual Communication

- f. Information contained in this agreement should be used to clarify program expectations for students, advisors, math faculty, and relevant program chairs at Paris Junior College and Texas A&M University-Commerce. The institutions commit to joint professional development opportunities for counselors and advisors to enhance collaboration and support creation of common language and practices. The agreement will be reviewed annually to reflect changes in institutional requirements.

IV. **Compliance with SACSCOC:**

The following provisions are incorporated into this agreement:

- a. Paris Junior College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACSCOC), and all Paris Junior College instructors of the specified mathematics courses in this program are in compliance with criteria as described in SACSCOC Principle 3.7.1 of the *SACSCOC Principles of Accreditation*.
- b. It is understood by both parties that all students subsequently receiving a degree from Texas A&M University-Commerce must comply with SACSCOC Principle 3.5.2 of the *Principles of Accreditation*. This Principle requires that “at least 25% of the credit hours required for the degree are earned through instruction offered by the institution awarding the degree.” Additional courses may be required to meet this Principle.
- c. It is understood by both parties that all students subsequently receiving a degree from Texas A&M University-Commerce must comply with SACSCOC Principle 3.5.4 of the *Principles of Accreditation*. This Principle requires that “at least 25% of the discipline course hours in a major are taught by faculty members holding the terminal degree – usually the earned doctorate – in the discipline, or the equivalent of the terminal degree.” Additional courses may be required to meet this Principle.
- d. While Paris Junior College may award an associate degree and Texas A&M University-Commerce may award a baccalaureate degree to a student completing all of the requirements, this agreement does not intend to convey the potential to award a joint degree.
- e. Neither Texas A&M University-Commerce nor Paris Junior College may use the SACSCOC logo in any of their materials or on websites. Use of the logo is reserved exclusively for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.
- f. It is understood that professors who teach the aforementioned courses at Paris Junior College and which are to be accepted at Texas A&M University-Commerce will be credentialed according to SACSCOC guidelines found within SACSCOC Principle 3.7.1 of the *Principles of Accreditation*.

V. **Term and Amendment**

This MOU is effective December 1, 2015 through September 14, 2019 and applies to all students who transfer to Texas A&M University-Commerce during

this four-year period, unless extended by written amendment. The parties may, at any time, modify the terms of this MOU by written amendment, signed by all participating parties.

VI. Dispute Resolution

The dispute resolution process provided in Chapter 2260, Texas Government Code, and the related rules adopted by the Texas Attorney General pursuant to Chapter 2260, shall be used by Texas A&M University–Commerce and Paris Junior College to attempt to resolve any claim for breach of contract made by either party that cannot be resolved in the ordinary course of business. The claimant shall submit written notice of a claim of breach of contract under this Chapter to the Director of Contract Administration, who shall examine the claim and any counterclaim and negotiate with the parties in an effort to resolve the claim.

VII. Choice of Law

The MOU is to be performed in Hunt County, Texas, and is governed by the Constitution and the internal laws of the State of Texas. The exclusive venue of any suit arising from this MOU shall be in Hunt County, Texas.

VIII. Termination

Any party in this MOU may terminate its participation without cause by providing all parties written notice of its intention to terminate at least 90 days in advance.

All notices, demands, or requests to Paris Junior College shall be given or mailed to:

Contact: Ed McCraw
Address: 2400 Clarksville St., Paris, TX, 75460
Telephone: 903-782-0209
Email: emccraw@parisjc.edu

All notices, demands, or requests to Texas A&M University–Commerce shall be given or mailed to:

Contact: Dr. Tingxiu Wang,
Department Head and Professor of Mathematics
Address: Texas A&M University-Commerce
Telephone: 903-886-5958
Email: Tingxiu.Wang@tamuc.edu

IX. Signatures

Dan R. Jones

Dr. Dan Jones, President, Texas A&M University-Commerce

12.9.15

Date

[Signature]

Dr. Adolfo Benavides, Provost and Vice President , Academic Affairs

12/03/2015

Date

Pamela Anglin

Dr. Pam Anglin, President, Paris Junior College

11/16/2015

Date