

**Memorandum of Understanding Between  
Wharton County Junior College and  
The University of Houston  
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences**

**February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025**

Wharton County Junior College (WCJC) and the University of Houston (UH) are two public institutions with distinct missions, yet shared responsibilities to Texas for student success. This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is an agreement facilitating student success through seamless transfer from WCJC to the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS) at UH; it creates a framework so that students and their advisors know how courses will transfer between the two institutions. WCJC and UH agree on the following transfer guidelines.

**Transfer Plans**

WCJC and UH CLASS will collaborate on the preparation of transfer plans. Transfer plans will be reviewed and updated annually as needed. UH's Office of the University Registrar and CLASS academic advising offices will collaborate with WCJC counterparts with the goal of providing a seamless transfer of courses to UH for undergraduate students intending to major in the liberal arts and social sciences. The goal is to achieve maximum transferability of courses with the intent that courses taken at WCJC will count and apply toward specifically identified B.A. and B.S. degree requirements at UH CLASS. Where applicable, UH will encourage students to complete an associate degree at WCJC before transfer, or if not completed, will facilitate reverse transfer of courses for the associate degree.

**Advising**

Advising at WCJC will guide students on 2 + 2 pathway to complete prerequisite coursework and other criteria to keep students on pace for seamless transfer and degree completion in the student's major of choice within six years. UH CLASS advising will support Houston Guided Pathways to Success ("GPS") students with advising questions on Houston GPS campuses or online. GPS is a group created by UH where area community colleges come together with UH to provide seamless transfers to the university.

**Ongoing Support**

To ensure student success, UH CLASS and WCJC will develop structures and processes that provide ongoing support as the student matriculates through the 2+2 program. Students will be able to participate in UH events, including an orientation session dedicated to program participants.

UH CLASS will develop 2+2 student-centered organizations such as a transfer student honor society and a transfer student group, incorporate 2+2 students into college student groups and programs such as the CLASS Ambassadors, and develop events on the UH and WCJC campuses in order to connect transfer

## CLASS & Houston GPS 2+2 MOU

students with university resources and student-support offices during critical moments in the academic year.

### **Marketing**

UH CLASS and WCJC will work together to develop joint marketing and co-branding of 2+2 program.

### **Alignment of Systems, Policies, and Procedures**

UH CLASS and WCJC will establish a closer alignment of systems, policies, and procedures to ensure seamless transition for students. The parties will agree to share data of students in the 2+2 program. Data sharing will improve the quality of processes and student learning, and facilitate student success assessment efforts.

UH CLASS and WCJC will obtain student approval to share data for the purposes of recruitment and data tracking.

### **Texas Core Completion**

In accordance with rules adopted by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), students who have successfully completed the approved 42 semester credit hour Texas Core Curriculum at WCJC will have satisfied the Texas Core Curriculum at the University of Houston. A student will receive academic credit for each of the courses transferred and will not be required to take additional courses at UH CLASS to meet the Texas Core Curriculum requirements.

A student who transfers from WCJC to UH without completing the WCJC Core Curriculum shall receive credit from UH for each of the WCJC courses that the student has successfully completed in the WCJC Core Curriculum. Students would need a minimum of 120 semester credit hours with a grade of C- or higher for the B.A. or B.S. degree but would not need to repeat a Core course that has a passing grade.

Certain majors at UH CLASS may require specific core courses that must be completed to earn the degree. Unless otherwise noted in the transfer plan, students will need to complete these courses.

### **Field of Study Courses**

In accordance with rules adopted by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), students who have successfully completed the approved designated Field of Study courses in History, Political Science, Psychology, or Sociology at WCJC will have satisfied the corresponding Field of Study at the University of Houston. A student will receive academic credit for each of the courses transferred and will not be required to take additional courses at UH CLASS to meet the corresponding Field of Study requirements.

A student who transfers from WCJC to UH without completing the WCJC History, Political Science, Psychology, or Sociology Field of Study shall receive credit from UH for each of the WCJC courses that the student has successfully completed in the corresponding Field of Study. Students would need a minimum of 120 semester credit hours with a grade of C- or higher for the B.A. or B.S. degree but would not need to repeat a Field of Study course that has a passing grade.

## CLASS & Houston GPS 2+2 MOU

Certain majors at UH CLASS may require specific courses that must be completed to earn the degree. Unless otherwise noted in the transfer plan, students will need to complete these courses.

### **Transfer Admissions**

Students who have successfully completed 30 semester credit hours and have a 2.5 or higher grade-point average (GPA) will be automatically accepted to UH in a CLASS major upon completion of the Apply Texas application and receipt of their official WCJC transcript(s) and any other transfer coursework by UH. Students, however, are strongly encouraged to complete their associate degree at WCJC. Students with a GPA of 2.25 or higher but below 2.49 may receive admissions to UH through individual college review with an admission decision based on grades in recent coursework that predict success in upper-level courses. UH requires a 2.5 or higher GPA for assured admission to the university as a transfer student.

Once admitted and enrolled, all transfer students must complete their last 30 hours specific to the UH program of study in residence with the exception of 6 hours of Core or foreign language. No more than 66 semester credit hours at the lower division level may transfer to count toward a UH degree.

### **Texas Academic Course Guide Manual**

UH will accept all WCJC credits for courses in the THECB's Lower-Division Academic Course Guide Manual (ACGM) for the equivalent course at UH. All WCJC courses in the ACGM will be accepted by UH. When UH does not have an equivalent course, the applicability of a particular WCJC course to a particular UH degree will be determined by UH based on course content and the role of the course within the degree. The determination of how the course credit is applied is based on the Core and Field of Study status at WCJC, the specific degree requirements of a student's major, and UH policies for transfer credit such as the 66 hour limitation on lower level credit transfer rule.

### **Catalog Date Determining Graduation Requirements**

A student who has been continuously enrolled at WCJC and has been following the lower-division curriculum in the catalog current at that time for UH, will have the option to continue to follow that same catalog upon transfer to UH until the seven-year expiration date for that catalog year. The student will not be required to move to the catalog associated with the date of transfer but will have that option if it reduces time to graduation.

### **Reverse Transfer**

The Registrar's staff at UH and WCJC will work together to facilitate transfer of credits earned at UH to WCJC for students who transfer from WCJC to UH before completing the requirements for an associate degree. This process will occur between WCJC and UH on a regular basis for students who meet the criteria and provide authorization for reverse transfer via the Entering Freshman or Transfer Apply Texas application and will require no other student action to trigger the transfer of credits. Credits will be reviewed at WCJC on a regular basis so that associate degrees that have been completed via transfer can be awarded to students.

### **Questions Arising from This MOU**

Any questions on how this MOU is to be interpreted or implemented should be addressed by the UH Senior Vice Chancellor/President for Academic Affairs and Provost, and the Wharton County Junior

CLASS & Houston GPS 2+2 MOU

College Vice President of Instruction, or their designees. The two institutions agree to work cooperatively to address such issues.

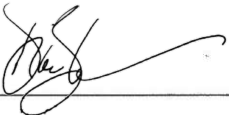
This MOU is effective as of the last date it is signed by representatives of the institutions and remains effective until *August 31, 2027*, unless written notice is provided by one institution to the other.

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

WHARTON COUNTRY JUNIOR COLLEGE

On behalf of its

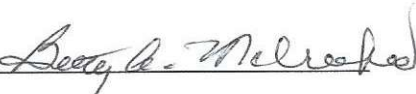
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Signature: 

Printed Name: Diane Z. Chase

Title: Sr.VC/VP Academic Affairs & Provost

Date: 03-21-2025

Signature: 

Printed Name: Betty A. McCrohan

Title: President

Date:

Signature: 

Printed Name: Daniel P. O'Connor

Title: Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Date:

APPROVED AS TO FORM BY:

  
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL  
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYSTEM