AN ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

Between

BLINN COLLEGE DISTRICT
And
TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

For

THE BACHELOR OF ARTS WITH A MAJOR IN COMMUNICATION WITH A CONCENTRATION IN DIGITAL & STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION

This Agreement is made and entered into upon the date of signature by and between Texas A&M International University, an entity of the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as "TAMIU" and Blinn College District, a local government entity, hereinafter referred to as Blinn.

1. Purpose of Agreement:
The purpose of this Agreement is to enable Blinn students who successfully complete the articulated courses as outlined in this Agreement (see Appendix A) to transfer to TAMIU in a seamless transition towards the completion of the Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree with a major in Communication.

2. Terms of Agreement:
A. Responsibilities of TAMIU
   TAMIU hereby agrees as follows:
   1. To admit and accept in full the coursework as outlined in Appendix A those Blinn students who are enrolled in the Associate of Arts (A.A.) in Communication degree and have been determined by TAMIU to qualify for admission to TAMIU and the Bachelor of Arts in Communication degree program.
   2. To develop and provide materials related to a seamless transition to the Bachelor of Arts program, leading to a Bachelor of Arts in Communication, in cooperation between Blinn and TAMIU.
   3. Post on the TAMIU website the articulated Blinn/TAMIU 2-year Transfer Degree Plan (see Appendix A).
4. To provide and teach TAMIU upper level courses (3000- and 4000-level) articulated in this Agreement at the RELLIS campus.

5. To provide Blinn advisors with information and support in helping them with their role of assisting Blinn students with transfer and degree program advising.

6. To maintain ongoing collaboration and monitoring of the program through the Department Chair of the TAMIU Department of Psychology & Communication.

7. To arrange and coordinate academic accommodations for students with disabilities enrolled in TAMIU courses who have registered with the TAMIU Office of Student Counseling & Disability Services.

8. To bill and collect from students taking TAMIU courses at the RELLIS campus applicable TAMIU tuition and fees as set by TAMIU and approved by the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents.

9. To advise students that TAMIU's academic requirements, policies, procedures, tuition and fees, and catalogs can be found on the TAMIU website.

10. To provide Blinn students enrolling with TAMIU at the RELLIS campus with scholarship and financial aid information.

11. To assist in coordinating regular meetings between TAMIU RELLIS Communication faculty and Blinn Communication Studies faculty.

12. TAMIU cannot guarantee this program in perpetuity, therefore it is important that the parties and students participating in this program understand that this Agreement will not constitute a binding contract regarding the ongoing or future offerings of the academic program outlined herein.

13. TAMIU is an equal opportunity institution and shall not discriminate unlawfully against any student, applicant, or employee, nor shall it deny the benefits provided its own degree-seeking students to any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, disability, marital status, age, or gender.

B. Responsibilities of Blinn:

Blinn hereby agrees as follows:

1. To admit and enroll Blinn students into the Associate of Arts degree in Communication at Blinn as part of this articulated degree program.

2. To provide and teach Blinn lower level courses (1000- and 2000-level) articulated in this Agreement.
3. To bill and collect from students taking Blinn courses applicable Blinn tuition and fees.

4. To provide Blinn students with TAMIU course listings for this program through bulletin, web postings, advising materials, and other appropriate media.

5. To assist in advising Blinn students in this program through one or more Blinn academic advisors.

6. To help communicate and advise Blinn students on TAMIU’s academic requirements, policies, procedures, and tuition and fees, as well as where they can be found on the TAMIU website.

7. To communicate to Blinn students that TAMIU cannot guarantee this program in perpetuity, therefore it is important that the parties and students participating in this program understand that this Agreement will not constitute a binding contract regarding the ongoing or future offerings of the academic program outlined herein.

8. To assist in coordinating regular meetings between TAMIU RELLIS Communication faculty and Blinn Communication Studies faculty.

9. To provide a list of prospective Communication students to TAMIU, every semester, for communication purposes. The list of prospective students will include name, contact information (phone and email), hours completed, grade point average, and projected graduation date.

10. Blinn is an equal opportunity institution and shall not discriminate unlawfully against any student, applicant, or employee, nor shall it deny the benefits provided its own degree-seeking students to any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, disability, marital status, age, or gender.

C. Responsibilities of Both Institutions:
A program review will occur annually to assess the performance of the program and future modifications will be considered.

D. Course Delivery:
1. Each institution agrees to offer courses as outlined in the Articulation degree plan (see Appendix A). Blinn will offer the 60 credit hours of course work required
for the Associate of Arts in Communication, including the 42 credit hours of Core curriculum. In addition, Blinn will offer an additional 12 credit hours of lower level coursework transferrable into TAMU’s Communication program (See Appendix A). Per the consortium agreement at RELLIS, TAMU will not offer any lower-level courses. TAMU will offer the remaining upper-level major and required support courses in a face-to-face format at the RELLIS campus for a minimum of 120 total semester credit hours. Due to possible changes in degree requirements imposed by the State or other program modifications that occasionally occur, Blinn students transferring to TAMU must follow Blinn, TAMU, and Texas policies regarding degree program criteria.

2. Admission and enrollment in the TAMU Communication program can occur during any semester.

E. Waivers to TAMU Graduation Requirements:
Advanced Level Courses: Due to the RELLIS consortium agreement, Blinn will offer all lower-level courses (1000- and 2000-level). TAMU is required to offer upper-level major and required support courses. Students transferring from the Blinn A.A. Communication program to the TAMU’s BA Communication program offered at the RELLIS campus will be exempt from the requirement to complete 60 semester hours at TAMU and/or another 4-year senior institution.

F. Compliance with SACSCOC:
1. It is understood by both parties that all students receiving their degree from TAMU must comply with SACSCOC Principle 9, item 4 of the Principles of Accreditation. Principle 9.4 requires that "at least 25% of the credit hours required for an undergraduate degree are earned through instruction offered by the institution awarding the degree". Additional courses may be required to meet this Principle.
2. While Blinn may award an associate degree and TAMU may award a baccalaureate degree to a student completing all of the requirements, this
Agreement does not constitute a joint degree to be awarded for the Bachelor of Arts with a major in Communication.

3. Neither TAMIU nor Blinn 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.

G. Responsibilities of Both Institutions:

This Agreement shall operate on an ongoing basis. It may only be modified by a written agreement signed by legally authorized officials of both institutions. The Agreement will operate as a commitment for each cohort admitted to TAMIU for this degree.

H. Termination:

Upon implementation, this Agreement will continue on an annual basis until one of the parties petitions the other party to end this Agreement. This Agreement will be reviewed jointly on an annual basis and updated as necessary. Such a petition to end this Agreement: 1) must be submitted one year in advance of the intent to terminate; 2) must be submitted in writing and signed by the college President making the petition; 3) must be delivered to a second party to the Agreement. Delivery of the intent to terminate will constitute formal notification and will serve as grounds for termination one year following the date of delivery.

I. 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 TAMIU and Blinn 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 parties shall submit written notice of a claim of breach of contract under this Chapter to the representative undersigned party, who shall examine the claim and any counterclaim and negotiate with the other respective party in an effort to resolve the claim.
The designated individual responsible on behalf of University for examining any claim or counterclaim and conducting any negotiations related thereto as required under §2260.052 of H.B. 826 of the 76th Texas Legislature shall be:

Name: Dr. Thomas R. Mitchell  
Title: Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Texas A&M International University  
5201 University Blvd.  
Laredo, TX 78041

J. Governing Law and Venue:
This Agreement shall be governed and interpreted pursuant to the Constitution and Laws of the State of Texas. Pursuant to Section 85.81, Texas Education Code, venue for any suit filed against TAMU shall be in the county in which the primary office of the Chief Executive Officer of TAMU is located. At the time of this Agreement, such county is Webb County, Texas.

K. Amendments, Changes or Modifications:
No amendment, change, or modification to this Agreement may be made without formal written agreement of both parties.

L. Contacts:
Blinn College District  
Dr. Mary Hensley, Chancellor  
902 College Avenue  
Brenham, TX 77833

Texas A&M International University  
Dr. Thomas R. Mitchell  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
5201 University Blvd.  
Laredo, Texas 78041
The parties hereto certify that they have the authority to execute this Agreement and that the covenants contained herein are within their respective statutory authority to fulfill. The undersigned parties bind themselves to the faithful performance of this agreement.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties execute this Agreement.

Blinn College District

*Mary Hensley, Ed.D., Chancellor of the Blinn College District
By Ted Hajovsky – Signature authority for Chancellor of the Blinn College District

MARY HENSLEY

Mary Hensley, Ed.D., Chancellor of the Blinn College District

Mary Hensley, by Ted Hajovsky, signature authority for the Chancellor of the Blinn College District

Texas A&M International University

Dr. Thomas R. Mitchell, Provost

Date:

Feb 5, 2019
APPENDIX A
Transfer Degree Plan: AA Degree at Blinn to TAMU
for Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Communication, Digital and Strategic Communication.

First Year at Blinn—Freshman

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Blinn Course Number</th>
<th>TAMU Course Number</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Hrs</th>
<th>Blinn Course Number</th>
<th>TAMU Course Number</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
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<td>COMM 2318</td>
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Fourth Year—Senior

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</tbody>
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*Courses taken at Blinn College highlighted in green will satisfy COMM General Electives for TAMU’s Bachelor’s Degree.
*Courses taken at Blinn College highlighted in yellow will satisfy General Electives for TAMU’s Bachelor’s Degree.
¹Must be at 3000-4000 level.
²Select 21 SCH from COMM 3322, 3323, 3329, 4323, 4325, 4340, 3309 and 4330 (when topic meets Digital and Strategic Concentration) or course approved by program director.