

Transfer Committee Recommendations

To fulfill its charge to identify ways to make Washburn University more “transfer friendly,” the Transfer Committee has considered both procedural and substantive issues.

Procedural issues:

To expedite the posting of transcripts from other schools, Washburn will now accept electronic transcripts when sent through official channels.

To facilitate decisions about transfer credits, including those for general education,

The general education committee now considers requests on a “rolling” schedule rather than twice a year and students are no longer required to write an essay with their application;

The university is using transfer equivalency software (the TES system) to handle as many applications as possible electronically;

Department chairs will review and update their departments’ listings on the transfer guide so that they are current and accurate;

The transfer guide will be made available on the faculty tab of my.washburn.

To advance cooperation between community colleges and Washburn, all programs with more than 60 hours of required courses for the degree are strongly encouraged to set up individualized consortium agreements with each of the local community colleges. Students in these highly prescriptive programs should be receiving advice during the first two years that will help them avoid hours that do not satisfy degree requirements. Such arrangements will not only help students but will also improve our image as the advisors at these schools will be able to encourage students to attend Washburn.

Substantive issues:

The Transfer Committee makes the following recommendations (to be considered individually) to the Academic Affairs Committee:

EN 300

The committee endorses the elimination of the 200/300 placement examination.

The second semester of freshman composition taken by students transferring into Washburn will be accepted as satisfying general education hours in the Humanities Division. This recommendation will take effect immediately upon approval.

The English Department will work with the various schools and majors to develop more major-specific sections of EN 300, especially with the SON.

PE 198

The committee recommends that the university requirement of PE 198 be eliminated.

WTE

The committee recommends that the Washburn Transformational Experience be changed from a requirement to an option.

General Education courses

The committee recommends that the general education requirement be made non-course specific, i.e., any course in any department of the CAS qualifies for general education credit. [possible addition, depending on outcome of ad hoc general education committee recommendations: “provided the course syllabus demonstrates a clear emphasis on at least one of the General Education Learning Objectives and the instructor can adequately assess student learning regarding that objective”].

The committee sites the following advantages of such a change:

- All transfer issues involving general education credit are eliminated;

- The cumbersome paperwork for general education course approval is eliminated;

- The discrepancy in transfer credit acceptance between transfer students with a completed associate’s degree and those who do not have one is eliminated;

- Interdisciplinary and special topics courses are encouraged since they would not need to go through general education committee approval;

- Upper-division courses will be available for general education credit and therefore appeal to a broader base of students.