OAKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Transferability of Courses

Kelly Perez-Vergara



Three Main Points

- Transfer is an institutional priority
- There are systems in place to support transfer
- Analysis of transfer reveals strengths and areas for improvement
 - Courses below benchmark serve as a starting point for further discipline discussion





OCC Transfer Population

Fall 2013 total transfer population: 46.1%

(or 12,277 students)

With degree: 25.7%

Without degree: 20.4%





OCC Transfer Support

Curricular

- Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA)
- Associate programs with MTA
- Articulation agreements

Organizational

Academic advising



Transfer Research

- Most popular four-year institutions
- OCC courses (not all 1500 are coded)
 - GE distribution list courses
 - Other courses from discipline for GE courses
 - Courses not required/electives for programs
 - Program courses expected to transfer
- Final sample = 296 courses from 38 disciplines



Table 1. Top Transfer Institutions		
Institution	% of courses accepted for equivalent credit	Average number of students transferring per year
Walsh College	100%	208
Western Michigan University	64 %	142
Central Michigan University	54%	240
Oakland University	54%	1097
Wayne State University	54%	758
Eastern Michigan University	51%	347
Michigan State University	40%	271
University of Detroit Mercy	34%	119
University of Michigan- Flint	32%	121
Madonna University	30%	147
University of Michigan- Dearborn	28%	126
University of Michigan- Central Campus	23%	205
Davenport University	21%	127
Baker College*	0%	855
University of Phoenix	0%	273
*Excluded from analysis		

Institutions above represent **76%** of all student transfers to four-year institutions.





Table 2. List of Disciplines (Above	e 50% Benchmark)	
	Average % of institutions	# of
	accepting courses in the	courses in
	discipline for equivalent	discipline
Discipline	credit	
Economics	93%	2
French	82%	2
German	82%	2
Chemistry	71%	8
Physics	70%	5
Political Science	70%	4
Arabic	68%	2
Philosophy	67%	5
Mathematics	66%	17
Russian	64%	2
Chinese	57%	2
Geography	57%	2
Japanese	57%	2
Spanish	55%	6
Italian	54%	2
Psychology	54%	8
Sociology	53%	7
General Science	52%	4
History	52%	8
English	50%	25





Table 2. List of Disciplines (Below 5	60% Benchmark)	
	Average % of institutions	# of
	accepting courses in the	courses in
	discipline for equivalent	discipline
Discipline	credit	
Humanities	49%	6
Anthropology	48%	4
Social Science	46%	2
Communication	42%	7
Biology	40%	21
Physical Science	36%	1
Theatre	32%	13
Education	29%	1
Foundational Studies- Humanities	29%	1
Music	29%	25
Physical Education	29%	36
Art	26%	36
Photography	25%	10
Foundational Studies-		
Natural/Life Science	21%	1
Journalism	21%	5
Gerontology	18%	4
Woodworking	14%	2
Mental Health/Social Work	10%	6



General Education Courses

Table 3. General Education Distribution List Courses		
Transfer Rate	Number of Courses	
Above 50%	91	
25-49%	62	
<25%	20	

Most GE courses transfer above the benchmark.



Next Steps

- 1. Examine number of equivalent credits OCC students retain after transfer.
 - Consider curricular and organizational programs that support transfer.
- 2. Increase specific course transferability to specific institutions.



Questions?

Reference:

Perez-Vergara, K.R. and Orlowski, M. (in press). A Methodology for Determining the Transferability Rate of Courses. *Community College Journal of Research and Practice.*

krperezv@oaklandcc.edu