

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
NEW ORLEANS CENTER FOR CREATIVE ARTS (NOCCA)
AND NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY
Effective – 2025-2026 Academic Year**

PURPOSE

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) summarizes an educational partnership agreement between the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA), and Northwestern State University (NSULA), to provide undergraduate educational opportunities for students who may attend both institutions. This agreement ensures that each institution serves the needs of students by providing them with appropriate and accurate transfer and advising information.

GOALS

The goals of this agreement are to:

- Provide a dual enrollment program whereby NOCCA students may earn credits taking NOCCA and/or NSULA classes,
- Improve the transfer and advising process for the benefit of students attending both institutions,
- Develop an Expanded Course Articulation Crosswalk between the institutions,
- Identify personnel in each institution who will coordinate and serve as advisors for NOCCA students entering NSULA,
- Improve collegiality and communication among the institutions' discipline faculty and administrators.

To achieve these goals, NOCCA and NSULA hereby enter into the following agreement.

PROVISIONS

- Faculty employed by NOCCA must meet stated professional credential requirements set forth by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges which governs the acceptability of coursework taught and accepted for articulated credit by colleges and universities.
- NOCCA must submit a course portfolio, to include, but not limited to examinations and other course documents, for review by NSULA annually or upon request.
- NOCCA will provide an opportunity for NSULA faculty to observe course instruction.
- Students must submit a formal Northwestern State University of Louisiana Application for Undergraduate Admission and an official transcript from the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts.
- NOCCA students must meet required academic standards in effect for beginning freshmen (or transfer students, if applicable) at the time of application in order to be admitted to NSULA and receive articulated credit as outlined in this agreement. Application materials are available online at <http://recruiting.nsula.edu>.
- Students must receive a grade of A, B, or S for NOCCA coursework and possess a *Certificate of Artistry or Certificate of Performance or Achievement* in their focus area in order to receive credit from NSULA. Lab credit will not be awarded without

corresponding lecture credit. A full-year course requires a grade of A or B in both semesters for credit to be awarded.

- NOCCA students must interview/audition/present their portfolio confirming mastery in order to receive credit for select courses.
- Students will be awarded credit based on the course equivalencies and related requirements listed in this agreement (Appendix A). Course credit will be earned only and indicated with a "CR" on the NSULA transcript. Thus, this course work will not be included in the cumulative grade point average calculations.
- Upon enrollment at NSULA for a baccalaureate degree, students must have their NOCCA transcript evaluated by the Office of the University Registrar at NSULA. This should take place before the student registers to eliminate any problems with course credit.
- Degree and program requirements for NOCCA students who attend NSULA and are granted course work under this agreement will be determined in the same manner as if their initial enrollment had been at NSULA.
- NOCCA students pursuing the undergraduate degree at NSULA must complete at least 25% of the semester credit hours required for the degree through instruction offered by NSULA. One third of the credit hours required in the major, minor, or concentration must be included in the 25% degree requirement.
- Articulation of NOCCA credit is optional. A NOCCA graduate must inform NSULA that s/he does not wish to have their credit articulated.
- The President or Director of Colleges and Advancement of NOCCA may recommend students for dual enrollment in NSULA classes.
- The institutions will engage in joint marketing efforts to promote the articulation partnership. Promotional efforts will include but are not limited to - links on respective Web sites for placement of articulation agreements, information in the University Catalog, and transfer information in other school/college publications.
- The institutions will encourage meetings between the NSULA and NOCCA discipline faculty and administrators. The Provost/VP for Academic Affairs or designee at NOCCA will direct these meetings
- The institutions will discuss mutually beneficial collaborations among faculty and will seek opportunities for such collaborations to develop.

TERMS

This agreement shall be effective on _____ and shall continue until terminated by either party giving one-year written notice to the other party in order to protect students enrolled in the dual enrolment program.

Any changes to this MOU must be in writing and delivered by certified mail or by personal delivery to the person to be notified.

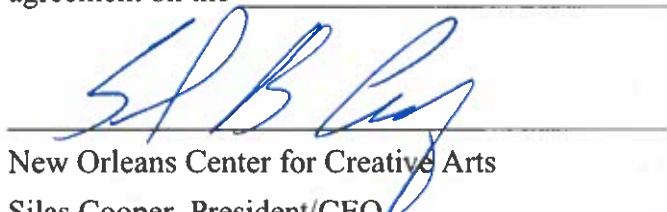
New Orleans Center for Creative Arts

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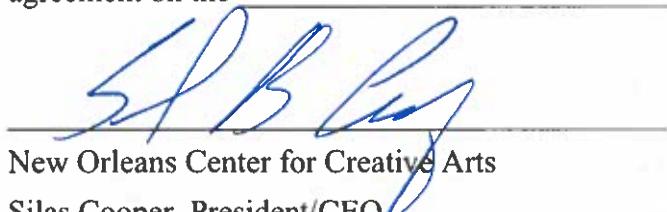
Northwestern State University

Dr. Greg Handel
Provost and VP for Academic Affairs
Northwestern State University
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Natchitoches, LA 71497
Email: handelg@nsula.edu
318-357-5361

In witness whereof, the authorized representatives of the parties have executed this agreement on the _____.



New Orleans Center for Creative Arts



12-4-25

Date

Silas Cooper, President/CEO



Northwestern State University

12.12.2025

Date

James Genovese, President

Appendix A

TRANSFER/ARTICULATION CREDIT EQUIVALENCIES GUIDE

NOCCA COURSE	NOCCA TRANSCRIPT	NSULA COURSE
ENGLISH		
Integrated Humanities I	NOCCA Integrated English I	ENGL 1010
Integrated Humanities II	NOCCA Integrated English II	ENGL 1020
Integrated Humanities III	NOCCA Integrated English III	ENGL 2110
HISTORY		
Integrated Humanities I	NOCCA Integrated History I	HIST 1010
Integrated Humanities II	NOCCA Integrated History II	HIST 1020
FINE ARTS		
Art	Fine Arts Survey	FA 1040
VISUAL/PERFORMING ARTS	Students must receive a grade of A, B, or S for NOCCA coursework and possess the <i>Certificate of Artistry</i> or <i>Certificate of Performance</i> or <i>Achievement</i> in focus area.	
Vocal Music	Level III/Level IV Vocal Music	MUS 1150, Theory I
		MUS 1160, Theory II
	Level III/Level IV Vocal Music	MUS 1151, Aural Skills I
Classical Instrumental	Level III/Level IV Classical Instrumental	MUS 1150, Theory I
		MUS 1160, Theory II
	Level III/Level IV Classical Instrumental	MUS 1151, Aural Skills I
Jazz	Level III/Level IV Jazz	MUS 1150, Theory I
		MUS 1160, Theory II
	Level III/Level IV Jazz	MUS 1151, Aural Skills I

Visual Arts	Level III/Level IV Art	ART 1010, Design I ART 1020, Design II ART 1060, Drawing I ART 1070, Drawing II
Entertainment Production Design	Level III/Level IV Entertainment Production Design	THEA 2310, Stagecraft I THEA 2330, Stagecraft II Additional course credit can be given upon interview/portfolio review.
Musical Theatre	Level III/Level IV Musical Theatre	THEA 2320, Acting I THEA 1001, Theory and Sight-Singing Additional course credit can be given upon interview/audition.
Drama	Level III/Level IV Musical Theatre	THEA 2320, Acting I DAN 3060, Movement for Actors Additional course credit can be given upon interview/audition.
Dance	Level III/Level IV Dance	DAN 1020, Ballet 1 DAN 1030, Modern 1 DAN 1040, Jazz 1 DAN 1190, Tap 1 Additional course credit can be given upon interview/audition.

