



International Students... and Transfer

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Seth Carruthers

- Chair of the Committee on Transfer and Articulation (2014-2015)
- Assistant Registrar, Fontbonne University, (February 2014-Present)
 - Missouri Reverse Transfer Coordinator
 - VA Certifying Official
- Director of Transfer and Articulation, Missouri Baptist University, (2006-2014)
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Jessica Lynn Hylton, MA

- International Academic Advisor, Student Service Specialist, and Designated School Official, Fontbonne University, (October 2012 – Present)
- Academic Coordinator, OPTIONS Evening Division, (2007 2012)

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Fontbonne University

- 1923 Fontbonne College, a Catholic Institution founded by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet as an all-women's college
- 1970's Became co-educational & began offering Master's degrees
- 1980 Started accepting international students
- 1991 Founded the OPTIONS Evening Program
- 2002 Became a University
- 2014 Inaugurated its 14th president, J. Michael (Mike) Pressimone, Ed.D.
- Spring 2015 1674 enrolled students



Mission & Identity: Why the investment in International Students?

- *Fontbonne University seeks to educate students to think critically, to act ethically, and to assume responsibility as citizens and leaders."
- Part of the mission of Fontbonne to serve the dear neighbor this includes our international students.
- "Catholic" = Universal and throughout the whole
- International student population enhances the "whole person" experience with the diversity they bring to Fontbonne.



History of International Affairs

- 1980 Began accepting international students on a small scale
- 1999 Taiwanese MBA program
- 2005 Active international recruiting began for F-1 Visa Students; IEP, Undergraduate, and Graduate by recruiting in-country and using international recruiting agents
- 2011 Became a Saudi Arabian Cultural Mission (SACM) approved institution under the King Abdullah Scholarship Program and the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE)
- ② 2013 Became a Brazilian Scientific Mobility Program (BSMP) approved institution under the Brazilian Government's CAPES and CNPq divisions



AUSTRIA

99 Countries

DENMARK

ARGENTINA CROATIA IRELAND MOZAMBIQUE SINGAPORE
ARUBA CZECH REPUBLIC ISRAEL NEPAL SLOVAKIA

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AZERBALJAN ECUADOR IVORY COAST NICARAGUA SOUTH KOREA

NETHERLANDS

SOUTH AFRICA

BAHAMAS EL SALVADOR JAMAICA NIGERIA SPAIN
BANGLADESH ESTONIA JAPAN OMAN SUDAN

ITALY

BELIZE ETHIOPIA JORDAN PAKISTAN SWEDEN

BOLIVIA FIJI ISLANDS KAZAKHSTAN PALESTINE SWITZERLAND

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA FINLAND KENYA PANAMA SYRIA

BOTSWANA FRANCE KURDISTAN PERU TAIWAN

BRAZIL GEORGIA KUWAIT PHILLIPINES THAILAND

BRITISH WEST INDIES GERMANY KYRGYZSTAN POLAND TURKEY

BULGARIA GREAT BRITAIN LIBYA PUERTO RICO UKRAINE

CAMBODIA GUATEMALA MALAWI ROMANIA UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

CANADA HONG KONG MALAYSIA RUSSIA URUGUAY

CHILE ICELAND MALI RWANDA VENEZUELA

CHINA INDIA MAURITANIA SAINT LUCIA VIETNAM

COLOMBIA INDONESIA MEXICO SAUDI ARABIA YEMEN

CONGO IRAN MONGOLIA SCOTLAND ZIMBABWE

COSTA RICA IRAQ MOROCCO SENGAL



Office of International Affairs

- Office of International Affairs reports to the Vice President of Enrollment Management
 - Director of International Affairs (PDSO)
 - Assistant Director of International Affairs (DSO)
 - Office Manager (DSO)
 - Coordinator of International Student Services
 - International Academic Advisor and Student Service Specialist (DSO)



Office of International Affairs

- 186 international students in Spring 2015 (11% of total population) (F-1 Visa)
 - 49 Graduate
 - 85 Undergraduate
 - 1 Intensive English Program Graduate
 - 43 Intensive English Program Undergraduate
 - 8 Audits
 - Including J-1 (Au Pairs) & R-1 (Religious Order)



33 Countries Currently Represented

ARGENTINA

MEXICO

BANGLADESH

MONGOLIA

BRAZIL

NEPAL

CHILE

NIGERIA

CHINA

PALESTINE

COLOMBIA

PERU

ECUADOR

SAUDI ARABIA

GERMANY

SINGAPORE

GREAT BRITAIN

SOUTH KOREA

HONG KONG

TAIWAN

TURKEY

INDIA

THAILAND

IRAQ

VENEZUELA

IRELAND

ISRAEL

VIETNAM

JAPAN

YEMEN

KYRGYZSTAN

ZIMBABWA

LIBYA

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 53%.

98 students People's Republic of China Suncino 27 Students Socialist Republic of Vietnam Source, 10 Students



- Intensive English Program (IEP)
 - Undergraduate
 - Non-Native English Speakers meet GPA standards for undergraduate admission but lack English language requirements.
 - Graduate
 - Non-Native English Speakers are "conditionally admitted" to a specific graduate program due to English language requirements



Bridge Program

- Undergraduate students in IEP who reach a minimum score on the in-house COMPASS ESL Placement Exam can then apply for admission to an undergraduate degree-seeking program
- The student will then take the following combination of classes:
 - First Semester: 12 credit hours: 3 ESL + 1 Academic
 - Second Semester: 12 credit hours: 2 ESL + 2 Academic
 - Third Semester: 12 credit hours: 1 ESL + 3 Academic
- Students are monitored until the student successfully passes ENG102 Composition II and successfully completes three semesters as listed above.



Undergraduate

 If a student applies as a degree-seeking student and meets all requirements including English language, the student will take the in-house COMPASS **ENGLISH & MATHEMATICS Placement** Exams upon arrival and will be monitored until the successful completion of **ENG102 Composition II**



Graduate

- Each graduate program at Fontbonne has specific requirements for admission.
- Two programs, Business and Computer Science, have "Conditional" Admission
 - The student meets all requirements for admission except English Language.
 - The student is granted "Conditional Admission" and begins studies in IEP.
 - Once the requisite score is earned on the in-house COMPASS ESL Placement Exam, the student is granted Full-Admission and can begin full academic studies



Documents

- Copy, Certified Copy, Viewed Copy, and Original
 - Currently FBU admits students to the Intensive English Program, Undergraduate, and some Graduate programs with copies of official documents
 - All documents must be presented in English.
 - Upon arrival, the student is responsible to produce the Original document or a Certified Copy of the Original document



Copy, Certified Copy, Viewed Copy, and Original

Copy

 A copy of the Original Document, neither Certified nor Viewed



Copy, Certified Copy, Viewed Copy, and Original

Certified Copy

- A copy of the Original Document certified by a Credentialing Agency (e.g. China Qualifications Verification), an Apostille, or Certified Notary
- If documents are <u>translated</u> into English, the document must be Certified.



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Fu Jen Catholic University











- A black and white document is not an original and should not be accepted as an Official Institutional Document.

 This transcript cannot be released to a third party without the written expect of the student.

If and when in thoubt as to the authenticity of this transcripte chease do not hesitate to contact the Office of the Controller of Examinations, East West On easity, Plot No. A/2, Jahurul Islam City, Aftabnagar, Dhaka 1212, Bangladesh Phone; 05066775577 Ext.-341

Farida Vastrin

Farida Vastrin

Deputy Controller of Examinations

Deputy Controller of University





Copy, Certified Copy, Viewed Copy, and Original

Viewed Copy

- The Original Document is viewed in person by the Office of International Affairs.
- A Copy of the document is made and notated that the Original was viewed.
- The Original is then returned to the student



Copy, Certified Copy, Viewed Copy, and Original

Original

- Original documents can be presented to the Office of International Affairs by the student.
- Onlike USA transcripts, the Original (or Certified Copy) does not have to arrive in a sealed envelope untouched by the student (unless it is from a US institution).



Documents - Why Copies?

- Some countries only issue one Original copy of transcripts EVER
- The higher education market is highly competitive and saturated
 - USA schools are not just competing with each other but with schools from Australia, Canada, England, Europe, and the rest of the world
- We want good students from all over the world and do not want to present unreasonable barriers to admission for a qualified applicant



Foreign Undergraduate Transfer Credits

Undergraduate Transfer Credits from a foreign institution are only accepted at FBU if a professional evaluation service is used



Evaluation Services

Recommend

- World Education Services (WES)
- Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE)
- Other services accepted on a case-by-case basis



Evaluation Services

Pros

- Very strict for document verification
- Guaranteed to get as accurate an evaluation as possible completed by experienced professionals
- Enables University to use minimal staff to evaluate transfer credits

Cons

- Costly
- Often takes an extended amount of time
- Students are not always able to get the documents presented to agency in the format requested
- No description of credit hours versus clock hours versus study hours
- Evaluation may not match the intended university's grading scale and credit calculation
- No course descriptions



Evaluation Services

Detailed country-by-country document requirements can be viewed at www.wes.org/required/index.asp

Grades/ Quality Points: WES uses an alphabetic system to identify grades. The standard WES conversion of letter grades into a numerical scale/quality points is as follows: A = 4.00; A = 3.67; B + = 3.33; B = 3.00; B = 2.67; C + = 2.33; C = 2.00; C = 1.67; D + = 1.33; D = 1.00; C = 0; C = 0;

- "F*" indicates a course that was failed initially, but passed on a subsequent attempt. It is not included in the GPA calculation.
- "Pass" is not included in the cumulative GPA. For study completed at the undergraduate level, it corresponds to at least a "C" in the United States. For graduate and professional study, "Pass" corresponds to at least a "B".

Grade Point Average (GPA) is calculated by multiplying the credits per course by the quality points for the grade for that course, repeating this procedure for each course, totaling the credit hour quality points thus obtained, and dividing by the total number of credits.

Grade Averages

Grade averages are calculated by dividing the total number of grade points earned by the total number of credits attempted. Grade average calculation does not include grades of: in progress (IP), incomplete (I), pass (P), satisfactory (S), withdrawn (W), or exempt (Ex).

Included in the grade average calculation:

Grade	Points		Other Grades	
Α	4	P	= Pass on a pass/fail basis	
В	3	S	= Satisfactory completion of academic	
C	2		work where actual grades were not	
D	1		reported or where grade was "S" on a	
F	0		satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis	

Two grades separated by " / " indicate grades corresponding to the first and second parts of a two-part course.

Grade	Ouality Points
A	4.0
A-	3.7
$\mathrm{B}+$	3.3
В	3.0
В-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D	1.0
D-	2.7
F	0.0



A-Level & International Baccalaureate (IB)

- A-Level is found in United Kingdom and UK based educational secondary systems
- IB is mostly found in International Secondary Schools but is also offered in US High Schools
- Both can be used as Advance Placement Credit
- Each university has its own policy in regards to acceptance of the credit
- FBU is currently developing its policy on A-Level and IB Credit with students presenting this credit being evaluated on a case-by-case basis at this time



- College of Global Business
 - Accepts students to its graduate programs without WES or ECE evaluation of undergraduate transcripts.



Credential Evaluation & Admission

Tricky Areas for Evaluation

- ③ 3 year Bachelor ≠ 4 year Bachelor
 - A UK 3 year degree is generally viewed as equivalent to a USA 4 year degree
 - An Indian 3 year degree MIGHT be equivalent to a USA 4 year degree
 - A Chinese 3 year degree is rarely equivalent to a USA 4 year degree
- Understanding the credit hours / clock hours / study hours equation
- Completion Diploma OR Provisional Degree AND Final Degree
- Final degree not always listed on transcript.
 - Often must also have a copy of the degree/certificate/diploma
- Calculating the GPA Accurately
- Defining the grades
- First Class/Division, Second Class/Division, and Pass Class/Division Honors
- Is the document authentic?
- Important to see English translations compared to document in original language even if you cannot understand the native language.



Resources

WES Webinars (FREE)

http://www.wes.org/webinars

Foreign Credits GPA Calculator (FREE)

http://www.foreigncredits.com/Resources/GPA-Calculator

WES iCalculator (NOT FREE)

http://www.wes.org/educators/igpa.asp

China Qualifications Verification

http://www.chinadegrees.cn/en/

- Saudi Arabian Technical and Vocational Training Corporation
 - -Has course descriptions in English of courses taken at TVTC sponsored schools in Saudi Arabia
 - -Need original transcripts in English to obtain the course numbers

http://www.tvtc.gov.sa/Arabic/Departments/Departments/cdd/InformationCenter/Pages/default.aspx?folder=Documents/en/Course_description/English

NAFSA - Association of International Educators

http://www.nafsa.org

Attention to Detail, Common Sense, and Google! ©



QUESTIONS?

Thank you!