



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This **Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU")** is entered into as of the Effective Date, (the "**Effective Date**," which shall be the date this MOU becomes fully executed), by and between **The District Board of Trustees of Broward College, Florida** (hereafter referred to as "BC") located in Broward County, Florida and **The Florida International University Board of Trustees**, a public body corporate of the State of Florida ("FIU"). FIU and BC are hereafter individually referred to as the "**Party**" or collectively as the "**Parties**." The Parties agree to explore the possibility of developing the highest quality programs to advance the needs of FIU and BC. Both institutions recognize the following commonalities:

1. The compatibility of the direction and interest of their research and teaching; and,
2. The significant roles they each play as leaders in higher education, teaching and research within their respective counties.

Overview and Exploration of Collaboration:

FIU and BC aspire to sign a MOU as a way to explore a more intentional collaborative relationship based on the following and subject to the rules, regulations, policies, and procedures of each of FIU and BC:

1. FIU and BC agree to expand their existing partnership as part of *FIU Connect4Success*, a guided pathway program for students who intend to transfer to FIU after completing the Associate in Arts (AA) or articulated Associate in Science (AS) degrees.
2. FIU and BC agree to establish transfer equivalencies for the Associate in Science (AS) in Digital Communication and Media to the Bachelor in Arts in Communication Arts (Comm Arts) to ensure that students transition directly to upper-division courses, thereby reducing the impact of excess credit hours. (Excess hours may result from failing or dropping courses, and thereby, outside the careful curricular planning developed as part of this MOU.) Students who complete the AS in Digital Communication and Media and transfer to Communication Arts will be required to complete any remaining general education requirements at FIU or through an FIU-approved accelerated mechanism.

3. FIU agrees to accept sixty (60) transfer credits from graduates of the BC Digital Communication and Media AS degree program. (Curriculum documents are included in **Appendices A, B and C.**)
4. FIU and BC agree to explore various avenues of collaboration, including academic advising, to encourage AS graduates from BC to pursue the Communication Arts degree at FIU.
5. FIU and BC agree to provide data regarding participating students as permissible under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and institutional data sharing policies and procedures.

Via the representatives indicated below or designees, the Parties would encourage direct contact and cooperation among their faculty members and staff. The Parties agree to explore funding possibilities for any activity which might arise.

The Parties to this MOU shall not discriminate against any employee or participant regarding responsibilities and obligations under this MOU because of race, age, religion, color, gender, national origin, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, or any other basis prohibited by law. Nor shall the Parties deny participation in or benefits arising out of this MOU to any student, employee or participant or otherwise subject anyone to discrimination in any activity hereunder. The Parties shall take all measures necessary to effectuate these assurances.

This MOU serves as an institutional framework for collaborative activities. Specific articulation agreements, beyond the approval of sixty (60) transfer credits for Digital Communication and Media AS students, would need to be drafted and agreed upon by the Parties in the case that the exploration of these areas leads to further developments. These agreements would need to be approved by authorities at each institution. *Nothing in this MOU shall be construed as creating any legal relationship between the Parties.*

Both Parties understand that financial arrangements under this MOU would have to be negotiated and would depend on specific activities and the availability of funds. Any expense incurred by either Party would be subject to individual agreements on a case-by-case basis. The Parties also recognize that intellectual property terms would need to be included in subsequent agreements, as appropriate and shall need to be drafted and agreed upon by the Parties. In addition, anyone teaching at either institution must have the approved credentials; both Parties are accredited by the **Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges ("SACSCOC")** and its faculty qualification guidelines represent a commonly accepted best practice for the academic qualifications of faculty. **Appendix D** identifies the faculty qualifications required by FIU. **Appendix E** identifies the faculty qualifications required by BC.

This MOU is non-exclusive and will become effective on the Effective Date for a three (3)-year period unless earlier terminated in accordance with the terms herein. The MOU may be renewed every three (3) years upon the mutual written consent of the Parties. The

MOU may be reviewed in a year-and-a-half (1.5) from the Effective Date to assess results. It is understood and agreed by the Parties that any student who has begun the process of applying to FIU through this Agreement will be allowed to complete the application process and the program notwithstanding the termination provisions in this MOU, so long as the student remains in good standing and is making progress toward degree completion as determined by FIU.

FIU and BC stipulate that the use of their respective brands to promote and market this partnership, represented by their headings and logotypes, including the “FIU Connect4Success” logo, could only be used by a Party with the previous and express written authorization of the other Party. The transfer pathway shall be referred to as “FIU Connect4Success” in all communication and marketing materials. This MOU does not authorize any one of the Parties to express him/herself on behalf of the other, either verbally or in writing or to act on each other’s behalf.

This MOU may be amended or further developed by means of written consent of the Parties. The MOU may be terminated by either Party with at least ninety (90) days’ advanced written notice. Notices must be sent to the individuals and addresses indicated below:

For BC:

Torey Alston
President and Chief Executive Officer
talston@broward.edu

Amoy Reid
Dean
Arts, Humanities, Communication,
and Design Pathway
areid@broward.edu

With a copy (which shall not constitute notice) to be provided to:

Contact: Ben Rosenberg; Sara Shayanian
Address: 111 E Las Olas Blvd. Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
Attn: Office of the General Counsel, Broward College
Email: contracts@broward.edu

For FIU:

Brian Schriner
Dean
College of Communication,
Architecture + the Arts
brian.schriner@fiu.edu

Janie Valdés, Ed.D.
Assistant Vice President
Enrollment Management and Services
janie.valdes@fiu.edu

Jessica Delgado
School of Communication
delgado@fiu.edu

This Agreement shall be interpreted and construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of Florida. Any controversies or legal claims arising out of this Agreement and any action involving the enforcement or interpretation of any rights hereunder shall be submitted to the jurisdiction of the courts of the State of Florida.

This MOU may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

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The individuals named below sign this MOU on behalf of their respective Parties and represent and warrant that they have the requisite authority to bind their respective Parties.

**The District Board of Trustees of
Broward College, Florida**

Signed by:



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Torey Alston

College President

Date: 8/13/2026

Approved as to Legality:

APPROVED

By Sara Shayanian at 1:38 pm, Jul 27, 2026

Broward College Office of General
Counsel

**The Florida International University
Board of Trustees:**

DocuSigned by:

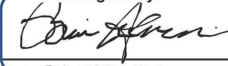


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Elizabeth M. Bejar, Ph.D.

Provost, Executive Vice President and Chief
Operating Officer

Date: July 23, 2026

DocuSigned by:



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Brian Schirmer

Dean, College of Communication,
Architecture + The Arts

Date: July 22, 2026

Signed by:



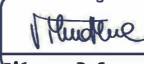
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Janie Valdes, Ed.D.

Assistant Vice President,
Enrollment Management and Services

Date: July 22, 2026

Approved as to the Form and Legal
Sufficiency:

DocuSigned by:



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Vilma Mesa

Associate General Counsel

Date: July 22, 2026

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Appendix A

Curriculum Requirements and Articulation

Broward College

Associate of Science in Digital Communication and Media – 2512 Career Pathway: Arts, Humanities, Communication & Design (AHCD)

Location(s): General Education courses are offered at all BC locations. Program specific courses are offered at Judson A. Samuels South Campus and North Campus.

Program Entrance Requirements: HS Diploma or GED

Program Description: The Associate in Science degree in Digital Communication and Media is designed to develop students' knowledge and skills to navigate the changing communication landscape and acquire the appropriate business acumen for employment as Communication Specialists, Digital Communication and Media Coordinators, Digital Journalists, and/or entry-level Communication Managers. Visit the Program's website for additional information.

Term	Course ID	Description	Credits
Term 1	ENC 1101	Composition I	3
Term 1	MMC 1000	Introduction to Mass Communication	3
Term 1	GE Course	General Education Speech	3
Term 1	COM 2336	Computer Mediated Communication	3
Term 2	GE Course	General Education Mathematics Core (MGF 1130 recommended)	3
Term 2	MMC 2121	Writing Fundamentals for Communicators	3
Term 2	CGS 1060C*	Computer and Internet Literacy	3
Term 2	COM 2370	New Media Communication Applications I	3
Term 3	COM 2372	New Media Communication for Business	3
Term 3	COM 2371	New Media Communication Applications II	3
Term 4	AMH 2010 or AMH 2020 or POS 2041	History of the United States to 1877, or History of the United States since 1877, or National Government	3
Term 4	PGY 1801C	Photoshop Design	3
Term 4	GE Course	General Education Natural Science Core (BSC 1005 recommended)	3
Term 4	GRA 1144C	Web Publishing	3
Term 5	GRA 2134C	User Experience and Interface Design	3
Term 5	PGY 1802C	Digital Photography	3
Term 5	PSY 2012	General Psychology	3
Term 5	PHI 2010	Introduction to Philosophy	3
Term 6	COM 2412	Communication Methods and Culture	3
Term 6	COM 2941	New Media Communication Internship	3
Total Credits			60

*The Digital Literacy requirement must be met by successfully by passing CGS 1060C, testing out, or completing a Credit for Prior Learning portfolio. Students that test out of CGC 1060C can take ENC 1102 COMPOSITION II.

Appendix B

The table below highlights the courses that FIU Communication Arts (BA) will articulate (accept as substitutes) from BC's AS in Digital Communication and Media.

BC Course Prefix, Number, Title	FIU Course Prefix, Number, Title	Credits	
COM 2371 New Media Communication Applications II	COM 3120 Organizational Communication	3	Substituted
COM 2412 Communication Methods and Culture	COM 3461 Intercultural Communication	3	Substituted
COM 2941 New Media Communication Internship	COM 4940 Communication Internship	3	Substituted
COM 2336 Computer Mediated Communication	COM 3471 Social Media Impact on Communication	3	Substituted
MMC 2121 Writing Fundamentals for Communicators	COM 3714 Fundamentals of Written and Visual Communication	3	Substituted
COM 2372 New Media Communication for Business	COM 3110 Business and Professional Communication	3	Substituted

Appendix C

Florida International University: Communication Arts Program

The table below highlights the FIU Communication Arts (BA) program curriculum, along with the 6 substituted courses (18 credits) from the BC AS in Digital Communication and Media.

Total Remaining: 42 credits (24 credits in the major/degree, and the remaining 18 credits may be used to satisfy any pending FIU General Education/UCC requirements.)

Core Requirements: 15 credits required. Students will already have satisfied 6 credits as part of this agreement.			
BC Course Prefix, Number, Title	FIU Course Prefix, Number, Title	Credits	
	COM 1921 Introduction to Communication (Communication Arts Orientation)	0	Required
COM 2412 Communication Methods and Culture	COM 3461 Intercultural Communications	3	Substituted
	COM 4310 Research Methods	3	Required
	SPC 3210 Communication Theory	3	Required
	SPC 3602 Advanced Public Speaking (or its prerequisite: SPC 2608)	3	Required
COM 2371 New Media Communication Applications II (only sub for COM 3120)	COM 3120 Organizational Communication or IDS 3336 Artistic Expressions	3	Substituted

Foundational Requirements Min. 15 Credits, including one skills course (s) and at least one theory course (t). Students will already have satisfied 12 credits as part of this agreement and will work with academic advisors to choose the last course from “Optional” courses based on their academic and career goals.			
BC Course Prefix, Number, Title	FIU Course Prefix, Number, Title	Credits	
COM 2372 New Media Communication for Business	COM 3110 Business and Professional Communications (s)	3	Substituted
	COM 4346 Interviewing Principles and Practices (s)	3	Optional
	COM 3513 Argumentation and Debate (s)	3	Optional

COM 2371 New Media Communication Applications II	COM 3120 (if not taken as a course) Organizational Communication (t)	3	Substituted
	COM 3230 Crisis Communication (t)	3	Optional
	COM 3404 Non-Verbal Communication (t)	3	Optional
COM 2336 Computer Mediated Communication	COM 3471 Social Media's Impact on Communication (t)	3	Substituted
	COM 4510 Political Communication (t)	3	Optional
	COM 4620 Communication on Ethics (t)	3	Optional
	IDS 3336 (if not taken as a core) Artistic Expressions (t)	3	Optional
	COM 4620 Communication on Ethics	3	Optional
	COM 4930 Special Topics in Communication Arts	3	Optional
COM 2941 New Media Communication Internship	COM 4940 Internship in Communication Arts	3	Substituted
	SPC 3301 Interpersonal Communication (t)	3	Optional
	SPC 3425 Small Group Communication	3	Optional
	SPC 4445 Communication and Effective Leadership (t)	3	Optional
	SPC 3711 Gender and Communication	3	Optional
	SPC 3540 Persuasion (t)	3	Optional
	COM 3601 Environmental Communication	3	Optional
	COM 4022 Health Communication	3	Optional
	COM 4430 International Business Communication	3	Optional
	COM 4462 Conflict Management	3	Optional

Track Requirements: 12 Credits

Students will already have satisfied 3 credits as part of this agreement and will work with academic advisors to choose the last 3 courses (9 credits) based on their academic and career goals.

MMC 2121 Writing Fundamentals for Communicators	COM 3714 Fundamentals of Written and Visual Communication	3	Substituted

Appendix D

FIU Qualified Faculty Requirements

The institution employs competent faculty members qualified to accomplish the mission and goals of the institution. When determining acceptable qualifications of its faculty, the institution gives primary consideration to the highest earned degree in the discipline.

The institution also considers competence, effectiveness, and capacity, including, as appropriate, undergraduate and graduate degrees, related work experience in the field, professional licensure and certifications, honors and awards, continuous documented excellence in teaching, or other demonstrated competencies and achievements that contribute to effective teaching and student learning outcomes.

Florida International University uses the following as credential guidelines when it defines faculty qualifications using faculty credentials:

- Faculty teaching general education courses at the undergraduate level: doctorate or master's degree in the teaching discipline or master's degree with a concentration in the teaching discipline (a minimum of 18 graduate semester hours in the teaching discipline).
- Faculty teaching baccalaureate courses: doctorate or master's degree in the teaching discipline or master's degree with a concentration in the teaching discipline (a minimum of eighteen (18) graduate semester hours in the teaching discipline).
- Faculty teaching graduate and post-baccalaureate course work: earned doctorate/terminal degree in the teaching discipline or a related discipline.
- Graduate teaching assistants: master's in the teaching discipline or eighteen (18) graduate semester hours in the teaching discipline, direct supervision by a faculty member experienced in the teaching discipline, regular in-service training, and planned and periodic evaluations.

As a Carnegie Research University with High Research Activity (RU/H), Florida International University additionally credentials its faculty based on national/international juried research productivity within the discipline. The institution documents a faculty member's research contributions to the discipline as evidence of the faculty qualifications.

In extremely limited circumstances a faculty member may be credentialed based on a combination of educational experience, productivity in the discipline and work experience. In these situations the practical experience in the discipline must be at an executive level with a broad scope of national/international reach.

Appendix E

Broward College Faculty Requirements

The following are the general guidelines for credentialing teaching faculty for baccalaureate, associate, transfer, and non-transfer courses:

- a. Faculty teaching developmental courses must have a baccalaureate degree in a discipline related to the teaching assignment.
- b. Faculty teaching general education courses: graduate degree in the teaching discipline or graduate degree with a concentration in the teaching discipline (a minimum of eighteen (18) graduate semester hours in the teaching discipline).
- c. Faculty teaching associate degree courses designed for transfer to a baccalaureate degree: graduate degree in the teaching discipline or graduate degree with a concentration in the teaching discipline or a master's degree with a minimum of eighteen (18) graduate semester hours or a declared concentration in the teaching discipline.
- d. Faculty teaching associate degree courses not designed for transfer to the baccalaureate degree: bachelor's degree in the teaching discipline, or associate degree and demonstrated competencies or industry licensures in the teaching discipline.
- e. Faculty teaching baccalaureate courses: graduate degree in the teaching discipline or graduate degree with a concentration in the teaching discipline (a minimum of eighteen (18) graduate semester hours in the teaching discipline). At least twenty-five percent (25%) of the course hours in each baccalaureate program (BS or BAS) must be taught by faculty members holding the terminal degree (usually the earned doctorate) in the discipline.