

Articulation Agreement

Blue Ridge Community College Associate of Applied Science in Human Services to James Madison University Bachelor of Social Work Program

Blue Ridge Community College and James Madison University recognize the need for and importance of facilitating the transfer of students from one institution to the other as they pursue their educational goals. Therefore, James Madison University (JMU) and Blue Ridge Community College (BRCC) enter into this articulation agreement to facilitate the transfer of course credits and smooth the transition of students earning an Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree in Human Services at BRCC into the Bachelor of Social Work (B.S.W.) Program at JMU.

Courses to be completed at Blue Ridge Community College

Recommended first semester courses at BRCC

Total Semester Credits = 16

BRCC Course	JMU Equivalent	Credits
ENG 111 College Composition I	WRTC 000 Writing Elective	3
BUS 100 Intro to Business	BUS 160 Business Decision Making (Gen Ed: Critical Thinking)	3
PSY 200 Intro to Psychology	PSYC 101 General Psychology (Gen Ed: Sociocultural)	3
CST 110 Intro to Human Communication	SCOM 121 Human Communication (Gen Ed: Human Communication)	3
HMS 100 Intro to Human Services	SOWK 287 <i>Note: SOWK 287 credit will be awarded only if HMS 100 is taught by a degreed social worker and student takes MEN 290 later in their BRCC coursework.</i>	3
SDV 100 or 101 College Success/Orientation	UNST 000 University Studies Elective	1

Recommended second semester courses at BRCC

Total Semester Credits = 15

BRCC Course	JMU Equivalent	Credits
ENG 112 College Composition II	WRTC 103 Writing (Gen Ed: Writing)	3
HLT 121 Intro to Drug Abuse	HTH 378 Health Elective	3
MEN 101 MH Skill Training I	SOWK 000 Social Work General Elective	3
MTH 155 Statistical Reasoning	MATH 220 Elem. Statistics (Gen Ed: Quantitative Reasoning)	3
PLS 135 US Government and Politics	POSC 225 U.S. Government (Gen Ed: American Experience)	3

Recommended third semester courses at BRCC

Total Semester Credits = 15

BRCC Course	JMU Equivalent	Credits
PSY 215 Psychopathology	PSYC 335 Abnormal Psychology	3
HMS 141 Group Dynamics	SOWK 000 Social Work General Elective	3
HMS 260 Substance Abuse Counseling	SOWK 000 Social Work General Elective	3
SOC 268 Social Problems	GNED 142 (Gen Ed: Global Experience)	3
ENG 225, 245, 246, 250, 255, or 258 Literature	ENG 221, 222, 239 or 260 Literature (Gen Ed: Literature)	3

Recommended fourth semester courses at BRCC

Total Semester Credits = 16

BRCC Course	JMU Equivalent	Credits
PSY 230 Developmental Psychology	PSYC 160 Life Span Human Development	3
HMS 285 Advanced Interviewing	SOWK 000 Social Work General Elective	3
MEN 225 Counseling Therapy	SOWK 301 Workshop in Social Work <i>Note: SOWK 301 credit will be awarded only if the course is taught by a degreed social worker.</i>	3
MEN 290 Coordinated Internship in MH/HS	SOWK 000 Social Work General Elective <i>Note: MEN 290 satisfies 20 field hours required for SOWK 287 at JMU. It can also satisfy 50 pre-field service hours required as a prerequisite for SOWK 493, but only if the student interacts with a degreed social worker within the agency setting.</i>	4
SOC 266 Race and Ethnicity	SOCI 336 Race and Ethnicity	3

Additional course recommended at BRCC

Total Term Credits = 4

BRCC Course	JMU Equivalent	Credits
BIO 101 General Biology or BIO 145 Human Anatomy and Physiology	BIO 140 + 140L Biology or BIO 103 Contemporary Biology + ISCI 104 Scientific Perspectives (Gen Ed: Natural Systems + Lab Experience)	4

Courses to be completed at James Madison University

SOWK 288 Social Welfare (3 credits)
 SOWK 305 Social Work Research Methods (3 credits)
 SOWK 317 Skills for Generalist Social Work (3 credits)
 SOWK 320 Human Behavior in the Social Environment (3 credits)
 SOWK 335 Social Policy (3 credits)
 SOWK 465 Social Work Practice in Mezzo Systems (3 credits)
 SOWK 466 Social Work Practice in Micro Systems (3 credits)
 SOWK 493 Preparation for Field (1 credit)
 SOWK 481 Practicum 1 (6 credits)
 SOWK 482 Practicum 2 (6 credits)
 SOWK 494 Social Work Capstone (3 credits)
 IPE 415 Ethical Decision-Making in Healthcare (1 credit)
 Social Work Electives at the 300-400 Level (3-6 credits)
 Gen Ed Natural Systems course if not taken before transfer (0-4 credits)
 Gen Ed Human Questions & Contexts course (3 credits)
 Gen Ed Physical Principles course (3-4 credits)
 Gen Ed Visual & Performing Arts course (3 credits)
 Gen Ed Wellness course (3 credits)
 Other course(s) if needed to meet the requirement of 60 minimum total credit hours at JMU

Total credit hours: 126

Total credit hours completed at BRCC: 66 | Total hours completed at JMU: 60

JMU Admission and Degree Guidance

This Agreement does **not** guarantee admission to JMU. Students earning an A.A.S. degree from BRCC are **not** eligible for admission to JMU under the Guaranteed Admission Agreement (GAA).

Students following this agreement will be considered for admission to JMU on an individual basis. Before applying to JMU, students should have completed or be in the process of completing at least 24 credit hours **after** high school graduation and be in good academic standing. Competitive students will have a well-rounded program of study and a cumulative GPA of around 3.0 ("B" grade average with mostly "A" and "B" grades). Students must [apply for admission to JMU](#) and request that all previously attended colleges/universities submit an official transcript to JMU's Office of Admissions. The application and all transcripts must be submitted by February 1 for the following summer term; by March 1 for the following fall semester; and by October 15 for the following spring semester.

JMU requires that students earn a minimum of 120 credit hours to graduate. Of the 120 credit hours, students must earn a minimum of 60 credit hours at a four-year institution and a minimum of 30 credit hours at JMU.

JMU Social Work Program and Degree Guidance

Students transferring to JMU should declare the Social Work major when they register for orientation; however, students will only be officially admitted to the major **after** they have applied to the JMU Social Work Program **and** been accepted. Students who have declared the social work major and completed SOWK 287 and SOWK 288 are eligible to be fully admitted to the B.S.W. program. To be admitted, students must submit an application and three references, *one of which must be from a BRCC faculty member who can speak to the student's strengths, achievements, or barriers they have overcome in the B.S.W.* Students are evaluated on their demonstration of community service and life experiences, academic performance, communication skills, work related skills, ability to work with others, motivation, professional value orientation, and career plans. Applications and other advising documents can be found on the [JMU Department of Social Work website](#).

Unconditional Admission to Social Work is given to students with a cumulative GPA of 2.0, no single grade lower than a "C" (2.0) in SOWK 287 and SOWK 288 and completion of the 20 hours of community service-learning required in SOWK 287. In their application, students must demonstrate the above criteria through their references and service-learning experiences.

Conditional Admission: Students who do not meet the above requirements or whose application does not demonstrate the criteria discussed may be admitted conditionally with a contract specifying activities and objectives that must be met prior to their full admission into the program.

Students may **NOT** enter upper-level Social Work practice courses until they have been admitted to the Social Work Program. Once students have been fully admitted to the major, they must also meet requirements for continuation in the major. These requirements are outlined in the *Social Work Student Handbook*. The JMU-B.S.W. Program does not grant social work course credit for life experience or previous work experience.

The minimum requirement for the B.S.W. degree is completion of the General Education requirements, 40 credit hours of core social work courses, one credit hour in inter-professional education, prerequisite courses as specified in course descriptions and elective hours, six of which must be in social work, for a total of 120 credit hours. If a grade of "C" (2.0) or above is not achieved the first time a social work course is taken, the student may repeat the course only once. All social work majors are expected to abide by the NASW Code of Ethics. Additionally, all majors participate in social work student outcome assessment measures.

Terms of Agreement

This Agreement, implemented in Fall 2024 and updated in Summer 2026, will continue to be reviewed annually and revised as appropriate. Course requirements, names and numbering are subject to annual review to ensure compliance with any changes at either institution.

The undersigned have reviewed and agreed that James Madison University (JMU) and Blue Ridge Community College (BRCC) should enter into and continue this Articulation Agreement.



Dr. Dave Urso
Vice President of Academic Affairs
Blue Ridge Community College



[Fletcher Linder \(Sep 4, 2026 14:45:45 EDT\)](#)

Dr. Fletcher Linder
Interim Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs
James Madison University