Agreement between Blue Ridge Community and Technical College and American Public University System for the Articulation of the Associate of Science degree in Nursing to the Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing

This Agreement facilitates the transfer of **Blue Ridge Community and Technical College** ("Partner College") students who graduate with an Associate of Science degree ("ASN Degree") in Nursing ("ASN Degree") to the Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing ("BSN Degree") at American Public University System ("APUS"). This agreement defines the terms of the transfer.

The three goals inherent in the Agreement are to:

1. Facilitate eligible students' transfer from the ASN Degree program at Partner College to the BSN Degree program at APUS as efficiently as possible.
2. Establish a clear set of understandings and expectations for both institutions and programs.
3. Establish a pathway for Partner College's ASN Degree graduates to have the opportunity to earn a bachelor's degree in Nursing, which may help enrich their careers in the Nursing profession.

Articulation Agreement

Partner College and APUS agree to offer articulated programs so that students from Partner College, pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, may transfer eligible credits earned for the ASN Degree at Partner College toward the BSN Degree at APUS. The Agreement, also, is a publication of a clear set of understandings and expectations for both institutions and programs. Making expectations clear to students and between institutions not only contributes to the first goal, but also allows the institutions to work collaboratively to meet the needs of Partner College students and graduates. In consideration of the promises and covenants herein, the parties agree as follows:

1. Students in, and graduates of, the ASN Degree program at Partner College that apply to APUS and satisfy all APUS admission requirements will be admitted to APUS ("APUS Students"). APUS Students will receive transfer credit for those specific Partner College courses ("Courses") as set forth in Degree Completion Plan, attached hereto as Appendix A. In order to be eligible for transfer credit, an APUS Student must have earned the grade of C (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) or higher in a Course. The number of credits transferred may not exceed 90 to 91 credit hours. The credit hours transferred from Partner College contribute to the fulfillment of credit hours required for baccalaureate completion.

2. The Degree Completion Plan included with this document specifies courses that will transfer from Partner College to APUS.

3. In order for the specified courses to transfer, students must earn a grade of C (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) or better in each course they desire to transfer.

4. The maximum number of credits that will be accepted by APUS toward degree requirements from non-direct classroom instruction (including CLEP, AP, and other nationally recognized standardized examination scores) is based on annually published national scores with recommended credits. Credit awarded for PLA is not recognized by APUS without verification through the APUS PLA process.

5. For a smooth transition, students at Partner College may begin taking courses in the BSN program at APUS while they are completing their Associates degree at Partner College.

6. Partner College students who complete the ASN Degree at Partner College will be given consideration for financial assistance at APUS in accordance with then applicable regulatory requirements and APUS policies.

7. Partner College and APUS agree to monitor the performance of this agreement and to address issues as necessary.

8. Partner College and APUS agree to publicize this articulation agreement as mutually agreed. Each party grants to the other a royalty-free, nonexclusive, non-transferable revocable license during the Term to use its trademarks, name, logos, and other identifying symbols (collectively, the "Marks") for the limited purpose of fulfilling its promotional and marketing obligations that may be mutually agreed to; provided, however, that each such use of the Marks and the content of all such marketing and promotional materials shall (i) be subject to the other party's prior written approval (except as may be mutually agreed to), and (ii) be subject to any trademark usage guidelines provided by a party in writing from time to time. The licenses granted in the foregoing sentence are personal and shall not include the right to grant sublicenses. Each party will retain all goodwill in its respective Marks and all other rights thereto. Upon termination of this Agreement, each party will promptly cease and desist its use of the other party's Marks.

9. The parties shall review the Articulation Agreement and Degree Completion Plan at least once per year to determine any necessary changes. Upon mutual agreement of the parties, the Degree Completion Plan shall be modified to reflect these changes. Revision of the Degree Completion Plan itself will not affect the signed agreement. Either party may notify the other party of changes that are required to the Degree Completion Plan and the parties shall work together in good faith to modify the Degree Completion Plan accordingly.

10. APUS shall have the right to review the content and curriculum of the ASN Degree program at Partner College to ensure that it complies with APUS academic standards.

11. Partner College students will be admitted, enrolled and graduated in APUS in accordance with APUS's then-current requirements and policies and, as students of APUS, will be subject to the usual financial obligations and fees of APUS, as determined by APUS.

12. Each party acknowledges and agrees that it is subject to and shall comply with the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 USC 1232g, and its implementing regulations, 34 CFR pt. 99, as each may be amended from time to time.

13. Partner College shall not make any false, erroneous or misleading statements, representations, warranties or guarantees to its students, employees or other third parties with respect to APUS or APUS's services or programs.

14. Partner College shall not pay any of its employees or agents engaged in any APUS student recruitment or admissions activities or in any decisions regarding awarding student financial assistance to any APUS student, any bonus, commission, or other incentive payment that is based in any part, directly or indirectly, on success in securing enrollments or the award of financial aid where such payment would be a violation of the requirements of 20 U.S.C. § 1094(a)(20) or 34 C.F.R. § 668.14(b)(22) or any other law or accreditation requirements, regardless of whether those requirements apply directly to Partner College.

15. The term of this Agreement shall be for one year, and it shall renew automatically unless a party gives 60 days' written notice of its intention to terminate. The Agreement may be terminated by either party after 60 days advance written notice to the other. Upon a material breach of the Agreement, the Agreement may be terminated upon ten (10) days prior written notice to the other party, unless cured during such ten (10) day period. Termination of the agreement will not affect any students currently enrolled in the ASN Degree program at Partner College who are taking courses at APUS or who have been accepted into the BSN Degree program at APUS.

16. This Agreement shall be binding on the parties only, and nothing in it is intended to or shall inure to the benefit of any third party. Neither party shall assign this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other party. The provisions in this Agreement are severable, and a legal determination that any provision is invalid or unenforceable shall not affect the validity and enforceability of the remaining provisions. This is the entire agreement of the parties with respect to its subject matter, and it supersedes all prior agreements, representations and communications. The Agreement may be amended only in writing by both parties. Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to create a joint venture, partnership or any other relationship of the parties except as independent contractors. No waiver of a provision of this Agreement shall be effective unless in writing and signed by the party to be charged. This Agreement shall not be construed against either party, and no presumption shall be made on the basis of drafting the Agreement or any of its provisions.

17. This Agreement becomes effective on the date that the last authorizing party has signed the Agreement. The last signer will write the date below.

This Agreement is effective as of:

13th day of February, 2015.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be signed by their authorized representatives on the date and year first written above.

Karan Powell, Ph.D.
Provost
American Public University System

Peter Checkovich, Ed.D.
President
Blue Ridge Community and Technical College

Degree Completion Plan (DCP): Blue Ridge Community and Technical College ASN to APU BSN
Concentration: General
Catalog Year: 2014-2015

	Credit Source	Course Number	*Transfer Credit Hours Completed*	APUS Course Number	Semester Hours (SH) Needed
3	***(SH) INSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENT***				
	APU Required Course	COLL100 - Foundations of Online Learning			
	TOTAL Institutional Requirement (SH):				3
30	***(SH) GENERAL EDUCATION***				
	ENGLISH COMPOSITION				
	BRCTC ASN	ENGL 101 Written English	3	ENGL101	
	BRCTC ASN Option	ENGL 102 Writing for Arts and Humanities		ENGL200	
					3
	HUMANITIES				
	BRCTC ASN	COMM 202 Fundamentals of Speech	3	COMM200	
					0
	LITERATURE				
	BRCTC ASN Option Select ***ONE***	ENGL 204 Survey of American Literature ENGL 208 Survey of World Literature		Gen Ed LI LITR201	
					3
	HISTORY				
	BRCTC ASN Option Select ***ONE***	HIST 101 World History to 1500 HIST 102 World History Since 1500 HIST 201 US History to 1877 HIST 202 US History since 1877		HIST111 HIST112 HIST101 HIST102	
	BRCTC ASN Option Select ***ONE*** not already taken	HIST 101 World History to 1500 HIST 102 World History Since 1500 HIST 201 US History to 1877 HIST 202 US History since 1877		HIST111 HIST112 HIST101 HIST102	
					6
	MATHEMATICS				
	BRCTC option Select ***ONE***	MATH 105 Algebra MATH 106 Trigonometry		MATH110 MATH111	
					3
	SOCIAL SCIENCE				
	BRCTC ASN	PSYC 203 Introduction to Psychology	3	PSYC101	
	BRCTC ASN Option Select ***ONE***	SOCI 203 General Sociology ECON 205 Principles of Macroeconomics ECON 206 Principles of Microeconomics		SOCI111 ECON102 ECON101	
					3
	POLITICAL SCIENCE				
	BRCTC ASN Option Select ***ONE***	PSCI 100 Politics and Government PSCI 101 American Federal Government		Gen Ed PS POLS210	
					3
	TOTAL General Education (SH):		9		21

32	***Core Requirements***				
	APU BSN	NURS300 Professional Transitions in Nursing			
	APU BSN	NURS310 Assessment, Evaluation and Clinical Decision-Making			
	APU BSN	NURS320 Integrated Pathophysiology and Clinical Pharmacology I			
	APU BSN	NURS330 Integrated Pathophysiology and Clinical Pharmacology II			
	APU BSN	NURS340 Science of Evidence-Based Practice			
	APU BSN	NURS350 Transformational Leadership and Cultures of Safety			
	APU BSN	NURS400 Emerging Scholarship and Trends in Healthcare			
	APU BSN	NURS401 Caring for Today's Veterans			
	APU BSN	NURS410 Community Health I			
	APU BSN	NURS420 Community Health II			
	TOTAL Core (SH):		0		32

33	*(SH) MAJOR / CONCENTRATION*				
	APU BSN	MATH302 Statistics			
	BRCTC ASN	Current, active RN license and ASN credit	30		
	TOTAL Major / Concentration (SH):		30		3
3	*(SH) CAPSTONE*				
	APU Required Course	NURS498 Senior Seminar in Nursing Studies			
	TOTAL Capstone (SH):				3
20	*(SH) ELECTIVES*				
	BRCTC ASN	CAHS 125 Introduction to College Chemistry	4	Elective	
	BRCTC ASN	CAHS 220 Microbiology	3	Elective	
	BRCTC ASN	CAHS 221 Microbiology Lab	1	Elective	
	BRCTC ASN	NURS 165 Pharmacology & Pathophysiology for Nurses	4	Elective	
	BRCTC ASN	CAHS 120 Human Anatomy and Physiology I	3	BIOL250	
	BRCTC ASN	CAHS 121 Human Anatomy and Physiology I Lab	1	Gen Ed SC	
	BRCTC ASN	CAHS 122 Human Anatomy and Physiology II	3	BIOL251	
	BRCTC ASN	CAHS 123 Human Anatomy and Physiology II Lab	1	Gen Ed SC	0
	TOTAL Lower-Level Elective (SH):		20		0
121	*TOTAL (SH):*		59		62

Total Transfer Hours Awarded	59
Total APU Program Hours Required	121
Remaining Hours to Fulfill	62

RED= transfer courses
BLUE= Optional transfer courses
BLACK= APU courses

Excessive Transfer Credit Hours		13
BRCTC ASN	NURS 235 Adult Nursing Care II	5
BRCTC ASN	NURS 236 Clinical Nursing II	5

ASN - BRCTC				BSN - APU	
Prerequisites			**Credits**	**Transfer to APU as:**	**Area:**
CAHS	120	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	3	BIOL250-Human Anatomy and Physiology with Lab I	General Elective
CAHS	121	Human Anatomy & Physiology I Lab	1	General Education Science	General Elective
CAHS	122	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	3	BIOL251-Human Anatomy and Physiology with Lab II	General Elective
CAHS	123	Human Anatomy & Physiology II Lab	1	General Education Science	General Elective
CAHS	125	Introduction to College Chemistry	4	SCIN131 Introduction to Chemistry with Lab	Elective
COMM	202	Fundamentals of Speech	3	COMM200 Public Speaking	Humanities
ENGL	101	Written English	3	ENGL101 Proficiency in Writing	English
PSYC	203	Introduction to Psychology	3	PSYC101 Introduction to Psychology	Social Science
MATH	114	Introduction to Probability and Statistics	3	Excessive Credit	Excessive Credit
Total			**24**	**Total**	**21**
1st Semester				**Transfer to APU as:**	**Area:**
NURS	105	Introduction to Professional Nursing	3	Major Concentration Hours	Major Concentration Hours
NURS	108	Basic Nursing Skills	3	Major Concentration Hours	Major Concentration Hours
NURS	118	Health & Wellness	2	Major Concentration Hours	Major Concentration Hours
CAHS	220	Microbiology	3	SCIN202 Introduction to Microbiology	General Elective
CAHS	221	Microbiology Lab	1	General Elective	General Elective
Total			**12**		**12**
2nd Semester				**Transfer to APU as:**	**Area:**
NURS	150	Health Assessment	3	Major Concentration Hours	Major Concentration Hours
NURS	155	Family Health Nursing	3	Major Concentration Hours	Major Concentration Hours
NURS	160	Clinical Nursing	2	Major Concentration Hours	Major Concentration Hours
NURS	165	Pharmacology & Pathophysiology for Nurses	4	General Elective	General Elective
Total			**12**		**12**
3rd Semester				**Transfer to APU as:**	**Area:**
NURS	205	Adult Nursing Care	5	Major Concentration Hours	Major Concentration Hours
NURS	210	Mental Health Nursing	3	Major Concentration Hours	Major Concentration Hours
NURS	214	Clinical Nursing II	4	Major Concentration Hours	Major Concentration Hours
Total			**12**		**12**
4th Semester				**Transfer to APU as:**	**Area:**
NURS	235	Adult Nursing Care II	5	Excessive Credit	Excessive Credit
NURS	236	Clinical Nursing III	5	Excessive Credit	Excessive Credit
NURS	238	Transition to Professional Nursing	2	Major Concentration Hours	Major Concentration Hours
Total			**12**		**2**
Total credits for the Nursing (Generic) A.A.S.=			**72**	**Total Transfer Credit**	**59**
				Total Excessive Credit	**13**