

Faculty Credentials

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In coordination with SACSCOC faculty credentials evaluation guidelines, curriculum faculty hold one or both of the following mandated competencies:

- the required level of formal education appropriate to the teaching discipline and academic level from an accredited institution and/or
- competence, effectiveness, and capacity, including, as appropriate, undergraduate and graduate degrees, related work experiences 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.

In either or both of the above, the dean/director is responsible for justifying and documenting all faculty credentials before they can be employed or instruct a new course. Credential files are maintained in the Human Resources office.

The following guidelines are in coordination with SACSCOC recommendations for instructing undergraduate general education.

- **Undergraduate General Education Courses:** Doctorate or master's degree in a 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).
- **Associate Degree Courses Designed for Transfer to a Baccalaureate Degree:** 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).
- **Associate Degree Courses Not Designed for Transfer to a Baccalaureate Degree:** Bachelor's degree in the teaching discipline, or associate's degree and demonstrated competencies in the teaching discipline.
- **Academic Related Courses:**
 - # Success and Study Skills: bachelor's degree or associate's degree with higher education experience, such as instructional, advising or counseling.
 - # College Transfer Success-master's degree or bachelor's degree with higher education experience, such as instructional, advising or counseling.
 - # Developmental Courses: bachelor's degree with a minimum of eighteen (18) semester hours in the teaching discipline and demonstrated competencies in the teaching discipline.
- **Programs with Other Accrediting or Licensing Agencies:** Credentials as established by the agency for programs such as Associate Degree Nursing, Practical Nursing, Basic Law Enforcement Training and Cosmetology.

- **Exceptions:** In exceptional cases, unique experiences and/or special competence may substitute for the specified level of academic preparation with approval from the Vice President of Academic and Student Services.

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