

# Creating Seamless Pathways to Improve Post-Secondary Education in East Texas

Sarah Bowden and C. Jeanie Oxler



**UT Tyler**  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER



**TJTC**

# Presentation Overview

In a region where the poverty rate is high and post-secondary education rates are low, Tyler Junior College and The University of Texas at Tyler have combined forces to make a difference. As part of the Texas Transfer Alliance, Tyler Junior College and The University of Texas at Tyler have spent the last year developing a renewed articulation agreement and numerous 2 + 2 pathways for transfer between the two institutions. Learn how we developed clear pathways alongside faculty and chairs to align programs which help students graduate efficiently and well-prepared to enter the workforce.

Introductions

About our region

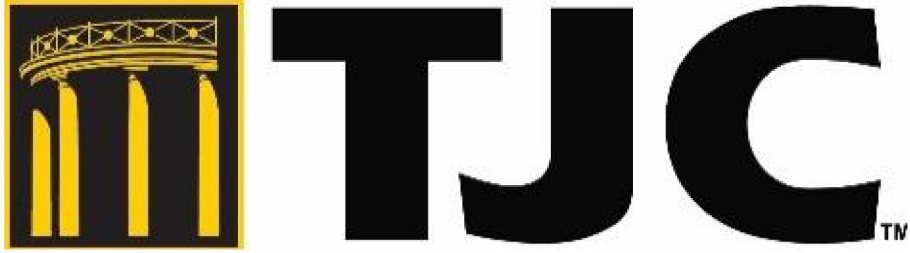
The process

The obstacles

The outcomes

Questions





## **C. Jeanie Oxler, M.M.**

Director of School Partnerships

Dual Credit Programs

Early College High School

Articulation Agreements and Transfer Pathways

Professor of Voice/Department Chair, Music 2014-19

Professor of Voice 2000-2014

MM Vocal Performance, Indiana University

BM Music Education, Hardin-Simmons University

Contact Jeanie at: [coxl@tjc.edu](mailto:coxl@tjc.edu)



# About TJC



Founded in 1926

4-year, primarily associate's degree, public community college

Over 115 degree and certificate programs, including Level I, Level II, AAS, AA, AS, and currently 2 bachelor's degrees with a 3<sup>rd</sup> pending.

10% of the student body lives on campus.

68 National Championships in athletics, with an average athletic GPA of 3.0+.

Award winning performing arts, PTK, newspaper...



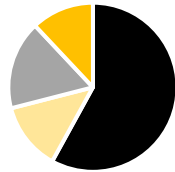


# Data and Degree Attainment



# TJCU

## Enrollment Disaggregated by Ethnic Populations



- White 58%
- Hispanic/Latino 13%
- Black/African American 17%
- Other 12%

Total Enrollment (Fall 2020) 11,749

18:1 Student-to-Faculty ratio

3.1 years average time to completion

## Degree Attainment

22% overall graduation rate

22% transfer-out rate

18% of male students graduate

25% of female students graduate

## Graduation rate per ethnic group:

- 32% Asian
- 11% Black or African American
- 25% Hispanic or Latino
- 29% White
- 31% Two or more races
- 33% Race unknown
- 16% Non-resident



# Sarah Bowdin, MS

## Assistant Vice President for Academic Success

- Articulation Agreements and Pathways
- Program Coordination: Dual Credit, BAAS, Finish@UT
- Academic Support: SI, PASS Tutoring Center, MAPS (Mentoring and Advising for Patriots Success)
- Special Student Populations: Transfer, First Generation, Foster Care

Enrollment Management  
2001-2020

BS in Speech Communication, UT Tyler  
MS in Interdisciplinary Studies, UT Tyler

Contact Sarah at: [sbowdin@uttyler.edu](mailto:sbowdin@uttyler.edu)



# UT Tyler History

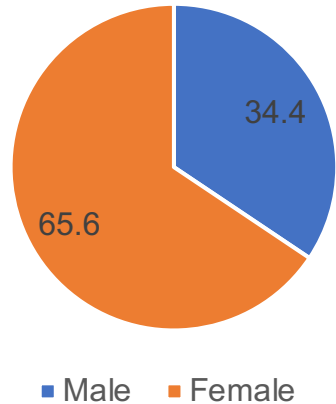


- Public research university located in the beautiful pine and oak forest of East Texas, offering over 90 academic degree programs at the bachelor, master, and doctoral levels
- Accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and had a total enrollment of 9,572 in fall 2021
- Founded in 1971, UT Tyler is part of the UT System and is home to six academic colleges and four instructional sites
- UT Tyler was a senior level institution until 1998, when the first freshman class was welcomed
- In 2019, the UT System Board of Regents unanimously agreed to merge the University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler (UTHSCT) under the University of Texas at Tyler (UT Tyler), creating a single unified institution. Two months following, UT System formally announced its intention to establish a new medical school that will be added under the new UT Tyler administration, expected to open in 2023

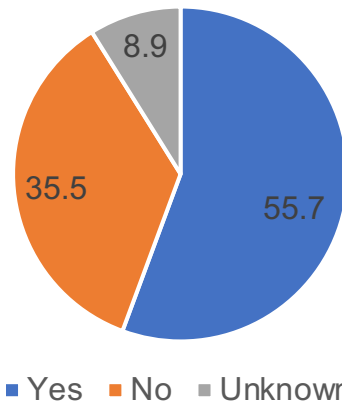


# Transfer Characteristics Fall 2020 Cohort

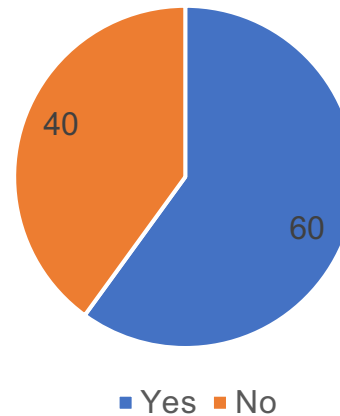
Transfer Population by Gender



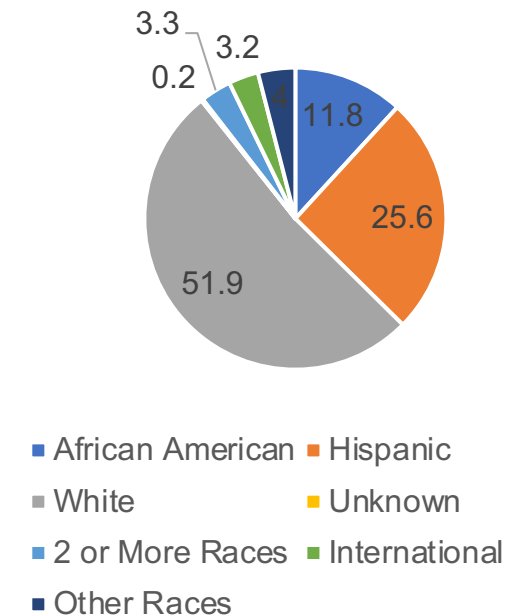
Transfer Population by 1st Gen Status



Transfer Population Receiving Need Based Aid



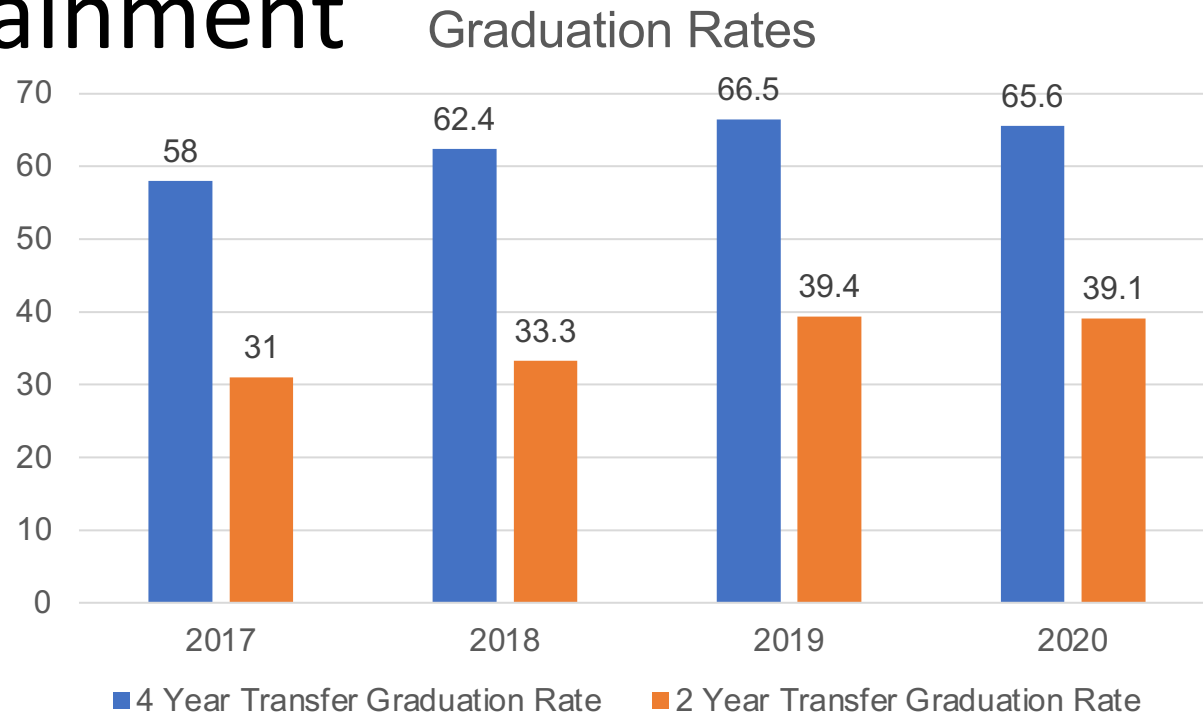
Transfer Population by Race/Ethnicity







## Transfer Degree Attainment





# About Upper East Texas

- Approximately 2.9 million residents
- 10 community colleges
- 4 private Christian colleges/universities
- 2 HBCUs
- 6 public universities

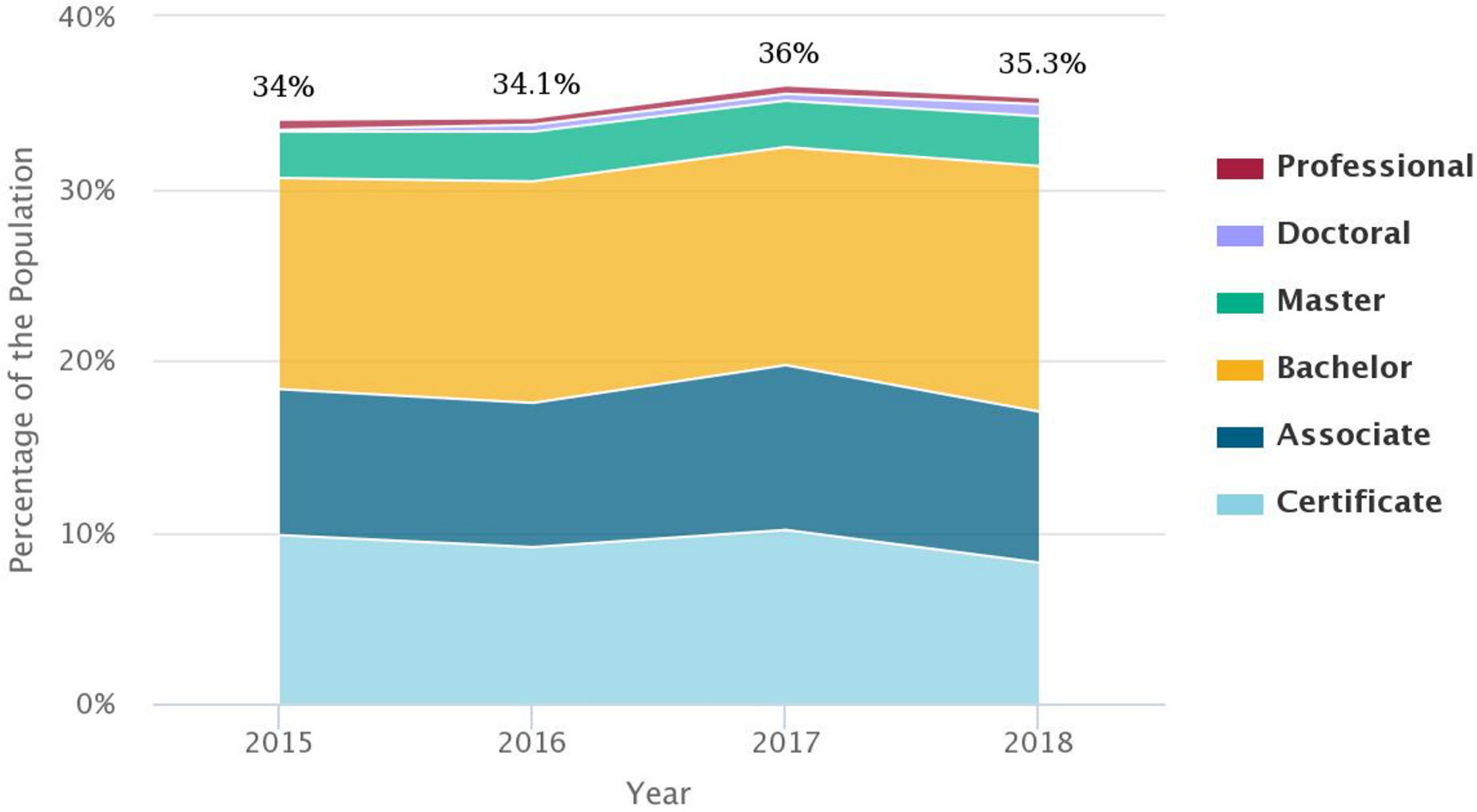


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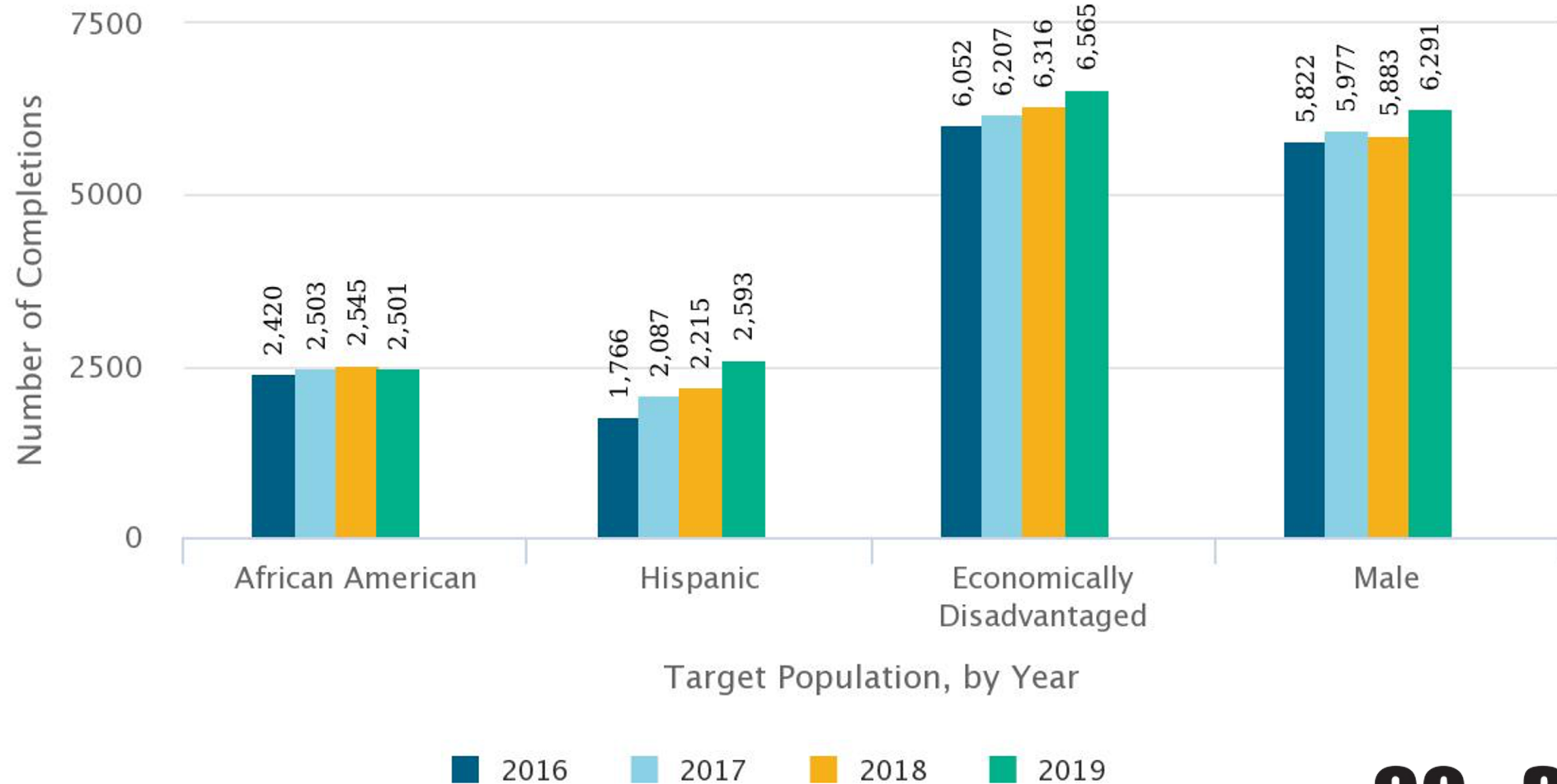


**TJC**

# Percent of Upper East Region Population Age 25–34 with a Postsecondary Credential



# Target Populations: African American, Hispanic, Economically Disadvantaged, and Males Completing in Upper East Region





## SMITH COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (ISD) DEMOGRAPHICS

- Arp ISD
- Lindale ISD
- Whitehouse ISD
- Bullard ISD
- Troup ISD
- Winona ISD
- Chapel Hill ISD
- Tyler ISD

ISDs	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Enrollment	35,192	35,509	35,907	36,023	35,939	36,215	36,724	35,730
White	15,190 43.2%	15,248 42.9%	15,262 42.5%	15,133 42.0%	14,987 41.7%	15,075 41.6%	15,191 41.4%	14,638 41.0%
<i>Texas</i>	29.4%	28.9%	28.5%	28.1%	27.8%	27.4%	27.0%	26.5%
Hispanic	11,099 31.5%	11,439 32.2%	11,782 32.8%	12,001 33.3%	12,127 33.7%	12,348 34.1%	12,606 34.3%	12,463 34.9%
<i>Texas</i>	51.8%	52.0%	52.2%	52.4%	52.4%	52.6%	52.8%	52.9%
Black	7,432 21.1%	7,339 20.7%	7,321 20.4%	7,224 20.1%	7,080 19.7%	6,975 19.3%	7,000 19.1%	6,767 18.9%
<i>Texas</i>	12.7%	12.6%	12.6%	12.6%	12.6%	12.6%	12.6%	12.7%
Economically Disadvantaged	21,375 60.7% %	21,364 60.2% %	21,609 60.2%	20,622 57.2%	22,274 62.0%	23,169 64.0%	23,223 63.2%	22,858 64.0%
<i>Texas</i>	60.2%	58.8%	59.0%	59.0%	58.8%	60.6%	60.2%	60.2%

*Source: Texas Academic Performance Reports*



## #1 OVERALL GOAL: 60X30 EDUCATED POPULATION

Smith County Population	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
18-24 years Some college or associates degree or higher	55.4%	57.0%	55.4%	57.4%	57.1%	57.0%	55.7%
Texas	47.0%	52.2%	52.4%	52.5%	52.3%	52.3%	52.3%
25 years and over Associates degree or higher	33.7%	34.0%	34.0%	34.6%	35.1%	36.1%	36.9%
Texas	33.6%	34.3%	34.9%	35.6%	36.4%	37.1%	38.1%

Source: US Census Bureau ACS 5-Year

## COLLEGE ENROLLMENT

Smith County	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
ISD Grads Enrolled in IHE	2,049	2,143	2,113	2,215	2,325	2,239	2,295
Texas	52.0%	47.9%	50.3%	47.1%	49.0%	46.4%	45.9%
Texas	51.4%	50.0%	49.2%	49.6%	48.9%	48.5%	41.4%
Tyler Junior College	647	603	651	618	681	585	623
Texas	31.6%	28.1%	30.8%	27.9%	29.3%	26.1%	27.1%
Other 2-year IHE	83	85	75	77	67	73	75
Texas	4.1%	4.0%	3.5%	3.5%	2.9%	3.3%	3.3%
Total 2-year IHE	35.7%	32.1%	34.3%	31.4%	32.2%	29.4%	30.4%
Texas	25.6%	24.7%	24.2%	24.0%	23.7%	24.3%	18.6%
UT Tyler	66	94	91	69	114	101	135
Texas	3.2%	4.4%	4.3%	3.1%	4.9%	4.5%	5.9%
Other 4-year IHE	269	244	245	279	278	279	221
Texas	13.1%	11.4%	11.6%	12.6%	12.0%	12.5%	9.6%
Total 4-year IHE	16.3%	15.8%	15.9%	15.7%	16.9%	17.0%	15.5%
Texas	25.8%	25.3%	25.0%	25.6%	25.1%	24.2%	22.8%
Not trackable/found	984	1,117	1,051	1,172	1,185	1,201	1,241
Texas	48.0%	52.1%	49.7%	52.9%	51.0%	53.6%	54.1%
Texas	48.7%	50.0%	50.8%	50.4%	51.1%	51.5%	58.6%

Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Accountability Reports



# The Process

How we developed 2+2 pathways with the help of faculty

# Steps for Success

- Met to discuss our goals and timeline
- Developed a system for collaboration
  - a. Implemented a shared drive and a designed a template
  - b. Appointed a designated stakeholder at each institution to take ownership of the project and work as a liaison between the faculty to move the project along
  - c. Communicated often through email, phone, and in person meetings
- Published Transfer Pathways on the web
- As a result of a grant provided by the Texas Transfer Alliance through the Dana Center at The University of Texas at Austin, we held a Transfer Summit to encourage communication between the faculty at both campuses and update transfer pathways
- Signed an articulation agreement that increased benefits for students and removed barriers to transfer





## Bachelor of Science in Economics

Recommended 4-Year Course Sequence  
2022-2023 Catalog



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### FRESHMAN YEAR

Fall				Spring			
TJC	UT Tyler	Title	Hours	TJC	UT Tyler	Title	Hours
ENGL 1301		Composition I	3	EDUC 1300		Learning Framework	3
HIST 1301		United States History I	3	HIST 1302/2301		United States History II <b>OR</b> Texas History	3
GOVT 2305		Federal Government	3	GOVT 2306		Texas Government	3
MATH 1324		Mathematics for Business & Social Sciences	3			Life and Physical Science Course**	3
		Creative Arts Course	3	MATH 1325		Calculus for Business & Social Sciences	3
			15				15

### SOPHOMORE YEAR

Fall				Spring			
TJC	UT Tyler	Title	Hours	TJC	UT Tyler	Title	Hours
		Life and Physical Science Course**	3	GEOG 1303		World Regional Geography	3
ECON 2301*		Principles of Macroeconomics	3	MATH 1342		Elementary Statistical Methods	3
ENGL 1302/2311		Composition II <b>OR</b> Technical & Business Writing	3	ECON 2302		Principles of Macroeconomics	3
		Language, Philosophy, and Culture Course	3			<sup>1</sup> Courses beyond the core curriculum - choose 2 list	3
SPCH 1315/1321		Public Speaking <b>OR</b> Business & Prof Communication	3			<sup>1</sup> Courses beyond the core curriculum - choose 2 list	3
			15				15

### JUNIOR YEAR

Fall				Spring			
TJC	UT Tyler	Title	Hours	TJC	UT Tyler	Title	Hours
	ECON 3314	Intermediate Microeconomic Analysis	3		ECON 3317	Intermediate Macroeconomic Analysis	3
		Upper-Division Economics Elective	3			Upper-Division Economics Elective	3
		Upper-Division Economics Elective	3			Elective	3
	COSC 1307	Introduction to Info Systems Software	3			Upper-Division Minor Elective	3
		Minor Elective	3			Elective	3
			15				15

### SENIOR YEAR

Fall				Spring			
TJC	UT Tyler	Title	Hours	TJC	UT Tyler	Title	Hours
		Upper-Division Economics Elective	3		ECON 4320	Managerial Economics	3
		Upper-Division Economics Elective	3			Upper-Division Minor Elective	3
		Upper-Division Minor Elective	3			Upper-Division Minor Elective	3
		Elective	3			Upper-Division Elective	3
		Elective	3			Upper-Division Elective	3
			15				15

Total Credit Hours at TJC 60  
Total Credit Hours at UT Tyler 60  
Total Credit Hours 120

<sup>1</sup>Courses Beyond the Core Curriculum - Choose Two List: Choose from HIST 2312, HUMA 1302, PHIL 1301, PHIL 2306, SOCI 1301, COMM 1307

\*\*Labs not transferred for credit



**AAS Addiction Counseling - BAAS Human Behavior**  
**Recommended 4-Year Course Sequence**  
 2022-2023 Catalog



**FRESHMAN YEAR**

Fall				Spring			
TJC	UT Tyler	Title	Hours	TJC	UT Tyler	Title	Hours
DAAC 1391		Special Topics in Alcohol-Drug Abuse Counseling	3	CMSW 1341		Behavior Modification with Cognitive Disorder	3
DAAC 2307		Addicted Family Intervention	3	DAAC 1304		Pharmacology of Addiction	3
DAAC 1319		Substance-Related & Addictive Disorders	3	DAAC 2330		Multicultural Counseling	3
SOCI 1301		Introductory Sociology	3	DAAC 1311		Counseling Theories	3
MATH 1314		College Algebra	3	COSC 1301		Intro to Computing	3
			15				15

**SOPHOMORE YEAR**

Fall				Spring			
TJC	UT Tyler	Title	Hours	TJC	UT Tyler	Title	Hours
DAAC 1309		Assessment Skill of Alcohol and other Drug Addictions	3	DAAC 2341		Counseling Alcohol and Other Drug Addictions	3
DAAC 1305		Co-Occurring Disorders	3	DAAC 2343		Current Issues	3
DAAC 1317		Basic Counseling Skills	3	DAAC 2367		Practicum Substance Abuse	3
DAAC 2354		Dynamics of Group Counseling	3	SPCH 1321		Business & Professional Comm	3
ENGL 1301		Composition I	3	HUMA 1301		Intro to Humanities	3
			15				15

**JUNIOR YEAR**

Fall				Spring			
TJC	UT Tyler	Title	Hours	TJC	UT Tyler	Title	Hours
		Life and Physical Sciences	4			Life and Physical Science	4
ENGL 1302		Composition II	3	GOVT 2306		Texas Government	3
HIST 1301		US Hist I	3	HIST 1302		US Hist II	3
GOVT 2305		Federal Government	3	ART 1301		Intro to Art	3
						Elective	1
			13				14

**SENIOR YEAR**

Fall				Spring			
TJC	UT Tyler	Title	Hours	TJC	UT Tyler	Title	Hours
	PSYC 4345	Addressing Pressing Problems in a Diverse World - BAAS core	3		PHIL 3344	Ethical Leadership - BAAS core	3
	MANA 4385	Strategic Leadership - BAAS core	3		ALHS 3370	Health and Wellness - BAAS core	3
	PSYC 3320	Interpersonal and Small Group Interaction - BAAS core	3		PSYC 3315	Positive Psychology	3
	ECON 3302	Economic and Financial Literacy - BAAS core	3		PSYC 3310	Health Psychology	3
	PSYC 4311	Abnormal Psychology	3		PSYC 4341	Theories of Personality	3
	PSYC 4353	Developmental Psychology	3				
			18				15

Total Credit Hours at Tyler Junior College 87  
 Total Credit Hours at UT Tyler 33  
 Total Credit Hours 120

# Transfer Summit

- Invited Provosts, Deans, Department Chairs, and Faculty from both institutions to participate in a working lunch.
- Provided a copy of each 2021-22 executed Pathway, updated catalogs, and degree plans in advance of the meeting.
- Currently reviewing and posting 2022-23 pathways





# The Obstacles

- Dedicated time
- Calendars and COVID (had to move the Transfer Summit from early Feb, to April which delayed the 2022-23 pathways)
- Alignment of courses in certain programs required co-admission and reverse transfer.
- Issues with the core alignment between the institutions when the student completes an Associates Degree and transfers without being core complete.
- Issues with third and fourth year courses which are in the ACGM as first or second year courses.



# The Outcomes

- New and improved articulation agreement signed.
  - Priority deadlines
  - Facilitates student services, scholarships and honors programs
  - Aligns more than 40 programs of study with 2+2 pathway guides
  - Provides timeline for reverse transfer, and improves communication to students
- As a result of the Transfer Summit, new faculty relationships were formed, and program specific partnerships and collaboration are currently taking place.
- We are currently developing pathways from Associate of Applied Science degrees to multiple options for Bachelor of Arts in Applied Science degrees at UT Tyler.
- Much improved communication between important offices on each campus, including advising and enrollment management teams, scholarships, honors programs, and more.



# Pathway Guide Access

- UT Tyler website
- TJC website links to UT Tyler site
- TJC internal TEAMS account which includes guides for all of our transfer institutions.
  - Advisors
  - Success coaches
  - Faculty/chairs
  - other



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Questions??