

## Academic Affairs Policies and Procedures

Division of Academic Affairs .....	3
Academic Affairs Division Goals .....	3
Academic Calendar .....	3
Semester Description.....	3
Graduation Requirements.....	4
Graduation Ceremonies.....	4
Graduation Attire .....	5
Curriculum Revision .....	5
Credit Hour Policy.....	6
Block Scheduling of Coursework.....	8
Continuing Education Units .....	8
Credit by Examination .....	8
Transcripts.....	9
Transfer of Credits .....	10
Transcript Evaluations.....	10
Orientation .....	10
Course Registration .....	11
Prerequisite and Corequisite Courses.....	11
<i>Next Generation Accuplacer</i> and ACT Entrance Tests.....	12
Non-Degree Seeking Student .....	12
Changes to Course Registration (Add/Drop).....	13
Academic Advising .....	14
Assessing Student Learning .....	15
Glossary of Assessment Terms.....	15
Co-Curricular Activities and Evaluation.....	16
Independent Study Course Procedures .....	16
Student Attendance Policy .....	17
Participation/Class Engagement.....	19
Student Behavior in the Classroom .....	20
Cell Phone Usage .....	20
Student Academic Honesty Policy .....	20
Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Use Policy .....	22
Late Assignment Deadlines .....	23
Missed Tests, Exams and Quizzes (Formal Assessments).....	23
Student Course Load .....	24
Last Day to Withdraw .....	24
Withdrawal from the Institution .....	24

Computation of Grade Point Average.....	26
Grade of Incomplete .....	27
Grade Changes.....	27
Grade Submission .....	28
Honors.....	28
Catalog Rights.....	28
Satisfactory Academic Progress.....	29
Academic Probation.....	29
Academic Suspension Appeals Procedure.....	29
Concurrent and Sequential Degrees .....	30
Program Advisory Councils .....	34
Student Organizations (Clubs) .....	34
Field Trips.....	35
Repair of Privately Owned Vehicles by the Automotive Technology Department .....	35
Criminal Justice Department Firearms Policy.....	37
Safety Glasses.....	39
Library.....	40
Copyright Policy .....	41
Human Subject Research at United Tribes Technical College .....	49
Institutional Review Board (IRB).....	49
Authorship for Scholarly and Scientific Publications Policy.....	49

## **Division of Academic Affairs**

The Vice President for Academic Affairs (VPAA) oversees and provides leadership for all academic programs and functions at United Tribes Technical College (UTTC). The Academic Affairs division has the lead responsibility for academic planning and academic budget administration, academic personnel decisions, career development, curricular requirements, degree program development, assessment of student learning, and academic accreditation.

The VPAA works closely with the President's Office and the Vice President of Campus Services (VPCS), and provides oversight for grant and program directors, department chairs, faculty, and committees, on a broad array of policy and strategic planning issues. Our purpose is to support the UTTC mission, the UTTC campus community, which includes students, their families, and UTTC personnel who support the students in pursuit of their educational goals.

### **Academic Affairs Division Goals**

- **Goal 1:** Develop educational programs that differentiate UTTC as a leader in education, leadership development and innovation in student research.
- **Goal 2:** Implement best practices for advancing student learning in an environment focused on student success.
- **Goal 3:** Establish a scholarly environment for faculty, staff and students.

### **Academic Calendar**

UTTC offers instruction in three semesters: fall, spring, and summer. The calendar for the academic year originates with the VPAA, who then forwards the draft to the Administrative Council for final approval. The calendar is consistent with the North Dakota University Systems (NDUS) and federal appropriation legislation.

### **Semester Description**

UTTC operates on a semester basis, a term averaging fifteen (15) weeks of instruction, one (1) week for mid-term, and one (1) week for final exams for a total of sixteen (16) weeks for the fall and spring. The summer semester is typically 8 weeks in length (see the academic calendar on the UTTC website for starting and ending dates of each semester).

## **Graduation Requirements**

Each candidate for graduation must fulfill the following requirements for a certificate of completion, an associate degree, or baccalaureate degree:

1. Enrolled as a current UTTC student.
2. Complete a graduation application and submit it to the Registrar's Office no later than fourteen (14) calendar days before the applicable graduation ceremony, as indicated on the academic calendar.
3. Review the advising worksheet (also referred to as the graduation report) with the student's academic advisor to make sure all program requirements are met. This should be completed prior to the last day to add/drop courses for the semester the student intends to graduate.
4. Verify all personal information is correct in my.uttc.edu and on the graduation application. The name entered on the diploma, and the address to which it will be mailed will be taken from the graduation application.
5. Courses considered for meeting graduation requirements must have been completed with a minimum grade of 2.0 ("C", or higher"). Courses that resulted in a grade of less than 2.0 will not meet graduation requirements.
6. Students who are enrolled in the summer semester, and will have fulfilled the graduation requirements for their program of study at the end of the summer semester, will be allowed to participate in the preceding May commencement ceremony. The degree will not be conferred until the end of the summer semester after grades are posted and the student has met the minimum requirements.

\*The current college catalog will list requirements for the granting of degrees, diplomas and certificates of completion.

## **Graduation Ceremonies**

UTTC has one formal graduation ceremony each academic year, at the end of the spring semester. Fall graduates participate with the spring graduates in the May graduation ceremony. Students who are completing their graduation requirements in the summer semester are allowed to participate in the May graduation ceremony immediately preceding the summer semester. Diplomas for these students will be available after the summer semester is complete, degree requirements are met, and grades are reported.

## **Graduation Attire**

All UTTC graduation participants must wear full academic regalia, i.e. gown, mortarboard cap, and tassel, in recognition of the significance of commencement (the graduation ceremony). Any exceptions to the academic regalia must be requested in writing and approved by the VPAA at least five (5) days prior to the date of graduation.

## **Accessories Guidelines**

- Gold cords are reserved for honor students (awarded by the Registrar's Office).
- Other cord colors may be available for other honorary societies.
- Sashes and stoles for student organizations, military, and veteran students, cultural representation, and personal adornment may be worn.
- Pins are presented to graduates from the UTTC Graduation Committee.

## **Curriculum Revision**

All curriculum revisions are initiated at the department level and submitted to the UTTC Curriculum Committee for review and action. Examples of curriculum revisions include course prerequisites, credit/contact hours, program requirements, course titles, and course descriptions, and new courses. The requests for revisions are reviewed and approved by the Curriculum Committee, and then submitted to the VPAA, who shall have final approval over proposed curriculum revisions. The VPAA will keep the President informed of major revisions.

## **New Degree and Certificate Programs**

- All new programs must have prior approval from the UTTC IEC and the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) before any type of curriculum development can begin. This includes AS, AAS and BS degrees, as well as any certificate programs.
- There is a program approval form that must be completed first and submitted to the IEC. The IEC Chair will add the request to the IEC meeting agenda once the form is completed.
- Only department chairs can submit the new program approval form to the IEC. Faculty should visit with their department chairs and get their support first. Faculty can fill out the form, but it must be supported and submitted by the department chair and be a department effort.
- If the IEC approves the request for the new program, the next step is HLC approval.

- The HLC Accreditation Liaison Officer for UTTC is the VPAA, who submits all requests for new programs to the HLC.
- Once notification is received from the HLC, the approval (or denial) is forwarded to the submitting party and the Curriculum Committee if it's approved.
- The next step, if the new program is approved, is the faculty work with the Curriculum Committee to get the courses and degree plan approved.

### **Credit Hour Policy**

UTTC uses standard practices for determining course credit for all courses and programs offered by UTTC. The purpose of this policy is to provide a consistent measure of the quality of a student's academic engagement and to ensure accuracy of the assignment of credit hours to activities earning academic credit. The award of academic credit for a course is based on the amount of time a student receives direct instruction and works beyond instruction time on the course content.

#### **Semester Credit Hours**

UTTC operates on the semester system, with two (2) semesters (fall and spring) comprising the regular academic year. Following the spring semester, UTTC also offers a summer term comprised of a variety of class sessions and formats.

The Federal Credit Hour Definition provides that credit hours are not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately 15 weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or ten to twelve weeks for one quarter hour of credit; or the equivalent amount of work over a different period of time.

#### **Definition of Credit Hour and Contact Hour**

In accordance with federal regulations, a credit hour is a unit of measure representing the equivalent of an hour (50 minutes) of instruction per week over the entire term. It is applied toward the total number of credit hours needed to complete the requirements of a degree, diploma or certificate, or other award. A contact hour is a unit of measure that represents an hour of scheduled instruction given to students.

#### **Credit Hour and Instructional Time Equivalencies**

The award of a semester hour of credit is generally based upon the minimum number of minutes of instruction, or the equivalent, per term. The ratio of instructional minutes, or the equivalent to credit hours, generally varies with the type or category of instruction:

**Theory** - Generally requires a minimum of one (1) hour of contact time (50 minutes) and two (2) hours of outside of class work for each semester hour of credit for a total of 3 hours per credit. Theory instruction includes lectures, recitations, discussions, demonstrations, seminars, presentations, activities, and other recognized types of instruction.

**Laboratory** - Generally requires a minimum of two hours of contact time (100 minutes) and one hour of outside of class work for each semester hour of credit. Instruction is focused on experimentation in a classroom, laboratory, or studio through teacher-assisted, hands-on learning experiences. A laboratory is generally required in conjunction with the theory of a science course. Work is normally completed in the learning environment but may include out-of-class assignments such as analysis of data and/or laboratory report writing.

**Practical Application Laboratory/Studio** - Generally requires a minimum of three (3) hours of contact time and no outside class work for each semester hour of credit. Experience-based instruction or the equivalent focused on "real world" activities in an educational environment for the purpose of developing work-related competencies in the use of equipment, tools, machines, or other program-specific work products. Generally required in skill-intensive programs and requires limited out-of-class assignments per week. Emphasis is in the use of equipment, tools, machines, or other technologies often found within a laboratory or studio environment.

**Internship** - Generally requires a minimum of four (4) hours of contact time per week for fifteen (15) weeks for each semester hour of credit. Includes, but is not limited to, internships, apprenticeships, field placements, or clinicals. Internship involves the development of job-related skills by providing the student with a structured employment situation that is directly related to and coordinated with the educational program. Student activity in internships is planned and coordinated jointly by an institutional representative and the employer, with the employer having the responsibility for control and supervision of the student on the job. Work is normally completed in the job/learning environment but may include other assignments.

**Online** - Classes that do not have the required face-to-face contact time (hybrid or online courses) and meet the credit hour standard if they meet one of the following criteria:

The course covers the same material in the same depth as a theory version of the same course; and the course has been evaluated the course for content and rigor. This approval must be documented.

**Workshops** - Workshops must meet the same credit hour calculation as theory classes. The minimum number of hours a workshop must meet for one earned credit hour is 13 hours (based on a 50-minute hour).

NOTE: Any programs of study for which professional accreditation and/or licensing bodies (e.g. Automotive Service Excellence, or ASE) requires a minimum number of contact hours must comply with the requirements defined by that body.

The Credit Hour Policy is incorporated into the program review procedure. This policy will be reviewed as needed. (Approved March 25, 2017)

### **Block Scheduling of Coursework**

Select departments organize the instruction of courses under a "block schedule", rather than offering the classes over a regular 16-week semester. Students will need to consult with their advisors and the Registrar's Office to determine which courses will be offered with a shorter, more intense instructional period during each semester. Faculty and students will be expected to follow the course syllabus and class schedule for those classes organized under a block schedule.

### **Continuing Education Units**

UTTC offers Continuing Education Units (CEUs) to document and provide credit for professional development activities. These units are offered through workshops, institutes, and a variety of other training formats. All training for CEUs must be pre-approved through the Registrar's Office. Ten (10) contact hours equal one (1) CEU.

### **Credit by Examination**

Credit by examination is an option for students who have strong academic backgrounds in a particular content area and believe they can meet the course objectives without participating in the semester-long course. Students must take the examination prior to date of Census for the semester so in the event they do not pass, they can take the course in the traditional manner during the semester. The student will be responsible for paying for the credits for the course that is being challenged and the course credits will be included in the student's course load for the semester. Credit by examination may be applied for in any course listed in the current college catalog as long as the class is scheduled for that semester.



The examination is created by the appropriate academic department and administered by appointment with the instructor. A passing grade on an examination is recorded with a grade of *P* for *Passing* on the student's academic record. The credits for the course count toward graduation but the grade is not used in the calculation of the student's grade point average. Examinations that are attempted but not passed are not recorded because if the student fails, he or she will need to take the class that semester. Examinations for course credit may only be taken once.

The Petition for Credit by Examination form (available on the Registrar's webpage) is completed by the student and identifies the course the student wants to petition. The form is subject to the approval of the instructor, the chair of the department involved and the Dean of Instruction. The completed petition must be submitted to the Registrar before the examination is scheduled. The final result of a student's work in an examination for credit shall be reported to the Registrar in terms of a "pass/fail". Students are not eligible to take a credit by examination in a semester in which they are not currently enrolled as a student.

### **Exclusions**

Credit by examination **may not** be used to:

- Duplicate any credit already earned by the student towards their degree.
- Repeat any course a student has taken previously, regardless of the grade earned.

### **Petition for Credit by Examination Form Instructions**

The student will:

- Seek signature approval from the instructor who will administer the examination and specify the examination date. The department chair who has oversight of the petitioned course must also sign the form.
- Obtain signature approval of the Dean of Instruction.

After the examination, the instructor will submit the P/F grade to the Registrar. If a passing grade is entered, the graduation requirement for the course is considered met. Credits earned by examination will not be acceptable for transfer to other institutions. The student is advised to check with that school for their policy on transfer of credits from a course marked as "pass/fail".

### **Transcripts**

A transcript request must be submitted in writing. Either a completed "transcript request" form or a letter bearing the student signature is acceptable. Any request for an official transcript from a student who is in debt to the institution will not be honored until the bill has been paid. An official transcript includes the student's academic record

to date and current academic status. Requests for unofficial copies of transcripts will be fulfilled regardless of the student's bill to the college.

A transcript request must include the student's name, social security number or ID number, and the address where the transcript is to be sent. There is no cost to the student for the official transcript. More information about requesting a transcript can be found on the UTTC website on the Registrar's Office page.

### **Transfer of Credits**

UTTC degree programs offer curricula and skills geared toward employment. Other colleges and universities may accept credits earned at UTTC dependent upon the receiving institution's transfer agreements and/or transcript evaluations. The student is responsible for initiating transfer by contacting the admissions or registrar's office at the selected college. The Transfer and Career Services office is available to assist students with the transfer process.

Students who have attended colleges elsewhere must notify UTTC of all previous enrollments. Students are required to have all official transcripts from other colleges sent to the UTTC Registrar's office at the student's expense as part of the admissions process.

### **Transcript Evaluations**

The Transfer and Career Services Coordinator will complete the transcript evaluations for students from their official transcripts and determine which courses meet UTTC course requirements. Transfer credits with grades of C, or better, are accepted to fulfill courses that apply to the student's degree program. The credits must have been earned at a regionally accredited institution of higher education.

The Transfer and Career Services Coordinator will review the transfer students' official transcripts at the beginning of the first semester, prior to registration, and determine which general education courses are equivalent to UTTC courses. Department chairs review the program specific courses for transfer students and determine which courses fulfill UTTC course requirements. The department chair will complete the Credit Transfer Equivalency Request Form (on UTTC website) and submit it to the Transfer and Career Services Coordinator. The Registrar will make the final determination before transcribing the courses.

### **Orientation**

Orientation is a critical college entry activity and is required of all new students and recommended for all returning students. Orientation at UTTC is conducted online and

includes information about school policies, financial aid information, student responsibilities, placement testing, available student services, academic advisors and counseling services. Online orientation must be completed prior to registering for classes. It is available at any time, on any day, as long as the student has an internet connection and a code to access it. The Student Activities and Retention Coordinator oversees the online orientation process for students.

### **Course Registration**

All students must officially register prior to attending class. Registration deadlines are listed on the academic calendar and all students must register within the dates specified. A class schedule is available in My.UTTC for each semester with specific days, time, and location for classes.

### **Prerequisite and Corequisite Courses**

It is the intent of UTTC to guide students into courses in which they will have the greatest chance for academic success. Prerequisites and corequisites for each course are listed in the catalog description. A prerequisite is a course requirement that a student must meet to demonstrate current readiness for enrollment in a course or educational program. A corequisite is a course that a student is required to take concurrently (at the same time) to enroll in another course.

UTTC requires students to successfully complete prerequisites as pre-enrollment preparation, with successful completion defined as a grade of C or better in the prerequisite course. It is the student's responsibility to meet the prerequisite(s) for any course taken. The student may be dropped from any class where it is verified that the necessary prerequisite has not been met.

There are unique instances in which the prerequisite course can be waived. For example, transfer students who have taken a course similar to the prerequisite can submit the Petition for Prerequisite/Corequisite Override form for approval that will allow the student to register for a course without successfully completing the prerequisite course. This form can be found on the UTTC Registrar's website page.

Corequisite courses at UTTC are courses that require the student to register for two courses at the same time. For example, students enrolled in lab science courses are required to also register for the corequisite lab course. One of the courses provides an opportunity for the student to apply what they are learning in the corequisite course so must be taken at the same time.

If a student chooses to withdraw from a course with a corequisite, the student must withdraw from both the course and the corequisite, and not one or the other. If a

student fails a corequisite course, and must retake the course, the student will be required to submit the Petition for Prerequisite/Corequisite Override form prior to registration. If approved, the student will retake the corequisite course he or she failed without having to re-take the corequisite course. This form can be found on the UTTC Registrar's website page.

Questions about prerequisites and corequisites should be resolved with an academic advisor prior to the first day of class.

### ***Next Generation Accuplacer and ACT Entrance Tests***

The *next generation Accuplacer* test is administered to assess the student's academic needs and for assessment purposes. Students who have taken the high school ACT test prior to registration at UTTC will not be required to take the *next generation Accuplacer* test as ACT scores will be used for placement. Transfer students who have successfully completed Gen Ed equivalent courses at other institutions within the past five (5) years will not be required to test.

Cut-off scores are identified to determine the student's placement in courses, particularly in English and Mathematics. The instructors for the developmental courses may recommend a change in the student's registration within the first two weeks of class (prior to Census) if the instructor feels the student is able to complete the next course in the sequence (e.g. MTH 101 instead of ASC 090).

The *Accuplacer* exam is administered by a Wellness Counselor and the Student Activities and Retention Coordinator.

### **Non-Degree Seeking Student**

A non-degree seeking student is an applicant with a high school diploma, GED, or previous college credit, who wishes to take undergraduate courses and does not want to pursue a degree at UTTC.

Non-degree seeking students:

- Are not eligible for financial aid.
- Must meet the pre-requisite requirements prior to registering for courses with pre-requisites.
- May not enroll in cohort or wait-listed program courses.
- Intending to change to a degree-seeking program must re-apply for admission to a degree program.

- Are not assigned an academic advisor.
- Are not eligible for campus housing.
- Cannot register for more than 6 credits per semester.
- Will not receive a UTTC Student ID card.
- Must meet all admissions requirements.
- Must pay their total cost of attendance before starting classes.

### **Changes to Course Registration (Add/Drop)**

Students have the flexibility to make schedule changes during the first two (2) weeks of the semester (one (1) week for the summer semester). This period ends at the Census date identified on the academic calendar. Students can add and drop courses during this time without penalty, meaning they will not be charged for any classes dropped and the dropped class will not appear on the student's transcript.

#### **Adding a Course(s)**

Students may add courses during the first two (2) weeks of the semester (one (1) week for the summer semester) prior to Census date. Students must meet the pre-requisites for the added course(s), the course must have open seats, and the Add/Drop Course Form must be completed with instructor and advisor consent, Financial Aid approval and submitted to the Registrar's Office. The Add/Drop Course Form is found on the s/drive, in the Forms folder under Academic Affairs: Public.

#### **Dropping a Course(s)**

If a student chooses to drop a course (s) prior to Census date (see Academic Calendar), courses dropped will not display on the academic record (transcript). The student will not be charged for courses dropped on or prior to Census date.

Dropping all courses prior to Census date will not affect students' financial aid eligibility.

After Census date, students can drop a course but will be responsible for paying for it. The course will appear on the student's transcript with a W grade and will be counted by the Financial Aid Office as attempted credits.

Students wishing to drop a course (s) will complete the Add/Drop Course Form found on the Registrar's Office's webpage, or at Enrollment Services in the upper-level Jack Barden Center and deliver to the Financial Aid Office and the Registrar's Office for required signatures.

Students should be aware that dropping a course (s) after Census date might affect their full-time status. Students are required to contact the Financial Aid Department as the first step in the add/drop process, so they are made aware of any impact on financial aid eligibility.

### **Withdrawal for Non-Attendance**

UTTC will initiate a withdrawal at close of business on Census date for students who are registered and have not attended any of their classes during the first two (2) weeks. This will prevent the student from being responsible for payment and having W grades on the transcript. If it has been determined the student has not attended classes, the student's academic advisor will initiate a withdrawal form with the wellness counselor to depart the student based on non-attendance during the first two (2) weeks. The wellness counselor will complete the Official Institutional Withdrawal Form and submit it to the Registrar's Office for processing. The wellness counselor will notify the appropriate parties on campus that the student is no longer enrolled.

### **Academic Advising**

Academic advising at UTTC is a developmental process that considers students' academic needs, goals, interests and prior education. Academic advisors promote student success by referring students at risk or in need of additional resources to campus and non-campus resources. The primary objective for academic advising is to assist students with making informed decisions concerning their educational goals. UTTC also employs retention strategies to increase enrollment and enhance diversity by promoting and recruiting for programs of study offered.

### **Primary Duties and Responsibilities**

- Advises students about content and structure of postsecondary programs including graduation and/or transfer requirements for a particular program of study.
- Audits, monitors, and evaluates individual student academic progress.
- Interprets testing results relevant to placement decisions; determines student academic readiness for college level coursework.
- Assists students with the development of an educational plan including choosing a program of study and/or clarifying educational goals.

- Informs students about alternatives, limitations and possible consequences of academic decisions (e.g. adding, dropping and withdrawing from courses; change of program, major and/or transfer institution).
- Educates students about course planning and registration processes, refers students to available on-and off-campus resources to meet individual needs including career and wellness counseling.
- Makes appropriate referrals for students perceived as at-risk and acts as an advocate as appropriate.
- Maintains up-to-date knowledge about the College's programs and requirements.
- Develops and interprets academic advising worksheets in Jenzabar.
- Facilitates course withdrawals, adds, and drops as required.
- Maintains administrative documents and confidential student records.
- Provides recommendations for continuous improvement to all services for academic advising purposes.

### **Assessing Student Learning**

UTTC has established a process where faculty, students and staff assess the learning and success of the students and graduates as well as the effectiveness of the overall program. The Assessment of Student Learning (ASL) committee coordinates and monitors this assessment work collaboratively with the Dean of Instruction and the VPAA. The college's academic assessment process allows students to be actively engaged in self-assessment and self-monitoring of learning outcomes.

### **Glossary of Assessment Terms**

Assessment of student learning is the systematic process of gathering, interpreting, and using information regarding student academic performance for the purpose of improving student learning and the quality of academic programs. In order to do this, outcomes processes have been developed at the institutional, program and course levels. The outcomes are alive and evolve, as needed, based on interpretation of data measures and results.

**Institutional learner outcomes (ILOs)** are overarching principles or concepts that are emphasized throughout many courses in all programs at UTTC. They define exactly what we expect all UTTC students to be able to do by the time they graduate.

**Program level outcomes** are specific learning outcomes that are emphasized and reinforced throughout a specific program of study. They define exactly what the

students should know and be able to do (knowledge and skills) upon completion of a program of study at UTTC.

**Course objectives** are the outcomes (knowledge, skills and dispositions) students should demonstrate by the end of specific course. Course objectives are unique to each specific course.

### **Co-Curricular Activities and Evaluation**

Co-Curricular activities at UTTC provide students with opportunities to become successful student leaders through the development of positive campus community relationships and building strong work habits, confidence, resilience, and belief in self. Through participation in co-curricular activities, UTTC students are able to engage with fellow students, faculty, and staff to promote a sense of belonging at the institution and to connect what is learned in the classroom to their career pathway goals. Co-curricular activities help students to gain confidence in their potential to acquire new skills and knowledge and work through life challenges.

### **Independent Study Course Procedures**

UTTC recognizes there may be instances when a student needs to take a course that is currently not being offered according to the master course schedule. In these exceptional cases, the course or courses may be offered as independent study (IS) courses, providing the following steps have been taken:

1. When the need for an IS course for a student is determined, the department chair will email the Vice President of Academic Affairs (VPAA) for authorization to offer the IS course. The email must contain justification for the IS course, the name of the student, and the name of the faculty member who agrees to facilitate the IS course.
2. If the request is approved, the VPAA will communicate with the Registrar to ensure the course is added to the semester schedule as an "IS" course.
3. The department chair will then meet with the student to complete the Independent Study Contract form that is available from the Registrar's Office and discuss the dynamics of an independent study course with the student, including limited face-to-face instructional time, adherence to student learning objectives and assessment processes, self-directed learning, timeframe and deadlines, adherence to the other course syllabus requirements, etc.
4. The student signs the Independent Study form, and the department chair routes the form for signature approvals.
5. When the form is signed by all parties involved, the department chair submits the form to the Registrar's Office and registers the student for the IS course.



6. Independent study courses are scheduled to run for the same number of weeks as other courses in the term, and maintain established course codes, names, and numbers.

The student and instructor will adhere to established instructional policies, including regular tracking of satisfactory academic progress, grading procedures, and submitting mid-term and final grades as scheduled. The instructor has the responsibility of maintaining the integrity and high expectations for the independent learning process and its outcomes.

Faculty are compensated at a flat rate of \$715 per course for facilitating an independent study.

### **Student Attendance Policy**

Students at UTTC are expected to actively engage in all of their class sessions. Expectations for attendance are shared by the faculty members at the beginning of each semester and included in the course syllabi. Instructors set up the grade book in their courses in My.UTTC.edu to report absences as "hourly", which is the standard at UTTC for tracking attendance. Students can track and monitor their own attendance, per class, on the Learning Management System (LMS) found at My.UTTC.edu.

It is the student's responsibility to communicate with their instructors regarding any emergencies that cause them to miss class. Regardless of the circumstances, the student is responsible for obtaining any information missing because of the absence and completing any outstanding assignments. The student may refer to the course assignments in My.UTTC.edu, contact another student enrolled in the course, or meet with the course instructor during office hours to get the missing information.

Instructors enter student attendance into My.UTTC.edu on a daily basis during census period (the first two weeks of fall and spring semesters, and the first week of summer semester) and on a weekly basis throughout the academic semester. Attendance is entered as "Present", "Absent-Unexcused", or "Excused" (college-sanctioned absences).

#### **Absent-Unexcused Absences**

All absences, except for those referred to as college-sanctioned, are reported in the Jenzabar system (My.UTTC.edu) as "Absent-Unexcused". Students are still able to obtain information about any missed assignments and complete those assignments according to the criteria for late assignments that are detailed in the course syllabi.

## **Excused: College-Sanctioned Absences**

College-sanctioned absences are reported as "Excused". College-sanctioned absences include mandatory military obligation, cultural events, funerals for immediate family members, religious observances, mandatory court appearances, and participation in college activities at the request of college authorities, such as academic and athletic events. Instructors may request third party documentation and may consult with the Vice President of Academic Affairs regarding what constitutes college-sanctioned events.

Students are responsible for notifying their instructors of expected college-sanctioned absences prior to the event. (An obituary will be required for excused absences for funerals.) If the student does not notify the instructor in advance, the absence will be reported as "Absent-Unexcused".

Students who are excused from class due to a college-sanctioned event will not be penalized for submitting late work if it is turned in within the number of days they are absent. For example, a student who misses one day will have until the next class period after the day they miss to submit their assignment. If a student is absent for 5 days, the student will have 5 school days to submit all missing assignments. This can be adjusted to more time at the instructor's discretion.

## **College-Initiated Withdrawal**

The following circumstances will initiate a college-initiated (involuntary) withdrawal from the institution:

- If a student is registered and has not attended any of his or her classes within the Census period, which is the first two weeks of the fall or spring semester and the first week of the summer semester.
- A student who misses two consecutive weeks of all current courses without any communication with the academic advisor or Wellness Counselor.

OR the student has less than 60% as a grade in all courses.

In the case of a college-initiated withdrawal due to excessive absences and unsatisfactory academic progress, the primary academic advisor will initiate the Official Institutional Withdrawal form, indicating a college-initiated withdrawal for the student. The last date the student attended class must be indicated on the withdrawal form. The form is then emailed to the Wellness Counselor.

The Wellness Counselor signs the form and forwards it to the appropriate Vice President for final signature. In the case of excessive absences, the form is signed by the Vice President of Academic Affairs (VPAA). It is then returned to the Wellness Counselor who is responsible for emailing the completed form to the academic advisor, Financial Aid, Registrar's Office, Housing, Safety and Security, Student Accounts, and others as necessary. The academic advisor will notify the student that he or she has been withdrawn and of the right to appeal via email by sending said notification and explanation of rights to the student's UTTC email address.

### **Appeal Process**

The student has the right to appeal the withdrawal action within 3 business days of the date that they are emailed the notification of withdrawal and explanation of appeal rights. Appeals for withdrawals due to excessive absences and lack of academic progress are submitted to the VPAA. Any information that may support the student's appeal should be included in the email, such as circumstances outside of the student's control. The VPAA will respond to the student's email within two (2) business days.

If the appeal is successful, the VPAA will notify the student, the primary academic advisor, Wellness Counselor, Financial Aid, the Registrar's Office, Housing, Security and Vice President of Campus Services. If the appeal is not supported, the VPAA will notify the same parties and the Registrar's Office will record the official institutional withdrawal on the student's official record.

The student submitting the appeal assumes all responsibility for filing appropriate documentation in a timely manner. The decision by the VPAA is final.

### **Participation/Class Engagement**

UTTC prepares students for the workforce by holding high academic expectations for all students. Participation points may be utilized to measure students' ability to be on time, to refrain from external distractions (e.g., cell phone usage, holding side conversations with other students), by providing positive contributions to class discussions, participating in individual or group activities, and being prepared for class. Students should refer to the participation/class engagement section of course syllabi for the instructors' expectations for participation/class engagement in each course.

## **Student Behavior in the Classroom**

UTTC students will conduct themselves in the classroom, on the campus and in online courses, in a responsible and respectful manner in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct (SCC). Student behavior that interferes with the learning of their peers will not be tolerated. This behavior includes, but is not limited to, chronic tardiness, threatening behavior, confrontations, intoxication, inappropriate physical contact, lewd or disrespectful language or gestures, bullying, direct or indirect intimidation before, during, or after class (including face to face conversations, email, telephone call and text messages).

Faculty members are expected to always maintain professional management of classroom activities in accordance with the Faculty and Employee Handbooks. As such, if a student demonstrates behavior that disrupts or interferes with other students, an instructor reserves the right to ask the student to leave the classroom and to request mediation by the academic department chair or a Wellness Counselor and a formal complaint must be submitted to Campus Security within 48 hours of the incident. Contact Campus Security for the form used to file the complaint. This applies to campus-based students and online students.

## **Cell Phone Usage**

In general, cell phones will be limited to silent or vibrate mode during class time and meetings. Instructors reserve the classroom management privilege to restrict cell phone usage as specified on course syllabi and for classroom activities, guest presentation, and during tests. For parental or family emergency situations, students will consult in advance with their instructors about using personal cell phones for accommodating such situations.

## **Student Academic Honesty Policy**

Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using course materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to dishonestly obtain grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering, forging, misrepresenting, or misusing an academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis.

**Plagiarism** is representing the words, creative work, or ideas of another person as one's

own without providing proper documentation of source. Examples includes, but are not limited to:

- Copying information word for word from a source without using quotation marks and giving proper acknowledgement by way of footnote, endnote, or in-text citation.
- Representing the words, ideas, or data of another person as one's own without providing proper attribution to the author through quotation, reference, in-text citation, or footnote.
- Producing without proper attribution, any form of work originated by another person such as a musical phrase, a proof, a speech, an image, experimental data, laboratory report, graphic design, or computer code.
- Paraphrasing without sufficient acknowledgement, ideas taken from another person that the reader might reasonably mistake as the author's; and
- Borrowing various words, ideas, phrases, or data from original sources and blending them with one's own without acknowledging the sources.

It is the responsibility of all students to understand the standards and methods of proper attribution and to clarify with each instructor the standards, expectations, and reference techniques appropriate to the subject and class requirements, including group work and internet use. It is the responsibility of the instructors to make sure students are aware of plagiarism and how to avoid it. Students are encouraged to seek out information about these methods from instructors and other resources (e.g., UTTC Librarian) and to apply this information in all submissions of academic work.

### **Academic Dishonesty Procedure**

- A. When an instructor suspects academic dishonesty, the instructor should first confer with the student. If the student admits to the violation, the instructor should inform the student of the grade penalty and document the action taken. If it is the student's first offense for the semester, the student will receive a failing grade (0%) on the assignment. If the student has committed the same offense more than once in the same course, and the instructor has previously explained plagiarism, or other applicable type of academic dishonesty, to the student, the student will fail the course.
- B. If the student chooses to appeal the allegation of academic dishonesty, the student will submit a written statement to the Dean of Instruction within three (3) business days of when the grade is recorded. The Dean of Instruction will conduct a fact-finding investigation and attempt to resolve the matter. The Dean of Instruction will render a final decision within five business days.

- C. If the student fails a course due to repeated academic dishonesty violations, it will be reported on the student's permanent academic record in the Registrar's Office.

## **Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Use Policy**

### **General Guidelines**

Use of generative AI is subject to individual course instructor discretion. Instructors have the authority to:

- Authorize or restrict AI assistance partially or fully
- Define specific limits for individual assignments
- Establish course-wide AI usage policies

### **Authorized Use Principles**

- AI use must be explicitly defined and approved by course instructors.
- Generative AI should not:
  - Replace original student work
  - Compromise the evaluation of student learning outcomes
  - Undermine the academic integrity of assignments

### **Misuse of AI**

Misuse of AI will be considered plagiarism and is subject to consequences outlined in the Student Academic Honesty policy in the Academic Affairs Policies and Procedures Handbook.

### **Examples of AI Misuse Include:**

- Generating entire writing assignments (essays, discussion posts) using AI
- Completing mathematical calculations using AI when computational skills are a learning objective
- Claiming credit for AI-generated content (art, music, program code)
- Using AI in ways not explicitly authorized by the instructor

### **Student Responsibilities**

Students are responsible for:

- Understanding and adhering to course-specific AI use guidelines
- Seeking clarification from instructors about acceptable AI usage

- Maintaining academic integrity in all coursework

## **Guidance**

When in doubt, students are encouraged to consult directly with their course instructors regarding the appropriate use of generative AI.

### **Late Assignment Deadlines**

UTTC supports and fosters the student's responsibility for completing and submitting assignments on or before scheduled due dates and times. If an assignment is due, the student should make every effort to submit the assignment on time. Occasionally, a student may experience an unexpected life event that results in the submission of late work. Communication is the key. Instructors are more than willing to work with students in the event of an emergency if the student communicates with them before the date and time the assignment is due to make other arrangements.

Late assignment deadlines will vary among departments but will not exceed more than five (5) business days after which the assignment was initially due. Assignment due dates, late assignment deadlines, and late assignment penalties are outlined in course syllabi. Assignments not submitted by the initial deadline date will be reflected in the course gradebook as a zero (0) until the assignment has been submitted and the grade recorded.

### **Missed Tests, Exams and Quizzes (Formal Assessments)**

Students may not make up a missed test, exam or quiz without a valid reason for their absence (illness, family emergency). It is the student's responsibility to contact their instructors before the absence, or within 24 hours after missing the formal assessment. The instructor will review the reason the student missed and determine if the circumstance justifies the student being allowed to take the formal assessment.

Approved make-up assessments must be taken outside of the student's regular class schedule and during the time and location agreed upon between the student and instructor. Students are not allowed to miss another class in order to make-up an assessment for another course.

If the student fails to show on the date and time of the makeup assessment, the student will not be permitted to reschedule the make-up assessment and will earn a 0% grade.

## **Student Course Load**

A full-time student is registered for a minimum of twelve (12) credit hours during the fall and spring semester and six (6) credit hours during the summer semester. Any student wishing to enroll in more than nineteen (19) credit hours in a semester, or in more than nine (9) during the summer semester, must submit a request via email to his or her advisor who will forward it to the VPAA for approval. If the student is approved for an overload, the Registrar will register the student for the additional credit(s).

## **Last Day to Withdraw**

Students must meet with their advisor and submit the signed Add/Drop form to the Registrar's Office to change their registration. Students are encouraged to consult with either their advisor or the course instructor before making the decision to withdraw. Students receiving financial aid should consult the Financial Aid Office to determine whether their eligibility will be impacted by dropping a class.

A student dropping a course any time prior to the last day to withdraw date designated by the Registrar's Office for the semester will be awarded a "W." The "W" will appear on the student's grade report and transcript.

If a student withdraws from a course after the last day to withdraw identified on the academic calendar, a grade of "F" will be reported on the student's transcript for the course. The instructor for the course will enter the failing grade at the end of the semester when reporting all grades for the class. An "F" will also be reported if a student stops attending class and does not officially withdraw from the course prior to the appropriate deadline.

A student may not withdraw from a course after the semester/session in which the course was taken has ended. Students cannot add full semester classes following the last day to add date designated on the academic calendar for the term.

## **Withdrawal from the Institution**

A student wishing to withdraw from the college and all classes may do so by meeting with their advisor or wellness counselor. A student-initiated withdrawal form will be completed and signed by the advisor and counselor. The counselor will process the withdrawal and submit it to the Registrar's Office.



College-initiated withdrawals of students are initiated upon occurrence of any of the following: (1) the student is unable to meet their payment obligations; (2) lack of required academic progress; (3) excessive absences; or (4) violations to the Student Code of Conduct. Appeals for college-initiated withdrawals that result from excessive absences or lack of academic progress are submitted to the VPAA. Appeals for withdrawals that result from Student Code of Conduct violations are submitted to the Vice President of Campus Services.

### **Withdrawal Prior to Census Date**

Any students who have not attended class within the first two (2) weeks of the semester will be dropped from the course(s) in My.U TTC by the academic advisor. If the student has not attended any courses, and it is prior to Census Day, the academic advisor will remove the student from all of the courses they are registered for and complete a college-initiated withdrawal form. If the student is withdrawn on or before Census Day, there will be no academic record for the student for that semester and no charges will be incurred. The Wellness Counselor will notify the appropriate parties on campus that the student is no longer enrolled at UTTC.

### **Withdrawal from the College**

UTTC is committed to assisting students in exploring all options when formally withdrawing from college. If a student decides to withdraw, a Student-Initiated Withdrawal form will be completed and submitted to the Registrar's Office. The student's academic advisor will initiate the withdrawal process for students, for both student-initiated (voluntary) and college initiated (involuntary) withdrawals. These forms are available on the UTTC website.

- Student-initiated withdrawal forms are processed by the Registrar's Office within two (2) business days of being received from the Wellness Counselor.
- College initiated withdrawal forms are initiated by the academic advisor and Wellness Counselor. College-initiated withdrawals are completed when the student is failing all their courses, and not attending, despite numerous attempts by faculty and counselors to assist the student. The student is notified about the withdrawal by the academic advisor and has three (3) days to appeal directly to the VPAA. The VPAA will decide on the appeal and contact the student, the Registrar's Office, Financial Aid, Housing and the Wellness Counselor within two (2) days of receiving the written appeal. The Wellness Counselor will inform all interested parties of the results and the Registrar's Office will process withdrawal.

- A student who is withdrawn after Census, either student-initiated or college-initiated, will have Ws entered on their academic record for their courses. The Ws will calculate to 0s for the semester grade point average. When the student returns to college, he or she will enter on academic probation.

### **Withdrawals with Extenuating Circumstances**

In some cases, students must withdraw from college due to extenuating circumstances that are outside of their control. These may include a medical emergency, military call to active duty, death in the immediate family or other exceptional situations. A student who requests a student-initiated withdrawal, and requests and is approved for a special consideration for an extenuating circumstance, will have Ws recorded on the academic record. The Ws in the case of extenuating circumstances will not be calculated as 0s or factored into the student's grade point average. The student is financially liable for all costs of attendance (tuition, fees, books, etc.) for the semester but will be able to return to college in the future without being on academic probation. Extenuating circumstances requests must be approved on an individual basis by the Vice President of Academic Affairs, whose decision is final. This only applies to academic status and not financial aid status.

### **Enrollment Status**

A student who has withdrawn from UTTC for any reason, including medical, is no longer enrolled. Consequently, as of the date of the withdrawal, the student cannot continue to attend classes or complete work that was assigned in the term in which the withdrawal occurred, even if the deadline for such assignments was previously extended. A student who decides to return to UTTC in the future will be required to re-apply for admission.

### **Computation of Grade Point Average**

The grade point average (GPA) is computed by dividing the number of honor points earned by the number of semester credits attempted for which grades of A, B, C, D, or F were earned. Honor points for each course are calculated by multiplying the number of semester credits by the points awarded for the grade achieved in the course. For example, a student who received an A, a B, a C, and a D in four 3 credit courses, would have the following GPA:

A x 3 credits = 4 x 3 = 12 honor points

B x 3 credits = 3 x 3 = 9 honor points

C x 3 credits = 2 x 3 = 6 honor points

D x 3 credits = 1 x 3 = 3 honor points

Total = 12 credits = 30 honor points      30 honor points/12 credits = 2.50 GPA

GPA's are used in determining eligibility to work on campus, to receive financial aid, to continue in a program, to participate in varsity competition, for membership in organizations, and to petition for an overload. GPA's are also used frequently to award scholarship funds.

Cumulative GPA accounts for all academic credit earned at UTTC and at any other college or university attended. Term GPA reflects the student's academic average for an individual term, or semester. Cumulative GPA reflects the students' academic average for all courses the students has completed since he or she began their program. Incomplete and withdrawn semester credits are not used in calculating a student's GPA. Semester hours failed are used in calculating the GPA. When a course is repeated, the most recent grade will be used to calculate the GPA.

### **Grade of Incomplete**

A grade of I (Incomplete) will be recorded when a student is making progress in classes but is unable to complete course requirements for reasons beyond the student's control and after negotiation between the teacher and the student about how the course can be completed. Except for emergencies, such as exceptional personal illness, a death in the family, or other unforeseeable emergencies, a student must contact their instructor within two weeks prior to an event or events that they feel would interfere with their ability to attend class and finish the semester successfully. The student must have a minimum of a current 'C' grade or higher at the time the incomplete is requested for it to be considered. A request for an incomplete grade cannot be perceived as a "last ditch" effort to pass a course. Copies of the negotiated agreement will be filed with the Registrar, the advisor, and the student. Students have ten days business after the end of the current semester to complete the necessary work. The instructor must contact the Registrar's Office and request to change the incomplete grade to the appropriate letter grade by the deadline or it converts to an "F." (Policy was revised and approved by the UTTC BOD September 2024)

### **Grade Changes**

The determination of the student's grade by the instructor shall be final. The following policies apply to changes of grades, except for changes of Incomplete (I) and Withdrawal (W) grades:

- In general, all course grades are final when filed by the instructor at the end of the term. These grades become a part of the student's permanent record.

- A change of grade shall not occur as a consequence of the acceptance of additional work or re-examination beyond the specified course requirements.
- A request for a grade change shall be initiated by the student affected or by the instructor within five (5) business days following the award of the original grade. If the instructor determines there is a valid basis for the grade change, due to a calculation error, a grade change request will be submitted to the Registrar. If the instructor determines there is not a valid basis for the change and denies the student's request, the grade will remain as recorded.

The student may formally appeal the grade via email to the Dean of Instruction within ten (10) business days after the award of the original grade. The Dean will respond to the appeal within three (3) business days with the final decision.

### **Grade Submission**

Mid-term and final grades will be submitted in JICS on or before the time and date due. The Registrar's Office will notify faculty of the date and time grades are due. It is the faculty members' responsibility to have grades calculated and submitted on time.

### **Honors**

UTTC students have the opportunity to earn recognition on the President's List (3.5-4.0) and the Vice President's List (3.0-3.49). These lists are publicized to give recognition to the students. This recognition will also be noted on the students' transcripts. Students who have graduated with honors will be recognized at graduation with a gold honor cord.

### **Catalog Rights**

A student must fulfill degree requirements as stipulated in the UTTC college catalog and as reflected on the degree plan that was in effect when the student was accepted for admissions and enrolled in courses. A student who maintains "continuous enrollment" will adhere to the catalog in effect at the time the student began attending UTTC.

Continuous enrollment is defined as being officially enrolled in one primary term per academic year regardless of the number of credits completed. Active military duty will maintain a student's continuous attendance status providing the student returns at the first registration for fall/spring semester following release.

## **Satisfactory Academic Progress**

All UTTC students are required to maintain certain academic standards. At the end of each semester, credit hours completed and grade point averages are reviewed to determine if a student is making satisfactory progress toward completion of his/her program. Students must meet these minimum standards to be considered making satisfactory progress:

**FULL-TIME STUDENTS:** For a first-time freshman, a Grade Point Average of 2.00 or higher is required at the end of the first semester with the college. For a returning or transfer student, a semester Grade Point Average of 2.00 or higher is required.

**PART-TIME STUDENTS:** Half-time students must complete 6-8 credits each semester with a Grade Point Average of 2.00 or higher. Three-quarters students must complete 9-11 credits with a semester Grade Point Average of 2.00 or higher.

The Financial Aid Office has additional requirements for maintaining satisfactory academic progress for financial aid purposes. These requirements are published on the Financial Aid page on the UTTC website.

## **Academic Probation**

The student on academic probation is given another term of enrollment to bring the cumulative GPA up to at least the required minimum of 2.00. Failing that effort, the student is moved from an "Academic Probation" status to one of "Academic Suspension." A notation of "Academic Probation" is added to the student's permanent record/transcript. If a student withdraws during a semester, even prior to the last day to withdraw without academic penalty, the student will be placed on academic probation.

## **Academic Suspension Appeals Procedure**

A student on academic probation whose cumulative grade point average (GPA) remains below the minimum required (2.0 GPA) will be placed on academic suspension for one calendar year. Students who are notified they have been placed on academic suspension may appeal the decision within 3 business days of the date that they are emailed the notification of suspension and explanation of appeal rights. Appeals for withdrawals due to excessive absences and lack of academic progress are submitted by the student in an email to the VPAA. Any information that may support the student's appeal should be included in the email, such as circumstances outside of the student's control. The VPAA will respond to the student's email within two (2) business days.

Appeals may be considered in cases where there were extreme circumstances outside the student's control that interfered with successful academic work.

Submitting an appeal:

- The student's appeal must be made via email to the VPAA.
- The written appeal must contain a clear statement about the extreme circumstances outside the student's control that warrant an exception. The student should submit evidence of the situation.
- The VPAA will review the email and visit with the student's academic advisor(s), instructors, and counselor about attendance, completion of assignments, and how well the student communicated with instructors.
- The appeal must be submitted by the deadline indicated in the suspension letter sent by the Registrar's Office.

After the appeal is submitted:

- The VPAA will acknowledge receipt of the appeal and respond within three (3) business days.
- Once the decision has been reached, the student will receive a written response from the VPAA. The student should not travel back to campus with the expectation of re-enrolling unless he or she has been notified the appeal has been granted.
- The VPAA will officially notify Financial Aid, Housing and the Registrar of the outcome of the appeal. A copy of the decision notification will be placed in the student's file in the Registrar's Office.
- If the appeal is successful, the student's end-of-term academic standing will be changed from academic suspension to academic probation by appeal for one semester. The student will be expected to raise his or her GPA to the required level during that term or be suspended.
- A student can only have one successful suspension appeal. If a student is suspended for a second time, the student is eligible to re-apply after one calendar year (12 months).
- The decision by the VPAA is final. The student will not attend classes any day after the final decision.

## **Concurrent and Sequential Degrees**

### **Glossary of Terms**

Concurrent degree: UTTC refers to concurrent degrees as dual majors.

Dual major: The student is completing two academic programs, or degree majors, concurrently (at the same time). The student graduates with two degree majors at the same time in the same semester.

### **Dual Major Requirements**

Students must meet the entrance requirements for each major. The dual majors must be declared by completing the Recommended Academic Progress (RAP) form, with signature approval, no later than the end of the first week of the student's second semester. Dual majors must be at the same level of study.

### **Graduation Requirements**

- Requirements in effect at the time of entrance to each degree major must be met prior to graduation.
- General education courses may be used to meet the requirements for both majors.
- The student must take courses from both majors every semester to qualify as a dual major.
- The student will have one primary advisor for one degree major and a secondary advisor from the other major.
- A student graduates with both majors in the same semester.

### **Academic Records**

**Degree Audit:** At the time a student is admitted, the degree and year are listed on the degree audit. Up to two degree majors can be listed. A separate degree audit is generated for each degree.

**Transcript:** The student has one transcript, regardless of having dual degree majors.

**Diploma:** The student receives a diploma for each degree major earned.

### **Student Action**

The student will:

1. Initiate a meeting with the Financial Aid Office to discuss rationale for combining majors and the impact on financial aid eligibility.

2. Meet with the academic advisor from one of the degree majors to complete a Recommended Academic Plan (RAP) form that identifies which courses will be taken when. This advisor is considered the primary advisor.
3. Meet with the academic advisor from the second degree major to expand on the RAP form, adding the courses from the second major. This advisor is considered the secondary advisor.
4. Submit the completed RAP form to the VPAA for approval and signature.

### **Application Deadline and Approval Notification**

If the student's request is approved, the VPAA will reproduce the RAP form and send a signed copy of the RAP form to the student, the Registrar's office, and the department chairs for both degree majors.

### **Cancelation of an Approved Dual Major**

To cancel an approved dual major, the student must notify the primary advisor by email and register for courses in one major only the following semester. The primary advisor will forward the email to the Registrar's Office and the secondary advisor.

## **Sequential Degrees**

### **Glossary of Terms**

Sequential degree: The student graduates with an associate (AS/AAS) or baccalaureate (BS) degree program and enrolls in another AS/AAS or BS degree.

Returning student: The student who "stops out" for one or more semesters and then returns for another degree. Returning students are required to re-apply to the institution.

### **Entry Requirements**

Approval for admission to a sequential degree must be obtained from the Admissions Office. The student must meet financial aid, student accounts and housing (if applicable) requirements, as part of the admissions process, similar to being admitted for any degree program. Some academic departments have additional entrance requirements. Students should contact the appropriate department chair for specific information.



## Levels of Study

- A student who has earned a BS degree may seek another BS degree; a student who has earned an AS/AAS degree may seek another AS/AAS degree or BS degree.
- A student who has earned a BS degree cannot enroll in an AS/AAS degree after completing the BS degree. Instead, the student is encouraged to complete another BS degree or continue his or her education in a graduate degree program.
- A student can complete no more than three AS/AAS degrees from UTTC. After the third AS/AAS degree, the student will apply to the next level and complete a BS degree.

## Academic Records

**Degree Audit:** The student's sequential degree will be listed on the degree audit.

**Transcript:** Each student has only one undergraduate transcript, regardless of the number of degrees earned.

**Cumulative Grade-Point Average:** When a student enrolls in a sequential degree, the student's cumulative grade-point average is computed using the grades earned in all UTTC courses, including those from any previous degrees completed.

**Diploma:** Upon completion of the sequential major, the student receives another diploma.

## Student Action

The student will:

1. Contact the Financial Aid Office about the availability of funding for a sequential degree. If the student is eligible for continued funding, the student will proceed to the next step.
2. Officially apply for the sequential major, follow the Admissions process for UTTC on the UTTC website.

**Advisor Assignment** The student is assigned to an academic advisor when accepted for admissions for the sequential degree.

## **Program Advisory Councils**

Each UTTC academic program approved by the North Dakota Department of Career and Technical Education shall establish a local advisory council to provide input on program offerings including up-to-date curriculum content. A minimum of two meetings per year is required with copies of the minutes for each meeting submitted to the Dean of Instruction and saved in the department's folder on the shared drive.

The advisory council's purpose is to strengthen the academic programs alignment with industry needs. Council members represent potential employers for the graduates and have insight into knowledge and skills needed for employment. The council exists to advise, assist, support and advocate for education that meets industry needs. The committee has no legislative, administrative or programmatic authority and is **advisory only**.

Advisory council members are volunteers who share an expert knowledge of career tasks and competency requirements for specific occupations. For more information about Career and Technical Education (CTE) program advisory committees/councils, see <http://www.nd.gov/cte/forms/docs/AdvisoryCommitteeGuide.pdf>

## **Student Organizations (Clubs)**

A student organization, or club, is required for the CTE degree programs offered at UTTC and recommended for all other associate and bachelor's degree programs. These pre-professional student organizations provide a unique opportunity for career and leadership development, motivation, and recognition for postsecondary students. The clubs meet on a regular monthly basis, have bylaws and elected representatives who govern the organization and faculty members who act as advisors and co-advisors. The minutes of the monthly meetings and a summary of functions and activities the club participated in are saved in a folder on the s/drive.

Academic programs with common interests may combine to have one club. For example, American Indian Business Leaders (AIBL), American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES), and the Thunder Society are clubs that include students from multiple academic programs.

## **Field Trips**

Field trips are defined as an off-campus instructional experience provided by UTTC faculty to students that involves same day travel, often less than 3-4 hours in a day. Field trips are an important pedagogical tool in many courses and faculty members are encouraged to include field experiences in their courses when appropriate and feasible. The field trip is an extension of the classroom and brings with it all the responsibilities faculty have in the classroom.

Only students currently enrolled in a UTTC class, and current UTTC employees, may participate in a UTTC sponsored field trip. The college employee accompanying the field trip will be responsible for making sure the college's transportation request procedures are followed. The instructor must inform via email the Dean of Instruction or Career or Technical Education Coordinator any time faculty and students leave campus for a field trip.

### **Field Trip Procedures**

1. All participating students must be accompanied by a faculty, staff person, or administrator who will be accountable for the activities of the field trip.
2. The college employee responsible for organizing the field trip must complete a transportation request form and obtain appropriate prior approval for the field trip. Contact information for emergencies during the trip must be included.
3. All participating employees incurring authorized college expenditures must provide complete financial accounting as required by the UTTC Finance Office.
4. No smoking, drugs (other than lawfully prescribed medications), alcoholic, or illegal substances will be allowed during the field trip. Students will be informed of this policy before the trip.
5. All participants assume responsibility for their own safety during college-sponsored field trips. Participating college employees will apprise students of reasonably foreseeable risks.
6. UTTC Student Code of Conduct remains in effect at all times during a field trip.
7. All participants must comply with UTTC's Student Travel Policy.

### **AUT Repair of Privately Owned Vehicles**

The UTTC Automotive Technology department may utilize privately owned vehicles for training purposes under the following conditions:

1. The service or repair is related to a current lesson assignment.

2. There is a reasonable and equitable system of eligibility and selection of privately owned vehicles for repair or service.
3. There are supervised inspections made of the vehicle that would describe the conditions upon acceptance by the automotive lab for repairs and/or service and upon completion and acceptance by the owner. However, in return for the privilege of having the vehicle worked on by the automotive lab, the customer shall assume all risks for work performed, loss, or damage on a vehicle.
4. There shall be an approved system of accounting and payment for the cost of parts and supplies and overhead.

The following automotive shop service and repair agreement must be agreed upon by the customer:

### **AUTOMOTIVE SHOP SERVICE AND REPAIR AGREEMENT**

1. All repairs and service work must meet with current instructional units that students are working on.
2. Repair and service work will be by appointment. Appointments will be made through the instructors only.
3. Extreme care will be taken to avoid accidental damage and each job will be inspected before delivery to the customer. However, the college assumes no responsibility on the work performed or accidental damage done to any vehicle, since public funds cannot be used for repairs to private vehicles.
4. All work will be under the supervision of the department chair and/or faculty. No one other than the students or the department personnel will work on the vehicles.
5. The department chair and/or faculty will make all road tests when necessary.
6. No promise can be made as to when a vehicle's repairs will be completed.
7. All repair orders will be paid in full at the time of delivery.
8. Cars not being worked on will be parked and locked in the parking lot. The college will not be held responsible for vandalism, theft, fire, and water or wind damage.
9. It will be the owner's responsibility to remove all valuable articles from their vehicle. The college will not be responsible for lost or stolen goods.
10. It will be the owner's responsibility to procure all parts and supplies necessary for the job other than incidental nuts, bolts, and cotter pins.

## **Criminal Justice Department Firearms Policy**

Campus owned firearms will be permitted on the campus for the purpose of instruction in an approved course that is designed to teach the safe, effective, and appropriate use of firearms, and for range practice in the safe, effective, and appropriate use of firearms under the rules established for the UTTC firing range.

All firearms procured for the purpose of instruction in the Criminal Justice program will be registered with the college property and supply department (for inventory accountability purposes) and assigned to the Department Chair of Criminal Justice for security and proper use. Specific requirements for the storage and use of such firearms are as follows:

1. All firearms in the custody of the Department Chair of Criminal Justice will be stored in a gun safe or in an area specifically intended for firearms storage. The combination of numbers or keys for the lock(s) on the safes will be known only to the Department Chair of Criminal Justice and their designee (a certified ND POST Board approved law enforce firearms instructor/trainer) who may the instructor of record for the class dealing in firearms instruction. The combination will also be placed in a sealed envelope and be deposited with the Director of Safety and Security for safekeeping. Off campus storage facilities in a local law enforcement agency may be utilized if a suitable on-campus vault is not available.
2. Live ammunition for training and instructional purposes shall be stored in a gun safe or in an area specifically intended for firearms storage. Ammunition must be stored separately from firearms (i.e. ammunition may not be stored in a safe that is currently being used to store firearms – unless an appropriate locking container is used in conjunction with the safe holding firearms [a "safe" within a "safe"]). Ammunition shall be provided to authorized students only under the direction and supervision of qualified instructors at the firing site. All unused ammunition shall be retrieved by the supervising instructors and promptly returned to the storage site.
3. Only instructors certified by North Dakota Peace Officers Standards and Training Board as competent to teach the safe and effective use of firearms for law enforcement will be allowed to provide instruction.
4. The Department Chair of Criminal Justice and weapon instructor(s) will ensure that the techniques and/or practices taught in the use of firearms conform to the current practices of state and local law enforcement agencies.
5. The supervising firearms instructor will be responsible for the receipt and proper storage of all assigned firearms after the completion of every instructional period.

6. Any college owned firearms unaccounted for will be reported to the Vice President of Campus Services, Director of Safety and Security, and the UTTC President immediately.
7. Regular inventory will be taken after each summer semester of using the firearms.

### **United Tribes Technical College Range Rules**

The college reserves the right to conduct background checks on any user in accordance with state law to verify they are lawfully permitted to handle firearms.

1. Firearms shall always be pointed in a safe direction.
2. Fingers shall remain outside of the trigger guard until ready to shoot, or as otherwise directed by an instructor or range officer.
3. The action shall remain open and the firearm unloaded until the user has taken his/her place on the firing line, and the range has been cleared for live firing.
4. No live firing shall take place except as directed by the range officer/instructor. The range officer will advise of the commands to be followed for live firing.
5. Firing may continue until a predetermined time period has elapsed or until all participants have completed the prescribed course of fire.
6. All firing shall immediately cease when directed by the range officer, or upon any individual calling for cease-fire. Unless otherwise directed by the range officer, unload, open the action, remove the magazine, and ground and/or bench all firearms during a cease fire, unless in possession of a misfire.
7. A shooter experiencing a misfire shall keep the firearm pointed down range, alert the range officer, remove finger from within the trigger guard, and wait 30 seconds.
8. No one shall proceed down range until the range officer has declared "range clear."
9. Do NOT handle any firearms while others are down range.
10. Alcohol is prohibited on the college premises, and tobacco products are prohibited at the firing line. Anyone appearing under the influence of alcohol or drugs, legal or otherwise, shall not handle a firearm on the premises.
11. No food or beverages shall be placed or consumed on the firing line while firing is taking place.
12. Effective ear and eye protection are required. A billed cap is recommended. Open, loose-fitting clothing that a hot casing could drop

within is not recommended. The wearing of shorts while participating in shooting activities is prohibited.

13. If in possession of more than one firearm requiring different ammunition, use one at a time and keep the others stored and their respective ammunition type separate from what is in use.
14. The range officer has the right and responsibility to inspect any firearm or ammunition for safety issues at any time and to prohibit the use of any firearm or ammunition deemed unsafe.
15. The range officer has the authority to warn and to suspend the range privileges of any individual who violates the rules of the range and notify the Department Chair of Criminal Justice of any misconduct related to firearm usage. Appeal of any suspension will be directed in writing to the Vice President of Academic Affairs, responsible for overseeing the Criminal Justice Program and course related to firearms instruction, within ten (10) business days of the suspension. The VPAA or his/her designee will investigate and respond within ten (10) business days. A suspended individual may then appeal to the UTTC President within ten (10) business days. The decision of the President is final.

## **Safety Glasses**

All students and visitors in the automotive, welding, and manufacturing processes classrooms are required to wear safety glasses while the classes are in session.

Any individual with prescription eyeglasses must wear goggles or provide proof that his/her glasses meet the applicable safety standards.

Safety glasses will be available for loan to any visitor should he/she desire to enter the classroom area.

- **Safety Glasses Procedure** - Safety glasses or goggles must be worn by all persons in the lab. There are safety glasses available for loan to visitors. If a student is observed without safety glasses, he or she will be given one reminder by the instructor to put them on. The need for a second reminder in the same day may result in removal from the classroom and possible cause for a failing grade for that day. Students will be required to sign a form verifying they have read and understand the policies and procedures regarding safety glasses to be worn in the classrooms and that they are aware prescription eyeglasses do meet applicable safety standards for classroom work.

## Library

The United Tribes Technical College Library is an integral part of the college. Although the UTTC Library welcomes all users, the library collections and facilities are primarily intended for the college community. Every effort is made to provide access to materials that continually support the curriculum needs of the college.

UTTC believes that everyone served by the UTTC Library has access to accurate and comprehensive information. To ensure that access, the Library provides instruction in information literacy through a variety of formats. Information literacy aids the patron in lifelong decision-making skills and enhances the lives and culture of the community.

### Eligible Borrowers and Borrowing Privilege

The UTTC Library has a prime responsibility to serve the students, faculty and staff of the college.

The secondary mission of the library is to provide materials and service to the patrons of the consortium libraries of Central Dakota Library Network (CDLN). Also, the UTTC Library supports service to the residents of North Dakota through ND networks systems and the North Dakota Library Association's Network for Knowledge.

A valid UTTC Library card or CDLN member library card is required to check out materials. Applications are available at the Library circulation desk. Proper I.D. is required. UTTC Online students can contact the librarian by telephone at (701) 255-3285 x1282 to apply for a library card.

Acceptance of a library card signifies agreement to follow library policies. Failure to adhere to the policies can result in a library hold at the UTTC Registrar's office. UTTC Library card holders are responsible for any fines or fees incurred on their card from overdue or lost items from UTTC and /or CDLN member libraries. Patrons will not be able to get an official transcript until this library hold is cleared. Patrons who are not in good standing at CDLN member libraries will be denied borrowing privileges at UTTC and all member libraries. UTTC patrons who are parents or guardians of Theodore Jamerson Elementary School students are responsible for items checked out on their TJES Library card.

- **CONFIDENTIALITY OF RECORDS** - All circulation transactions will be kept confidential. Under no circumstances (except under court order) will a Library employee give out any information about a patron.



- **PHOTOCOPIER** - All materials photocopied in the library must comply with copyright law.
- **ONLINE RESOURCES** - Use of proprietary online resources subscribed to or purchased by the college will be restricted to those parts of the audience indicated by the license with the providers.
- **COMPUTER LAB** - The computer lab in the UTTC Library is primarily for academic use. Priority is given to students with assignments. Students without assignments and members of the public may be asked to give up a computer if students with assignments are in need. All users of the computer lab must comply with copyright law and UTTC Internet Acceptable Usage Policy. Because college computers are unfiltered, minors must have permission of a parent or guardian to use the computer lab.

## **Copyright Policy**

### **Compliance Policy**

The purpose of the UTTC Copyright Compliance Policy is to provide a summary of U.S. copyright law as it relates to the use of text-based copyright-protected works in the classroom, online and library at UTTC, and to provide guidelines and procedures for obtaining copyright permission to use these works.

The goal of this policy is to provide UTTC administrators, faculty, librarians, students, employees, and others with a standard approach for addressing complex copyright issues. This policy covers classroom issues such as photocopying, online and distance education, and course packs. It also covers library uses for print and electronic reserves, Interlibrary Loan ("ILL") and document delivery.

This policy provides practical advice and procedures on copyright-related matters; however, it is not a substitute for legal advice, and proper legal advice should be obtained when necessary. Please initially contact the UTTC Library with copyright questions at: (701) 255-3285 ext. 1282.

### **Copyright Defined**

Copyright is an area of law that provides creators and distributors of creative works with an incentive to share their works by granting them the right to be compensated when others use those works in certain ways. Specific rights are granted to the creators of creative works in the U.S. Copyright Act (title 17, U.S. Code). Persons who are not copyright holders for a particular work, as determined by the law, must ordinarily obtain

copyright permission prior to reusing or reproducing that work. However, there are some specific exceptions in the Copyright Act for certain academic uses, and permission is never required for certain other actions, such as reading or borrowing original literary works or photographs from a library collection. For more information on copyright, visit: <http://www.copyright.gov/circs/circ01.pdf> or <http://www.copyright.gov/title17/>

## **Copyright Protection**

The rights granted by the Copyright Act are intended to benefit “authors” of “original works of authorship”, including literary, dramatic, musical, architectural, cartographic, choreographic, pantomimic, pictorial, graphic, sculptural and audiovisual creations. This means that virtually any creative work that a person may come across—including books, magazines, journals, newsletters, maps, charts, photographs, graphic materials, and other printed materials; unpublished materials, such as analysts’ and consultants’ reports; and non-print materials, including electronic content, computer programs and other software, sound recordings, motion pictures, video files, sculptures, and other artistic works—is almost certainly protected by copyright. This includes many materials freely available to the public on-line. Among the exclusive rights granted to those “authors” are the rights to reproduce, distribute, publicly perform and publicly display their works.

These rights provide copyright holders control over the use of their creations and an ability to benefit, monetarily and otherwise, from the use of their works. Copyright also protects the holder’s right to “make a derivative work,” such as a movie from a book; the right to include a work in a collective work, such as publishing an article in a book or journal; and the rights of attribution and integrity for “authors” of certain works of visual art. Copyright law does not protect ideas, data or facts.

In the U.S., the general rule of copyright duration for a work created on or after January 1, 1978 is the author’s life plus 70 years after the author’s death. This is often referred to as “life-plus-70”. Works created by companies or other types of organizations generally have a copyright term of 95 years. For more information on copyright duration, visit: <http://www.copyright.gov/circs/circ15a.pdf> .

## **Fair Use**

A provision for fair use is found in the Copyright Act at Section 107. Additional information on fair use may be found at: <http://www.copyright.gov/title17/> and <http://www.copyright.gov/circs/circ21.pdf>. Under the fair use provision, a reproduction of someone else’s copyright-protected work is likely to be considered fair if it is used for

one of the following purposes: criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching, scholarship and research. If the reproduction is for one of these purposes, a determination as to whether the reproduction is fair use must be made based upon four factors:

1. The purpose and character of use (principally, whether for commercial or nonprofit educational use);
2. The nature of the copyright-protected work;
3. The amount and substantiality of the portion used; and
4. The effect of the use being evaluated upon the potential market for or value of the copyright-protected work.

Fair use is an ambiguous concept and the law does not state exactly what uses of a copyrighted work will be considered fair use under the law and may therefore be used without obtaining permission. Fair use requires a very circumstance-specific analysis as to whether a particular use or reuse of a work may indeed be considered fair use. Contact the United Tribes Technical College Library with copyright questions at: (701) 255-3285, ext. 1282.

To avoid confusion and minimize the risk of copyright infringement, United Tribes Technical College interprets the following situations as fair use:

- Quotation of short passages in a scholarly or technical work for illustration or clarification of the author's observations.
- Reproduction of material for classroom use where the reproduction is unexpected and spontaneous, typically occurring at the instructor's discretion – for example, where an article in the morning's paper is directly relevant to that day's class topic. This would generally cover one time use in only one semester.
- Use in a parody of short portions of the work itself.
- A summary of an address or article, which may include quotations of short passages of the copyright-protected work.

If use does not meet the above criteria and the work is protected by copyright, permission should be obtained to use the work from the copyright holder or its agent.

## **TYPES OF USE**

### **Face to Face Teaching**

Instructors or students may perform or display a copyrighted work in the course of face to face teaching and learning activities, either in the classroom or a similar instructional

venue. This right to perform or display copyrighted works, however, does not provide reproduction rights in excess of those discussed in the remainder of this policy.

### **Classroom Handouts**

Based on UTTC's fair use analysis, classroom handouts fall into two categories; one that requires permission and one that does not. If the handout is a new work for which a person could not reasonably be expected to obtain permission in a timely manner and the decision to use the work was spontaneous, the work may be used without obtaining permission. However, if the handout is planned in advance, repeated from semester to semester, or involves works that have existed long enough that one could reasonably be expected to obtain copyright permission in advance; copyright permission must be obtained to use the work. The UTTC Library will assist in obtaining permission and will maintain records of all permissions granted to the college.

### **Course Packs**

Advance permission of the copyright holder is required for the use of all articles, chapters and other individual works reproduced in any print or electronic course pack. Copyright permission for course packs is usually granted by the academic period. To reuse a course pack in subsequent academic periods (e.g.: semester, quarter, trimester, etc.), permission will, most likely, need to be obtained again. Many copyright holders provide time-sensitive permission because their own rights may be time-sensitive and could be transferred to different copyright holders at any time.

The faculty member will timely obtain permission for use of copyrighted materials in course packs. Deferring responsibility for copyright permission will not provide protection against a claim of copyright infringement. The UTTC Library will assist in obtaining permission and the faculty member will provide a copy of the permission granted so that the UTTC Library can maintain records of all permissions granted to the college.

### **Course Materials for Students with Disabilities**

Postsecondary institutions may be legally obligated to provide access to course materials in alternative formats to enrolled students with certain physically based disabilities. United Tribes Technical College will comply with Section 107 of the Copyright Act and the Chafee Amendment (1996) when providing course materials in alternative formats to eligible students with disabilities.

### **Reserves**

If the UTTC Library owns a copy of a publication, the Library staff may place that copy on reserve without obtaining copyright permission. If the UTTC Library staff wishes to

reproduce additional copies of a work and place them on reserve for students to review, in either paper or electronic format, the Library personnel must obtain copyright permission.

### **Photocopying In the Library**

Photocopy of copyright-protected works is permissible in the UTTC Library without obtaining permission from the copyright owner, under the following circumstances:

- Library user requests for articles and short excerpts. At the request of a library user or another library on behalf of a library user, the UTTC Library may make one reproduction of an article from a periodical or a small part of any other work. The reproduction must become the property of the library user, and the UTTC Library must have no reason to believe that the reproduction will be used for purposes other than private study, scholarship and research. As recommended by Section 108 of the Copyright Act, the UTTC Library must display the register's notice at the place library users make their reproduction requests to the library.
- Archival reproductions of unpublished works. Up to three reproductions of any unpublished work may be made for preservation or security or for deposit for research use in another library or archive. This may be a photocopy or digital reproduction. If it is a digital reproduction, the reproduction may not be made available to the public outside the library or archive premises. Prior to receiving any of the three reproductions permitted under this provision from another library or archive, the UTTC Library or archive must make a reasonable effort to purchase a new replacement at a fair price. The reproducing library or archive must also own the work in its collection.
- Replacement of lost, damaged or obsolete copies. The UTTC Library may make up to three reproductions, including digital reproductions, of a published work that is lost, stolen, damaged, deteriorating or stored in an obsolete format. Any digital reproductions must be kept within the confines of the library (that is, available on its computer but not placed on a public network.)
- Library user requests for entire works. One reproduction of an entire book or periodical may be made by UTTC Library staff at a library user's request, or by another library on behalf of a library user upon certain conditions being met. These conditions include the library determining after reasonable investigation that an authorized reproduction cannot be obtained at a reasonable price. Once made, the reproduction must become the property of the library user. The library must have no reason to believe that the reproduction will be used by the user for purposes other than private study, scholarship and research, and the library must display the register's notice at the place library users make their reproduction requests to the library.

### **Photocopying for Students**

The UTTC Library staff may make reproductions for library users (students, faculty, etc.), provided the following criteria are met:

- The library makes one reproduction of an article from a periodical or a small part of any other work.
- The reproduction becomes the property of the library user.
- The library has no reason to believe that the reproduction will be used for purposes other than private study, scholarship and research.
- The library displays the register's notice at the place library users make their reproduction requests to the library.

### **Photocopying by Students**

Photocopying by students is subject to a fair use analysis as well. A single photocopy of a portion of a copyright-protected work, such as a copy of an article from a scientific journal made for research, may be made without permission. Photocopying all the assignments from a book recommended for purchase by the instructor, making multiple copies of articles or book chapters for distribution to classmates, or copying material from consumable workbooks, all require permission.

### **Document Delivery Services**

Note a distinction between ILL and Document Delivery Services (DDS) exists. Photocopying for DDS requires copyright permission.

### **Interlibrary Loan (ILL)**

The UTTC Library may participate in interlibrary loans without obtaining permission provided that the "aggregate quantities" of articles or items received by the patron do not substitute for a periodical subscription or purchase of a work. UTTC follows the National Commission on New Technological Uses of Copyrighted Works (CONTU) guidelines for defining "aggregate quantities." The CONTU guidelines state that requesting and receiving more than five articles from a single periodical within a calendar year or a total of six or more copies of articles published within five years prior to the date of request would be too many under CONTU.

If the articles or items being copied have been obtained through a digital license, the UTTC Library staff must check the license to see under what terms and conditions, if any, interlibrary loan is permitted.

### **Peer-to-Peer File Sharing**

UTTC will comply with all regulations of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA)

concerning Peer-to-Peer File Sharing (i.e. illegal downloading of copyrighted materials by students) including the development and dissemination of a plan to combat unauthorized distribution of copyrighted materials and intellectual property as well as provide alternatives to illegal downloading and disciplinary actions for violations. The plan will cover both students and UTTC employees.

### **Copyright and Foreign Works**

The U.S. is a member of the leading international copyright treaty, the Berne Convention. As such, when UTTC uses a copyright-protected work from another country, the protections provided to works by U.S. copyright law automatically apply to the use of that work as well (assuming the use takes place in the U.S.). Copyright Clearance Center has many reciprocal licenses to allow use of materials from other countries.

### **Copyright Ownership**

Ownership of materials created, prepared, and produced under the auspices of the college by a faculty member are spelled out as per the UTTC Faculty Handbook during which the materials were created.

Ownership of materials created, prepared, and produced under the auspices of the college by other faculty (adjunct, part-time, and emeriti) will fall under the UTTC Faculty Handbook during the time the materials were created.

Ownership of materials created by staff under the auspices of the college as part of their job responsibilities will be considered "work for hire". The copyright of such work belongs to the college.

Ownership of materials created, prepared, and produced by students (term papers, speeches, etc.) enrolled in courses at the college belongs to the student. If the student creates materials while employed at the college, the copyright of such work belongs to the college.

Ownership of materials created at the request of the college by any combination of the above groups or by persons who are not UTTC faculty, staff, or students will be considered "work for hire". The copyright of such work belongs to the college.

### **Obtaining Copyright Permission**

Permission to use copyright-protected materials, when required, should be obtained prior to using those materials. It is best to obtain permission in writing (including e-mail). The UTTC Library will assist in obtaining permission and will maintain records of all permissions granted to the college. The time to obtain permission may vary and, when

possible, recommended to start the permissions procedure at least six months prior to the time the materials are needed to be used. Often, Copyright Clearance Center is the quickest one-stop resource for obtaining copyright permission.

### **Fact Finding Questions**

After copyright permission is determined to be required, the copyright holder must be located. If the copyright holder is not listed on the work, locating the appropriate person or entity to grant permission may take some investigative and creative work.

The Copyright Office of the Library of Congress ([www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov)) may be of assistance in locating a copyright owner if the work is registered. Note, however, that copyright is automatically granted to all works upon their being written down and that registration with the Copyright Office is not required.

There are two primary options for obtaining permission to use the work: contacting the copyright holder directly or contacting the Copyright Clearance Center. The UTTC Library will maintain an account with Copyright Clearance Center ([www.copyright.com](http://www.copyright.com)).

### **Information in the Permission Request**

The copyright holder will require the following information in order to provide permission:

- Title of the material
- Creator/author of the material
- Publisher of the material
- Description of material
- ISBN or ISSN, if applicable
- Date of publication, if applicable
- Purpose for which the item is to be reproduced (research, commercial, educational, etc.)
- How the material is to be reproduced (e.g., photocopied, digitized)
- Where the reproduced material will be used or will appear and for how long

### **Reporting Suspected Infringements**

If anyone at UTTC, including a student, is using any copyright-protected material without the permission of the copyright holder, the infringements should be immediately reported to the UTTC Library at: (701) 255-3285, ext. 1282.



## **Human Subject Research at United Tribes Technical College**

UTTC encourages scholarly endeavors of students, employees and community foundations/organizations. Pursuit of scholarly work and research will often involve the use of human subjects, either students or employees, for data collection and analysis. The President, through recommendation by the UTTC Institutional Review Board (IRB), shall ensure the rights, privacy, dignity and welfare of students and employees of UTTC used as human subjects in research studies are protected; that risks have been considered and minimized; that the research is supervised by qualified persons, especially in mental or physical health care related studies; that all human subjects participate in research only after the subject has agreed and been provided with legally effective informed consent; that any research is conducted in an ethical manner and in compliance with established standards and that all private information will be handled in accordance with the appropriate standards for maintaining confidential material. All human subject research must be done in compliance with UTTC's Human Subject Research Policies and Procedures.

### **Institutional Review Board (IRB)**

The IRB reviews and approves of research conducted on human subjects. IRB approval must be obtained before the data collection begins and specific IRB paperwork must be submitted to the UTTC IRB before research can be approved.

The IRB process ensures that any and all UTTC-associated research does not harm human subjects in any way. The UTTC IRB is registered with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP). The registration number for the UTTC IRB #1 is IRB00005063. For more information about the UTTC IRB, please visit the UTTC website.

### **Authorship for Scholarly and Scientific Publications Policy**

Determining authorship is an important component of upholding the integrity of research and scholarly enterprise and serves as an explicit way of assigning responsibility and giving credit for intellectual work. Authorship credit should be given to those who contribute and participate in substantive ways to scholarly and scientific work and should honestly and accurately reflect actual contributions. Fair and equitable determination of authorship is important to the reputation, academic promotion, and funding support of the individuals involved, and to the strength and reputation of the

authors' respective institutions. Ideally, discussions of authorship and the sequence of listing authors on a paper will be held early in the research process.

Accordingly, all scholarly or scientific publications involving faculty, staff, students, or research assistants arising from academic activities performed under the auspices of United Tribes Technical College (UTTC) will include appropriate attribution of authorship and disclosure of relevant affiliations of those involved in the work. These publications, which include articles, abstracts, posters, manuscripts submitted for publication, presentations at professional meetings, must appropriately and fairly acknowledge contributions of colleagues involved in the design, conduct or dissemination of the work by neither overly attributing contribution nor ignoring meaningful contributions.

### **Authorship Standards**

Authorship of scholarly or scientific publication should be limited to those individuals who have contributed in a meaningful and substantive way to its intellectual content. All authors are responsible for fairly evaluating their roles in the project as well as the roles of their co-authors to ensure that authorship is attributed according to these standards in all publications for which they will be listed as an author. If a researcher determines that part or the whole of a project is worthy of development of a manuscript, it is expected they will communicate with all other parties who contributed to the project about their plans, selection of journal, and drafts of the manuscript.

### **Requirement for Attribution of Authorship**

Authorship credit is based on the following criteria and must include all three of these components:

1. Substantial contributions to conception and design, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data.
2. Drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and
3. Final approval of the version to be published.

Authorship is limited to those who have made a significant contribution to the concept, design, execution, or interpretation of the research study. Acquisition of funding, the collection of data, or general supervision of the research group, by themselves, do not justify authorship.

### **Lead Author**

Authorship discussions are often initiated by the lead author, the individual who is responsible for overall oversight of the project. In some fields, this person may be referred to as the "senior," "corresponding," "first," or "anchor" author. The lead author on a project should strive to maintain a collegial and open dialogue about authorship

criteria, so that all contributors will feel welcome to raise questions about authorship at any point during the project.

Lead authors should devote particular attention to creating open dialogue with any student co-authors to ensure they feel welcome to raise questions about authorship criteria. The lead author assumes overall responsibility for the research effort, as well as providing a significant contribution to the manuscript development and publishing effort. The lead author ensures that all other authors meet the requirements for authorship and is responsible for the integrity of the work, making certain that reasonable care and effort has been taken to determine that all the data are complete, accurate, and reasonably interpreted.

### **Co-Author(s)**

All co-authors are responsible for considering their role in the project and whether that role merits attribution of authorship. By providing consent for authorship to the lead author, co-authors acknowledge they meet the authorship criteria set forth in this Policy. A co-author should have participated sufficiently in the work to take responsibility for appropriate portions of the content.

An individual retains the right to refuse co-authorship of a manuscript if he or she does not satisfy the criteria for authorship.

All co-authors of a publication are responsible for:

- **Authorship:** By providing consent to authorship to the lead author, co-authors acknowledge that they meet the authorship criteria set forth in this Policy. A co-author should have contributed sufficiently to the work to take responsibility for appropriate portions of the content.

**Approval:** By providing consent to authorship to the lead author, co-authors are acknowledging that they have reviewed and approved the manuscript.

- **Integrity:** Each co-author is responsible for the content of all appropriate portions of the manuscript, including the integrity of any applicable research.

### **Student Authorship**

Authorship and other publication credits reflect actual scientific or professional contributions, regardless of an individual's profession, job, or institutional status. Undergraduate students are frequently valued members of research teams but are often not in a position to advocate for the recognition of their scholarly contributions to work

conducted with or supervised by more senior level researchers. This policy is intended to ensure the student's level of authorship is appropriate for their role as the researcher. The lead author is typically the lead researcher on the individual project, except in instances where they voluntarily agree not to be first author. At UTTC, the lead or first author is most often a student with their faculty mentor identified as second or last author. Any professional dissemination of work completed by a student should merit authorship if the student agrees to be listed as an author.

### **Authorship Order and Disputes**

The order of authors is a collective decision of the authors or study group. This Policy does not address questions or disputes regarding the order of authorship on publications. While it is not possible for UTTC to define the order of authorship in every situation, this Policy advises that co-authors in conjunction with the lead author discuss authorship order at the onset of the project and revise their decision as needed. All authors must work together to make these informed judgments.

Should authors fail to resolve disputes about the order of authors, this Policy suggests the affected individual seek counsel from his or her department chair or dean. The appropriate department or division leadership should mediate to resolve the dispute.

Determinations of authorship roles are often complex, delicate, and potentially controversial. To avoid confusion and conflict, discussion of attribution should be initiated early in the development of any collaborative publication. For disputes that cannot be resolved amicably, individuals may seek the guidance of the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

### **Acknowledgements**

Individuals who do not meet the requirements for authorship but who have provided a valuable contribution to the work should be acknowledged for their contributing role as appropriate to the publication but should not be identified as authors. These individuals should be listed in an acknowledgment or contributorship section of the work.

Acknowledgments are acceptable and appropriate for administrative relationships, acquisition of funding, collection of data or general supervision of a research group since these alone do not constitute authorship.

### **Unacceptable Authorship**

UTTC encourages proper forms of authorship to serve as ideal role models for its students, staff and faculty. Accordingly, guest, gift and ghost authorship are inconsistent with the definition of authorship and unacceptable under this Policy.

- Guest authorship (*i.e.*, honorary, courtesy or prestige authorship) is granting authorship to an individual who does not meet the definition of author out of appreciation or respect for the individual, or in the belief that expert standing of the guest will increase the likelihood of publication, credibility, or status of the work.
- Gift authorship is credit, offered from a sense of obligation, tribute, or dependence, within the context of an anticipated benefit, to an individual who has not contributed to the work (*i.e.*, senior faculty, department chair or dean, principal investigator/project director).
- Ghost authorship is the failure to identify as an author someone who made substantial contributions (*i.e.*, meeting the definition of authorship) to the research or writing of a manuscript.

### **Violations of this Policy**

Intentional or reckless violations of this policy may be considered plagiarism and may subject the individual to corrective action or other sanctions as deemed appropriate by the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Disagreements regarding the order of authorship do not, in and of themselves, constitute a violation of this policy.

### **References**

Authorship Guidelines for CAES Faculty Collaborating with Students College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences. [https://ncat.edu/caes/agricultural-research/undergraduate-research-scholars-program/documents/caes-authorship-guidelines\\_update-nov2019.pdf](https://ncat.edu/caes/agricultural-research/undergraduate-research-scholars-program/documents/caes-authorship-guidelines_update-nov2019.pdf) Accessed: November 2023.

Council of Science Editors. CSE's white paper on promoting integrity in scientific journal publications: 2.2 authorship and authorship responsibilities. <https://www.councilscienceeditors.org/resource-library/editorial-policies/white-paper-on-publication-ethics/2-2-authorship-and-authorship-responsibilities/> Accessed: November 2023.

The American Physical Society. Guidelines for professional conduct. Available at: [http://www.aps.org/policy/statements/02\\_2.cfm](http://www.aps.org/policy/statements/02_2.cfm) Accessed: November 2023.