



Academic Policies

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Academic Policies

Academic Honesty and Integrity

Students attending Frank Phillips College are expected to maintain high standards of personal and scholarly conduct. Academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, collusion (working with anyone else to produce work for which you take credit without the professor's permission), utilizing resources such as books and notes for a test without the professor's permission, and plagiarism. Any of these offenses is considered serious and may result in disciplinary actions including:

- A grade of 0 for the test or assignment
- A semester grade of F for the course
- Administrative withdrawal from the course
- Academic suspension
- Notation of the student's transcript of "Academic Dishonesty"

***Faculty members have the right to assign a failing grade to a student who is guilty of academic dishonesty at any point during a semester. Faculty members may prohibit a student from dropping a course when academic dishonesty is discovered. However, if a student has dropped the course in accordance with the rules and dates applied to dropping a course and prior to the discovery of academic dishonesty, the grade of W will stand. Students currently enrolled in a course and students who have completed a course (A, B, C, D, CT, and I) may have a grade changed to an F if academic dishonesty is discovered. The faculty member must notify the student of the change to the final grade within one week of facilitating the change. The student will have the opportunity to appeal the final grade change according to the college policy stated in the catalog.

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Credit for Courses

Academic credit at Frank Phillips College is granted on the basis of credit hours. A credit hour represents the passing work accomplished by a class meeting one hour a week for sixteen weeks. In a class meeting three hours a week, therefore, three credit hours are earned. Laboratory classes may require additional contact hours per credit hour.

Explanation of Course Number

All college courses include a prefix indicating the field of study in which they are classified and a four-digit number.

- The first digit of the number indicates the classification of the course.
1 = first-year level; 2 = sophomore level
- Courses with the first digit of "0" do not satisfy requirements for a degree from Frank Phillips College or any other state-supported college or university.
- The second digit represents the number of credit hours earned in the course.

Explanation of Course Type

- CTE = Career/Technical Education, typically does not transfer to a university.
- TRAN = Typically transfers to a university as an elective course.
- Core Curriculum = Counts towards fulfillment of core curriculum component area and is guaranteed to transfer to a public university or college in Texas.
- DEV = College-preparatory course, does not transfer, does not count toward a degree.

Explanation of Course Lecture-Lab Hours

The numbers located in the course description refers to the number of lecture hours per week and the number of lab hours per week for the course (3-3-4).

- The first number indicates the number of lecture hours per week.
- The second number indicates the number of lab hours per week.
- The third number indicates the credit hours given for the course.

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Credit Hours

A full-time student is defined as a student enrolled in a minimum of twelve (12) credit hours in each fall/spring semester. In most programs of study, a normal credit hour load is sixteen (16) credit hours per semester. To enroll in nineteen (19) or more total credit hours per semester or eight (8) credit hours per summer session (maximum of eighteen [18] credit hours for both summer sessions and the mini-term), students must present a signed recommendation from their advisors to the Director of Enrollment Management and the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs for approval. Approval is granted only when a student has demonstrated the academic excellence in previous coursework. All student load calculations will include any special sessions, e.g., mid- and mini- sessions that are figured into the three primary semesters: fall, spring, and summer.

Students who are employed or who plan to seek employment are cautioned to consider carefully the amount of college work they attempt in relation to the number of hours they are employed each week and to the student activities in which they participate. Students who overload themselves in these areas are likely to have scholastic difficulties. Students should remember that, as a rule, three hours of preparation outside of class are necessary for each hour of class time.

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Prerequisites

Prerequisites, listed at the end of each course description when applicable, are designed to ensure the student's preparation for the course is adequate. Prerequisites might include demonstration of proficiency in reading, writing, math, or computer technology or might include a course(s) that, when successfully completed with a grade of C or better, assists the student with the preparation necessary to succeed in the next class. Prerequisites for each course are noted in the course's description in this catalog.

Students enrolled in courses without having met the prerequisites may be administratively withdrawn and notified via their student email in the Student Portal accounts. If withdrawal occurs, the student must replace the course with a suitable alternative and should seek the advice of the appropriate advisor. Because pre-registration takes place before final grades are calculated in the same semester, ***students are responsible for changing schedules when their grades do not qualify them to take a particular course.*** If students fail to change their schedules, they will be administratively withdrawn from the course at the end of the first week of classes. Students will be entitled only to the refunds applicable to all other withdrawals on the same date.

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Degree Plans

All students should file a degree plan with the Office of Educational Services by the end of their first enrolled term. This can be done through their FYIS course or by speaking to their advisor. The Director of Dual Credit or the Dual Credit Counselor can supply dual credit students with their degree plans. The student can file a new degree plan at any time during their enrollment at FPC. Questions about degree plans can be forwarded to the Director of Enrollment Management in the Office of Educational Services.

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Alternative College Credit

Credit by Exam

Frank Phillips College offers students an opportunity to earn college credit by examination. Students must petition for credit through the Office of Educational Services. Credit earned through examination will be placed on the student's permanent record when the number of hours earned in residence equals the number of credits earned by examination. Course credit will be listed on the student's transcript along with the course number, title, and the grade "CE." A footnote will indicate that the credit was obtained by examination. In Career/Technical Programs, credit may be awarded based on an exam developed, delivered, and proctored by the program director. Credit will not be awarded for any exams taken more than five years prior to a student's enrollment at Frank Phillips College. Complete information concerning the program of credit by examination may be obtained through the Director of Counseling, Testing and Career Services. Students intending to transfer should contact the transfer institution regarding alternative college credit as each institution determines its policy individually and may not accept alternative college credit from another institution.

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Alternative College Credit

Advanced Placement (AP)

The College Board Advanced Placement (AP) Program examinations are offered in participating secondary schools. Frank Phillips College may accept AP test scores for comparable course work within an academic discipline. Credit may be granted for a score of three or above. The student is responsible for forwarding an official report from Educational Testing Services (ETS) to the Office of Educational Services. Students will be awarded credit following completion of their first semester of enrollment after graduation from high school.

Minimum Scores for AP Credit

FPC Course		AP Test	Score
BIOL 1406	Biology for Science Majors I	Biology	3-5
BIOL 1407	Biology for Science Majors II	Biology**	3-5
CHEM 1405	Introductory Chemistry I	Chemistry	3-5
CHEM 1407	Introductory Chemistry II	Chemistry**	3-5
ECON 2301	Principles of Macroeconomics	Principles of Macroeconomics	3
ECON 2302	Principles of Microeconomics	Principles of Microeconomics	3
ENGL 1301	Composition I	English Language & Composition	3 or 4
		OR	
ENGL 1302	Composition II	English Literature & Composition	3 or 4
		OR	
ENGL 2332	World Literature I	English Language & Composition**	
		English Literature & Composition	3 or 4*
	* Provided student has earned credit for Composition I and II through the English Language & Composition score of 4		
ENGL 2333	World Literature II	English Literature & Composition	3 or 4*
	* Provided student has earned credit for Composition I and II through the English Language & Composition score of 4		
GOVT 2305	Federal Government	US Government & Politics	3
HIST 1301	United States History I	US History	3-5
HIST 1302	United States History II	US History**	3-5
MATH 2312	Pre-Calculus	Calculus AB	3
MATH 2412	Pre-Calculus	Calculus BC	3
MATH 2413	Calculus I	Calculus BC**	4
PHYS 1415	Physical Science I	Physics B	3-5
PHYS 1417	Physical Science II	Physics B**	4-5
PSYC 2301	General Psychology	Psychology	3
SPAN 1411	Beginning Spanish I	Spanish/Spanish Language	3-5
SPAN 1412	Beginning Spanish II	Spanish**	4-5

**When a student scores higher than a 3, the exam may allow for additional credit. For example, a 3 on the Spanish exam gives credit for Beginning Spanish I, and a 4 or 5 on the same exam gives credit for Spanish I and Spanish II.

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Alternative College Credit

College Level Examination Program (CLEP)

Frank Phillips College accepts the subject examinations of the CLEP in most areas. Effective August 1, 2003, Frank Phillips College will grant credit on subject examinations with the following scores:

CLEP Subject Required	FPC Examination	Score Course
Accounting, Principles of	50	ACCT 2301 & 2302
American Government	50	GOVT 2305
Biology, General	50	BIOL 1406 & 1407
Calculus with Elem. Functions	50	MATH 2413 & 2414
Chemistry, General	50	CHEM 1411 & 1412
College Algebra	50	MATH 1314
English Literature	50	ENGL 2332 & 2333
Freshman College Composition	50	ENGL 1301
History of the United States I	50	HIST 1301
History of the United States II	50	HIST 1302
Macroeconomics, Principles of	50	ECON 2301
Microeconomics, Principles of	50	ECON 2302
Psychology, Introductory	50	PSYC 2301
Sociology, Introductory	50	SOCI 1301
Spanish Language, College Level	50	SPAN1411 &1412
Trigonometry	50	MATH 1316

*All CLEP required scores and hours granted are subject to revision.

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Alternative College Credit

Armed Forces Credit

Frank Phillips College may award credit for military experience and training. Credit may be awarded when learning achieved through military experiences is consistent with the educational objectives of the student and the requirements of the curriculum. ACE credits must align adequately with FPC course credits for all Armed Forces credits to be awarded. Students who wish to obtain such credit must submit official documentation to the Office of Educational Services. The Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs will make the final determination about the credit articulations.

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Alternative College Credit

Credit for Experience

Credit will be awarded for learning achieved through experience outside typical educational settings when it is consistent with the educational objectives of the student, the requirements of the curriculum, and the policy on granting credit for experience. Awarding of credit will be considered for the following experience:

- Students who have completed one year of active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States and who have been discharged or released honorably may receive three semester hours of physical education credit.
- Students who wish to obtain this credit should submit an original copy of their DD-214 and/ or DD-2586 to the Office of Educational Services;
- Military training and experience;
- Professional certificates, licenses, and credentials such as FAA licenses, medical field licenses, etc.;
- Learning achieved through proprietary schools, apprenticeship, or other in-house training programs;
- Selected work experiences;
- Learning achieved through noncredit workshops, seminars, and conferences; and/ or
- Other experiences with appropriate documentation.

Students must be enrolled at the time they apply for credit. The credit, if awarded, must apply to the student's declared major. Students should:

- Contact the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs to answer questions and to assist with the request.
- Prepare application for credit by experience identifying course petitioned for credit.
- Each application/portfolio must include a written justification by the student.
- Prepare portfolio documenting experience, which should include, but is not limited to the following:
 - Previous education related to course;
 - Previous work experience, military, etc. including dates, titles, job descriptions; In-service training workshops, including dates, topics, certificates, or transcripts;
 - Professional certificates, licenses; and
 - Letter from employers, volunteer agencies, regulatory agencies supporting experience.
- Return application form to the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs.

The first three (3) credit hours for experience that are approved will be free. For any credits beyond the first three (3), students will be required to pay \$10 per credit hour granted, which will be transcribed. Only credits that are approved as "credit for experience" will be charged a fee. Credit earned through experience will be placed on the student's permanent record when the number of hours earned in residence equals the number of credits earned by examination. Course credit will be listed on the student's transcript along with the course number, title, and the grade "CR." A footnote will indicate that the credit was obtained by experience. Students are to consult with their advisors regarding "credit for experience" and complete the application form. The Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs will have the final authority in approving credit for experience.

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Non-Accredited Transfer Credit

Students with college credit from an institution of higher education not accredited by the Southern Association, New England Association, North Central Association, Northwest Association, Middle States Association, or Western Association may submit their transcripts for evaluation. Generally, courses taken from a non-accredited institution will count neither as a general education core requirement nor as an elective at FPC. Students, however, may seek a waiver from the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs. Students are encouraged to notify their academic advisors as soon as possible to process their requests. The Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs will have the final authority in approving credit from non-accredited institutions of higher education.

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Auditing of Classes

Frank Phillips College allows auditing of academic classes only. If you are interested in auditing a course, please contact the Office of Educational Services. Class instructors must approve the audit, and all approvals are subject to available space. The cost of auditing a class is 100% of the total cost of the tuition and fees for the credit-bearing cost, including out-of-district and out-of-state variances. An audited class bears no grade, nor is completion of assignments required. Audited classes cannot be converted to credit and will not be noted on the student's official transcript, and no CTE courses are auditable.

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Class Schedule Revision

Course Cancellation

Frank Phillips College reserves the right to cancel or reschedule any course listed on the schedule for which the number of registered students is too small to justify the offering or for any other reasons in the best interest of the College. If students are unable to find a suitable course replacement, any tuition and fees paid by the students will be refunded at 100%. The College attempts to cancel classes as soon as it is evident that the enrollment is insufficient, but if the cancellation occurs after the first class day, the College will still refund 100% of the tuition and fees that the student paid.

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Adding a Course

To add a course, a student must consult an academic advisor and complete a schedule revision form. After payment of appropriate fees, the student must submit the schedule revision form to Student Central or the main office of any other FPC site for final processing. Students should consult the calendar in the College *Catalog* for final dates for class changes and/or additions. Students enrolled only in online courses may contact the Office of Educational Services at (806) 457-4200, ext. 707 for assistance in schedule revisions.

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Withdrawing from a Course

To withdraw from a course, a student should consult the instructor or the appropriate Administrator. The student must also consult an academic advisor and complete a schedule revision form. The student must also obtain clearance from the instructor or administrator before the schedule change form is taken to Student Central or the main office of any FPC site for final processing. Students enrolled only in online courses may contact the Office of Educational Services at (806) 457-4200, ext. 707 for assistance in withdrawing from courses.

Students who are enrolled in college-preparatory courses for TSI purposes may not withdraw from their only preparatory course unless they completely withdraw from college.

A grade of "W" will be given for withdrawals processed on or before the last day to withdraw. It is the responsibility of the student to withdraw officially from a course. Failure to withdraw officially may result in the student receiving a grade of "F" in the course. Students must comply with the appropriate drop/add dates for each semester and should be aware that a final day to withdraw is posted in the academic calendar. Any exceptions to the posted dates must be approved by the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs.

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State Limit on Dropped Courses

Students who enrolled in a Texas public institution of higher education as a first-time freshman in fall 2007 or later are permitted to drop no more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This limit includes all transfer work taken at a Texas institution of higher education and to second baccalaureate degrees. This student policy was enacted by the State of Texas in spring 2007 (Texas Education Code 51.907). Any course that a student drops is counted toward the six-course limit if:

1. The student was able to drop the course without receiving a grade or incurring an academic penalty;
2. The student's transcript indicate or will indicate that the student was enrolled in the course; and
3. The student is not dropping the course in order to withdraw from the institution.

Students affected by this statute that have attended or plan to attend another institution of higher education should become familiar with the institution's policies on dropping courses. This statute applies across all Texas public institutions, but procedures for implementation may vary between institutions. Students affected by this policy may request an exemption to the policy by submitting a "Petition for Exemption to 6-Course Drop Policy" form. Exemptions include: illness, family death, active duty service and other good cause as determined by the institution. This form is available in the Office of Educational Services. Students who enroll in coursework at more than one institution of higher education have an obligation to keep track of the number of dropped courses across all institutions and ensure that they do not exceed six dropped course limit.

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Withdrawal from the College

If for any reason a student must withdraw from all classes, proper withdrawal procedures must be initiated by the student either in person or by written correspondence that includes the student's signature, address, social security number, phone number, and course names and numbers. The withdrawal must be cleared by the instructors involved before it is processed. Students may contact the Office of Educational Services at the Borger campus or the main office of any FPC site. Students must comply with the appropriate drop/add dates for each semester and should be aware that a final day to drop is posted in the academic calendar.

Any exceptions to the posted dates must be approved by the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs.

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Class Attendance

Regular attendance is necessary for satisfactory achievement. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the student to attend class in accordance with requirements of the course as established by the instructor.

Students will be excused from class without penalty when either representing the College in an approved activity or having an approved reason for not attending. Reasons for absences must be approved by the ***instructor*** of the course. These exceptions do not relieve the student of the responsibility of making up the missed work as designated by the instructor concerned. Instructors are not required to excuse any absences other than those incurred through official college activities.

Students who enroll in one or more college-preparatory course(s) because of TSI deficiency will be administratively withdrawn from all classes if the course in which they are excessively absent (more than three absences in a class meeting once a week; more than six absences in a class meeting twice a week) is their only preparatory course. For a student enrolled in more than one preparatory course, the student may be dropped from only the course affected by absences. Students are notified via email after each absence in an effort to inform them of the official record of attendance. Students who wish to contest an absence should contact their instructors.

Any student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day, provided that proper notification of the absence is given to the instructor of the course missed. The student should notify the instructor within the first fifteen (15) days of the semester that he or she intends to be absent on the specified holy day.

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Procedures for Assuring Identity of Distance-Learning Students

1. **Secure login and password:** each student enters a user name assigned by the college upon enrollment that uses a system-generated number that combines the student's last name with the student's unique identifier information. The student then enters a password he or she created that is not available to other students or college personnel. If the student forgets the password, The Director of Enrollment Management or her designee can reset the password but cannot view the student's existing password.
 - a. Students accept responsibility for the security of their passwords.
2. **Proctored Examinations:** Students enrolling in distance-learning courses are required to take examinations under the supervision of a proctor. When students enroll in the Virtual College of Texas network of courses, the FPC liaison attempts to find courses that require proctored testing at the Frank Phillips College campus to ensure that the students enrolled are the students receiving credit. Students must identify themselves in the remote location with an acceptable picture ID card. Faculty must approve the testing site and proctor and these locations may include:
 - a. Testing centers at colleges or universities, including Frank Phillips College sites in Borger, Dalhart, and Perryton sites of Frank Phillips College;
 - b. Professional testing centers such as Sylvan; or
 - c. Local independent school districts, proctored by a teacher, administrator, or librarian.

Frank Phillips College does not charge students for proctoring exams and encourages students to find no-cost centers in their remote locations. However, any cost associated with securing a proctor is the responsibility of the student. FPC does not charge students to proctor exams for other institutions of higher education.

3. Faculty members teaching distance-learning courses have a role in ensuring the identity of the students. Through different methods of engagement, faculty members begin to recognize the student's voice in such a way that the personal work can be authenticated. Faculty who suspect the students is not creating his or her own work can contact the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs for support in proceeding with an investigation into the student's body of work.

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Academic Progress

Students are expected to meet certain standards for course work completed at Frank Phillips College. A student must maintain a semester and cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above to remain in good standing. Any student falling below a 2.0 cumulative grade point average will be placed on academic probation. Please see the section on Academic Probation.

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Academic Honors

Frank Phillips College recognizes students with high academic achievement by naming them to the President's Honor Roll or the Vice President's Honor Roll. These lists are published soon after the close of the fall and spring semesters.

President's Honor Roll

To receive this honor, a student must be enrolled in twelve (12) or more credit hours (excluding preparatory courses) and have a grade point average (GPA) of 4.0 for the semester.

Vice President's Honor Roll

To receive this honor, a student must be enrolled in twelve (12) or more credit hours (excluding preparatory courses) and have a grade point average (GPA) between 3.50 and 3.99 for the semester.

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Grades & Reports

Students' semester grades in all courses are filed in the Office of Educational Services, and these are the official records of the college. Final grades are reported at the end of each semester, and students may check their grades through their CAMS Plainsmen Portal; directions for accessing the site are posted on the Frank Phillips College home page (www.fpctx.edu).

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Repeating a Course

When a course is repeated for credit, the higher grade and the credit hours associated with the higher grade will be used to determine the cumulative GP A. The lower grade and the credit hours associated with the lower grade will remain part of the student's permanent record and will remain on the students' transcript but will not be used to determine the cumulative GPA.

Preparatory courses are designed to assist the student in achieving college-level skills. Students who are underprepared for college will be placed according to the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) guidelines, and continued enrollment is necessary to master these skills. Students who drop (other than those administratively withdrawn for attendance) or end the course with an average lower than 70 may receive a semester grade of CT at the instructor's discretion, for continuation of the course. The student must enroll in and pay for the same course the following semester.

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Grade Calculations

Grades are calculated in the following manner:

Standard Grade Scale:

90 – 100 = A

80 – 89 = B

70 – 79 = C

60 – 69 = D

60 and below = F

Cosmetology Program Grade Scale:

90 – 100 = A

80 – 89 = B

76 – 79 = C

70 – 75 = D

69 and below = F

***Students may be removed from the program if their class averages fall below a 75% at any time during the program. Students must repeat any classes for which the final grade is a D or F.

LVN Program Grade Scale:

92 – 100 = A

83 – 91 = B

75 – 82 = C

60 – 74 = D

60 and below = F

***In order to continue in the nursing program, a grade average of 75 must be achieved to pass each nursing course. Course grades lower than 75 will result in the student being withdrawn from the program. In order to be eligible to take the final exam, the student must have an exam average of 74.45 or higher.

Final Course Grades

Grades are expressed in letters as follows:

A	Superior
B	Good
C	Average
D	Passing
F	Failure
CE	Credit Examination
CR	Credit by Experience
I	Incomplete
W	Withdrawal
CT	Continuation of a Preparatory Course

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Grade Points

A grade point is the numerical value given to letter grades. The following schedule of grade point values is used to compute a student's grade point average:

A	4 grade points per credit hour	CE	not computed
B	3 grade points per credit hour	CR	not computed
C	2 grade points per credit hour	I	not computed
D	1 grade point per credit hour	W	not computed
F	0 grade points	CT	not computed

Grade Point Average (GPA)

Semester Grade Point Average

The semester GPA is calculated by dividing the number of grade points earned in a given semester by the number of credit hours attempted in that same semester, excluding withdrawals and incompletes. This grade point average appears on the official grade report posted at the end of the semester.

Cumulative Grade Point Average

The overall GPA is calculated by dividing the total number of grade points earned by the total number of credit hours attempted. This grade point average appears on the official grade report posted at the end of the semester and the official transcript.

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Incomplete Grades

Incomplete grades are strongly discouraged, but an “I” (Incomplete) may be given when a student, for a justifiable reason (such as a documented illness), has failed to complete the requirements for a course. In order for the grade “I” to be assigned, the exact requirements the student is to fulfill must be outlined in a contract and signed by the student and the instructor and submitted to the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs for approval before the end of the term. Faculty are not required to allow students to receive a grade of “I,” and the opportunity to do so is at the discretion of the instructor and the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs. The student must complete the specified course requirements before the end of the next full semester unless special permission for an extension is granted by the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs. The instructor may specify a make-up time of less than the full-semester interval if the time period is noted in the contract. If the course requirements are not completed within the allotted time, the “I” will be changed to an “F” unless otherwise noted.

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Grade Changes

A petition to change a final course grade must be filed in writing no later than the end of the semester following the grading period in which the grade was earned. The petition should be filed with the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and should include compelling reasons for the change. Once the instructor has submitted the final semester grade, students may not submit or revise work in order to improve the grade. (Refer to the official procedure in the Student Grade Appeal Policy section of the *Catalog*.)

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Student Grade Appeal Policy

It is the policy of Frank Phillips College that instructors are solely responsible for assessing and evaluating student work. A student may appeal a **final class grade** by using the following procedures. All timelines refer to the first regular semester after the semester or mini-, mid-, and summer term(s) in which the grade was awarded (e.g., fall, spring). Grade appeals are not processed during the summer sessions unless the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs determines that the case warrants immediate review. A Grade Appeal will not be conducted anonymously.

Written verification of the following steps below is critical. Therefore, the written appeal should be either mailed with return receipt or delivered to the Office of Educational Services and have a staff member verify the date and time of delivery.

The Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs has the final decision on whether or not the deadlines have been met and has authority to extend the deadlines. Only in extraordinary circumstances shall the appeal extend beyond the first regular semester.

The student must follow the Student Grade Appeal Policy's steps 1-8 listed below, **first with the instructor and the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs.**

Step 1: Student's Responsibility

Within the first two weeks of the semester immediately following the grade in question:

- The student must first discuss the concerns with the course instructor, stating the reason(s) for questioning the grade.
- If the instructor is not available or "on-campus," the student should notify the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and obtain the mailing address and/or telephone number of the instructor.

Step 2: Student's Responsibility

- If the complaint is not resolved with the instructor, the student must obtain and complete a Student Grade Appeal Form located in the Office of Educational Services.
- This form must be submitted to the instructor and a copy submitted to the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs within the first three weeks of the semester. The student must attest in writing that the instructor has been informed of the intent to file a grade appeal.

Step 3: Instructor

Within two weeks from the date of receipt of the student's written statement:

- The instructor shall respond in writing to the student and provide a copy to the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs.
- The instructor should explain the grading procedures and how the grade in question was determined, as well as address any other issues raised in the student's statement.

Step 4: Student's Responsibility

If the instructor is not available or does not resolve the matter within the two-week period:

- The student shall, within one week thereafter, readdress and submit the written appeal to the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Step 5: Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

- The Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs has two weeks to consider both the student's and the instructor's written statements and to confer with each.
- The Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs will notify the instructor and the student of her recommendation. If a grade change is recommended, the instructor has the right to refuse the grade change recommendation. The instructor shall notify the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and the student in writing of his/her decision.

Step 6: Student's Responsibility

If the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs does not act on or resolve the matter within a two-week period:

- The student shall, within one week thereafter, readdress and submit the written appeal to the Executive

Vice President for Academic Affairs. The student may request a face-to-face hearing to further appeal the decision.

Step 7: Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

- The Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs shall then convene the Academic Standards and Curriculum Committee to review the case. If the faculty member involved in the dispute is a member of the Academic Standards and Curriculum Committee, he or she will not participate in the hearing as a committee member.
- If feasible, the committee will meet with the student and the instructor together in an attempt to resolve the difference. The committee shall convene in a closed session to consider all aspects of the case before making its recommendation. At the conclusion of the hearing, however, the student will be given, verbally, the recommendation of the committee. The recommendation will then be considered by the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs within four weeks of the hearing.
- The hearing is not a legal hearing. Therefore, it is not appropriate for the student of the College to bring legal representation to the meeting.
- No electronic recording or participation is permitted.

Step 8: Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

- The Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs shall make a final decision after full consideration of the committee's recommendation within four weeks of the committee's hearing of the student's appeal. The Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs has the authority to change the grade. The student shall be notified in writing of the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs' decision.
- The decision made by the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs is final. No other options for appeal are available to the student. Faculty members may not appeal the decision of the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs.

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Academic Probation

Placement

In keeping with FPC graduation guidelines, all students must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0. Failure to do so will cause the student to be placed on academic probation through the next regular fall or spring semester.

If a student is placed on academic probation, notification by student email and/or mail will be sent to the student. After receiving the notification, the following conditions apply.

Conditions

- The student must meet with the Director of Student Central in the Office of Student Central.
- Failure to contact the Director of Student Central will cause the student to remain on academic probation the following semester, regardless of GPA.
- Failure to contact the Director of Student Central the 2nd semester will cause the student to be placed on academic suspension, regardless of GPA.

Important Information Regarding Academic Probation:

- A student that is on academic probation may continue in succeeding semesters providing at least a 2.0 term GPA is achieved.
- A student placed on academic probation may not enroll in more than 16 hours unless special permission is given.
- A student receiving Veteran's Administration education benefits who is placed on academic probation will be reported to the VA as making unsatisfactory progress according to the criteria disclosed in the Student Financial Services section of the Catalog.

Return to Good Standing

Students will be removed from academic probation when they have raised their cumulative GPA to 2.0 or above and met the conditions of probation.

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Academic Suspension

Placement

- A student already placed on academic probation who earns a term grade point average below 2.0 will be placed on academic suspension through the next regular semester.
- A student placed on academic suspension due to extenuating circumstances may petition, in writing, the Director of Student Central to be reinstated under academic probation.
- A student placed on academic suspension in the spring semester may enroll in a summer session. Upon completion of the summer session, the student's academic suspension status will be reevaluated for the fall semester.

Conditions

- A student placed on academic suspension is given time to reconsider academic goals and career plans outside the college setting.
- A student receiving Veteran's Administration education benefits who is placed on academic suspension will be reported to the VA as making unsatisfactory progress according to the criteria disclosed in the Student Financial Services section of the Catalog.

Readmission

After the suspension period of one regular semester, the student is eligible for readmission to FPC and will be automatically placed on academic probation with the requirement of meeting all the conditions previously stated.

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Fresh Start

Fresh Start will be applied in accordance SB 1321 (1993) which includes the following section: "If an applicant elects to seek admission under this section, a public institution of higher education, in considering the applicant for admission, shall not consider academic course credit or grades earned by the applicant 10 or more years prior to the starting date of the semester in which the applicant seeks to enroll. An applicant who makes the election to apply under this section and is admitted as a student may not receive any course credit for courses undertaken prior to enrollment under this section." Students should contact the Director of Enrollment Management (mstevens@fpctx.edu) in the Office of Educational Services at the Borger campus for more information.

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Graduation

Frank Phillips College awards the Associate in Applied Science, Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, Associate of Arts in Teaching, and Associate of Arts in Music Field of Study degrees. In addition, FPC awards Career/Technical certificates.

Graduation under a Particular Catalog

Catalog graduation requirements are based upon the year a student enters Frank Phillips College. These catalog requirements will remain in effect for up to five years as long as the student completes course work in at least one semester of each school year beginning with the fall semester. If the student does not complete courses in any one of the four semesters during the school year, the student's new graduation requirements will be those in effect for the year the student reenters Frank Phillips College. A student may move to a newer catalog but will be responsible for fulfilling all requirements. No substitutions to core curricula requirements will be made.

General Requirements for Graduation

The student must:

1. Meet the entrance requirements of the College;
2. Complete the specific course requirements for a degree or certificate with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0;
3. Earn at least 25 percent of the required credit hours through Frank Phillips College (excluding course credit obtained through exam and/or experience);
4. Complete an Application for Graduation in the Office of Educational Services;
5. Discharge all financial obligations to the college prior to graduation;
6. Meet all TSI requirements, if applicable; and
7. Participate in graduation exercises. (All students are encouraged to participate in graduation exercises. Students working toward associate degrees are eligible to participate in graduation exercises when they earn a minimum of forty-five [45] credit hours; awarding of the final degree occurs when all courses are completed.)

Procedures to Apply for Graduation

Students entering their final semester toward completing a degree or certificate should complete an Application for Graduation in the Office of Educational Services between January 10 and two weeks before the end of the spring semester. Students who do not apply for graduation may still be awarded the earned certificate or degree but will not be eligible to participate in graduation ceremonies. Application for graduation includes verification of:

- a cumulative grade point average equal to or above 2.0;
- a completed degree plan and transcripts on file for the degree or certificate;
- a determination of the remaining credits that must be earned; and
- measurements for cap and gown.

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Special Conditions

Transfer Students

Students transferring to FPC will be required to submit an official transcript for evaluation by the Director of Enrollment Management. Academic status (in good standing, probation, or suspension) will be determined based on their official transcripts in the same manner as other FPC students. Students transferring to FPC should refer to the General Admission Requirements for additional transfer requirements. An evaluation of the credits earned at another institution will be completed by the Director of Enrollment Management. No grades of *D*, *F*, *W*, or *I* will transfer from another institution into Frank Phillips College. Students who fail to provide an official college or high-school transcript by the end of the first semester of enrollment will not be allowed to enroll in subsequent semesters until an official transcript is provided.

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Transfer of Credit

Academic courses (specified in the Community College General Academic Course Guide Manual and the FPC core curriculum) successfully completed at FPC are generally transferable to and accepted as comparable degree credit by any Texas public institution of higher education where the equivalent courses are available for fulfilling associate degrees and the lower division portion of baccalaureate degree requirements. **It is the responsibility of the student, however, to determine prior to registration the transferability of any course with the Director of Enrollment Management who can be contacted at mstevens@fpctx.edu or (806) 457-4200, ext. 707.**

Courses completed with a grade of C or higher that are marked as core courses on the students' FPC transcript and fulfill core requirements are guaranteed to transfer to any public institution of higher education in the State of Texas. No college or university is required to accept courses with a grade of D or courses that are not part of a college's core curriculum. If students find that the transfer institution is not articulating the credit as equivalent core credit, they should contact the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs at FPC, who will intervene on their behalf to ensure transferability of the courses.

Since transfer of specific courses normally depends upon the applicability of the completed work toward a degree plan specified by the receiving institution, any program of study at FPC should be planned to parallel the requirements of the program at the institution to which the student plans to transfer.

The Office of Educational Services maintains course articulation or conversion charts for many Texas institutions of higher education. These cross-reference charts enable students to determine the course equivalents at senior institutions. Counseling assistance is available to students who want more information about transferring to another institution.

Texas public senior colleges and universities usually accept up to sixty-six (66) hours of credit from a junior college. Some public colleges may deny the transfer of credit in courses with a grade of *D*. Preparatory courses are not transferable. CTE courses generally do not transfer to a four-year college or university.

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Resolution of Transfer Disputes

Frank Phillips College encourages its students to take advantage of the Coordinating Board guidelines for the resolution of Transfer Disputes that may exist occasionally between courses earned at Frank Phillips College and another institution in Texas. The Coordinating Board guidelines implement SB 457 of the Texas Legislature and apply to the transferability of all academic courses offered as lower division courses.

1. If an institution of higher education does not accept course credit earned by a student at another institution of higher education, that institution shall give written notice to the student and the other institution that the transfer of the course credit is denied.
2. The two institutions and the student shall attempt to resolve the transfer of the course credit in accordance with Board rules and/or guidelines.
3. If the transfer dispute is not resolved to the satisfaction of the student or the institution at which the credit was earned within 45 days after the date the student received written notice of the denial, the institution that denies the transfer of the course credit shall notify the Commissioner of its denial and the reason for it. The Commissioner of Higher Education or the Commissioner's designee shall make a final determination about a dispute concerning the transfer of course credit and give written notice of the determination to the involved student and institutions.
 - a. The student who wishes to exercise his or her rights under these provisions needs to notify both the sending and the receiving institution of the intention to ask for a dispute to be resolved within 15 days of being notified that a transfer credit has been denied.

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Guarantee for Transfer Credit

Transfer of Credit-Completed Core Curriculum: If a student successfully completes the 42 semester credit hour core curriculum at a Texas public institution of higher education, that block of courses may be transferred to any other Texas public institution of higher education and must be substituted for the receiving institution's core curriculum. A student shall receive academic credit for each of the courses transferred and may not be required to take additional core curriculum courses at the receiving institution unless the Board has approved a larger core curriculum at that institution.

Transfer of Credit-Core Curriculum Not Completed: Except as specified in subsection (f) of this section, a student who transfers from one institution of higher education to another without completing the core curriculum of the sending institution shall receive academic credit within the core curriculum of the receiving institution for each of the courses that the student has successfully completed in the core curriculum of the sending institution. Following receipt of credit for these courses, the student may be required to satisfy the remaining course requirements in the core curriculum of the receiving institution.

Substitutions and Waivers: No institution or institutional representative may approve course substitutions or waivers of the institution's core curriculum requirements for any currently enrolled student. For students who transfer to a public institution from a college or university that is not a Texas public institution of higher education, evaluation of the courses the student completed prior to admission should apply to the fulfillment of the core curriculum component areas only those courses the institution has accepted for transfer that can demonstrate fulfillment of the exemplary educational objectives for the appropriate component area or areas.

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Transfer Resolution

1. Frank Phillips College will assist students in their efforts to resolve transfer disputes. For students attending public institutions of higher education in Texas, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) provides arbitration measures on behalf of the student. Transferability means acceptance of credit toward a specific major and degree at a specific institution. These components must be identified by the student in accordance with the application for admission process and during the first semester of enrollment at FPC.
2. Limitations on total number of credits accepted in transfer, grades required, relevant grade point average, and duration of transferability apply as stated in the general undergraduate catalog of the receiving institution.
3. Transferability refers to courses in a written transfer/ degree plan filed in a student's file in the Office of Educational Services at FPC. This plan must include the institution to which the student will transfer, the baccalaureate major and degree sought, and the date such decision was made.
4. Only college-level courses with the Community College General Academic Course Manual approved numbers are included in this resolution.
5. Credit by examination (such as CLEP, etc.) must satisfy requirements of the receiving institution, and students are responsible for checking with the transfer college for acceptability.

If all the above conditions are met and a course or courses are not accepted by a receiving institution in transfer for similar course or courses as listed in the *Community College General Academic Course Guide Manual*, the student must notify the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs at FPC within 15 days of first notice of transfer credit denial so that the transfer dispute resolution process can be initiated.

If course denial is not resolved, FPC will allow the student to take tuition-free alternate courses, semester hour for semester hour, which are accepted to the receiving institution within a one-year period from granting of a degree at FPC. The graduate is responsible for payment of any fees, books, or other course-related expenses associated with the alternate course or courses.

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Guarantee of Program Proficiency

If a recipient of a Certificate of Completion or an Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree is judged by his/her employer to be lacking in workforce job skills identified as exit competencies for his/her specific certificate or degree program, the graduate will be provided up to nine (9) tuition-free credit hours of additional skill training by FPC under the conditions of the guarantee policy. Special conditions that apply to the guarantee are listed below.

1. The graduate must have earned the Certificate of Completion or the A.A.S. degree in a workforce program identified in FPC's Catalog.
2. The graduate must have completed requirements for the Certificate of Completion or the A.A.S. degree at FPC, with a minimum of 75% of credits earned at FPC.
3. The graduate must be employed full-time in the area directly related to the area of the program concentration as certified by the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs.
4. Employment must commence within 6 months of graduation.
5. The employer must certify in writing that the employee is lacking entry-level skills identified by FPC as program exit competencies and must specify the areas of deficiency within 90 days of the graduate's initial employment with the employer.
6. The employer, graduate, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, FPC counselor, and appropriate faculty advisor will develop a written educational plan for retraining.
7. Retraining will be limited to nine (9) semester credit hours related to the identified skill deficiency and to those classes regularly scheduled during the period covered by the retraining plan.
8. All retraining must be completed within a calendar year from the time the educational plan is agreed upon.
9. The graduate and/or employer is responsible for the cost of books, insurance, uniforms, fees and other course-related expenses.
10. The guarantee does not imply that the graduate will pass any licensing or qualifying examination for a particular career.
11. Only course work taken within 5 years prior to graduation will be covered.
12. The guarantee does not include proficiency in computer software upgrades and technology improvements made after a student has successfully completed a course.

A student's sole remedy against FPC and its employees for skill deficiencies shall be limited to nine (9) semester credit hours of tuition-free education under the conditions described above. Activation of this guarantee may be initiated by the graduate by contacting the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs within 90 days of the graduate's initial employment.

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International Baccalaureate Diploma Credit

Frank Phillips College will grant a maximum of 24 semester credit hours (SCH) to any new student having an International Baccalaureate Diploma based on the table below. Frank Phillips College may grant fewer than 24 SCH to a student if the student has scored less than 4 on any IBD examination administered as part of the diploma program. Applicants with the IB diploma must provide a completed IB official transcript with exam title and score to the Office of Educational Services before enrolling in order to receive credit.

Students who participate in the International Baccalaureate Program may receive college credit for exam scores of 4 or better on most Higher Level (HL) Exams and for a 5 or better on most Standard Level (SL) Exams. The amount of credit awarded will depend upon the exam scores and the level of the courses.

In compliance with SB 1 11, students will be granted a minimum of 24 hours of credit if they have earned the IB Diploma and have no scores lower than 4 on the Standard Level and Higher Level Exams. Applicants with the IB diploma must provide a complete IB official transcript with exam title and score to the Office of Educational Services before enrollment in order to receive credit. Frank Phillips College includes the IBD Policy in the Catalog and on the College website.

IB Subject SL Score HL Score

IB Subject	SL Score	HL Score	FPC/TCCN	Credit Hours
English A1		4	ENGL1301 or 1302	3
		5+	ENGL1301 & 1302	6
Spanish A2 or B	5	4	SPAN1411 & 1412	8
		5+	SPAN1411 & 1412 & 2311 & 2312	14
Business & Management	5	4	BUSI1301	3
Economics	5	4	ECON2301 & 2302	6
Geography	5	4	GEOG1303	3
History	5	4	HIST1301 or 1302	3
		5+	HIST1301 & 1302	6
Philosophy	5	4	PHIL1301	3
Psychology	5	4	PSYC2301	3
		5+	PSYC2301 & 2314	6
Anthropology	5	4	ANTH2346 or 2351	3
		5+	ANTH2346 & 2351	6
Biology	4	5	BIOL1406	4
Chemistry	5		CHEM1405	4
		6	CHEM1411	4
Physics		6	PHYS1401 & 1402	8
Mathematics (HL only)		5	MATH2413	4
Computer Science	5	4	COSC1301	3
Visual Arts	5	4	HUMA1315	3
Music	5	4	MUSI1306	3
Theatre Arts	5	4	DRAM1310	3

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Campus Carry Policy

Texas Senate Bill 11 (84R Texas Legislature), also known as the “Campus Carry” law, allows concealed handgun license holders to carry concealed handguns on the campus of Texas Higher Education institutions. The effective date for Texas community colleges is August 1, 2017.

To review S.B. 11, click on this link:

<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/84R/billtext/pdf/SB00011F.pdf#navpanes=0>

To learn about Texas Department of Public Safety handgun procedures, click on this link:

<https://www.dps.texas.gov/rsd/chl/>

In accordance with state law, the licensed carry of concealed handguns will be allowed at all Frank Phillips College locations/facilities beginning on August 1, 2017. A license holder may carry a concealed handgun on the campus of Frank Phillips College or in a college vehicle, unless prohibited by state or federal law. A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable state law prohibitions.

The college president established this policy after consulting with Frank Phillips College students, staff and faculty about the nature of the student population, specific safety considerations, and the uniqueness of the campus environment. The policy was reviewed and approved by the Frank Phillips College Board of Regents as required by law. This policy can be changed and amended as deemed necessary by the college president. All changes and amendments will have Board of Regent approval and proper notice will be provided.

By law, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all campus premises. Licensed peace officers are authorized by law to carry firearms at all time.

Employees who are license holders are permitted to store a handgun in their office space so long as the gun is secured in a locked drawer or compartment. All licensed holders must secure their handgun when it is not on or about their person.

Any resident of campus housing who is a license holder and wants to store a handgun in his/her room must securely store it in a safe approved by the Director of Student Central.

Approved by the Frank Phillips College Board of Regents on March 20, 2017.

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Student Discipline

Every student is responsible to the College for his or her actions. In cases where a student's actions violate college policy, the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs or his or her designee will administer student discipline. Students are subject to such reasonable disciplinary action as considered appropriate. Disciplinary action may include a verbal warning, probation, dismissal from college housing, enforced withdrawal, suspension, or expulsion from the College. When flagrant violations of policy cause major disruption, tension, or danger to the order, safety, or well-being of the institution or other persons, students may be suspended immediately pending formal investigation and hearing to determine final action. Any student who is suspended will forfeit any refunds or deposits. A student who is suspended may not attend classes or use College resources. However, if the disciplinary action is overturned, the student will be allowed to complete all missed assignments with no penalty and will be provided adequate instruction for the missed class days.

The steps involved in the Disciplinary Procedure are as follows:

1. The Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs or his or her designee will advise the student of the charges verbally and/or in writing. Information supporting the charges may be verbal or written and the student will be advised of the information.
2. The student may present information in his or her defense and request witnesses are heard in his or her behalf concerning the charges.
3. The Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs or his or her designee will take appropriate disciplinary action, if required. A disciplinary report will be completed and filed as deemed appropriate.
4. The student has the right to appeal decisions resulting in suspension or expulsion to the Disciplinary Committee. The committee is comprised of the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs or his or her designate, two to three faculty members, one to two staff members and the president of the Student Senate or his/her designee. The committee members may be changed prior to the hearing if membership on the committee presents a conflict of interest with the involved student(s). The student must file a written request for a hearing within 48 business hours to the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs or his or her designee.
5. The Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs will review the appeal and determine whether there is sufficient reason for a hearing.
6. If there is sufficient reason, the committee will be convened as soon as administratively possible, but no later than two weeks after receipt of the student's written appeal.
7. The student will be notified by the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs of the date, location and time set for the hearing.
8. The student must provide the names of any witnesses who will appear on his or her behalf at least 24 hours prior to the hearing. Neither the student nor the institution is allowed to have an attorney present during the proceeding. No electronic recording or participation is permitted.
9. During the hearing, the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs or his or her designee will present charges and supporting information. The student and the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs may each call witnesses and cross-examine witnesses.
10. The committee will review the information in closed session and make a final determination of the action to be taken. The decision of the committee will be verbally presented to the student with a written decision available within two weeks of the hearing.

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Compliance with Federal Laws Regarding Discrimination

Frank Phillips College complies with federal laws that prohibit discrimination and ensure equality including:

1. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
2. Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972
3. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
4. The Civil Rights Act of 1991

The College prohibits discriminatory practices towards students of on the basis of membership of age, race, religion, color, national origin, sex, or disability in its programs, services, or activities. Retaliation against a student who has filed a grievance regarding discrimination, participated in an investigation, or opposed practices in which discriminate against others is forbidden.

A grievance is an allegation of discrimination based on age, race, religion, color, national origin, sex, or disability in the college's programs, services, or activities. A grievance may also be based on sexual harassment or sexual misconduct.

A student may file a grievance against another student(s), an employee(s), or a community member. Grievances may also be filed against the college for failure to provide an adequate and appropriate environment to accommodate the needs and safety of students. Furthermore, a student does not have to be the direct recipient of the discrimination or harassment in order to file a grievance.

All aspects of the student grievance procedure are confidential with information protected as much as possible without compromising the integrity of the process. In some steps of the process, it is necessary for the person about whom the grievance has been filed to become aware of the allegations. In the case of sexual harassment or sex crimes, the college will notify law enforcement as required by law.

The college has adopted a process through which a student may file a grievance (informally or formally, verbally or in writing) regarding discrimination or sexual conduct.

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Student Grievances

The College views certain individual rights as fundamental in its commitment to provide an atmosphere that enhances the opportunities for success of all students. Serious consideration is given in instances where these rights may have been violated. A procedure has been established to address all complaints brought by students **alleging discrimination** on the basis of age, race, religion, color, national origin, sex, or disability. Students are not required to make direct contact with the alleged harasser.

The steps involved in the Student Grievance Procedure are as follows:

1. The student must contact Dr. Shannon Carroll, Title IX Officer, to discuss with the student the allegations and the right to proceed with the grievance. In order for the college to quickly and fairly resolve the grievance, the student should notify the Title IX Officer within four (4) weeks of the inciting situation. If the grievance regards a violation of Section 504/Americans with Disabilities, the student will be referred to the Section 504/ADA Coordinator, Dr. Deborah Johnson, who will conduct the initial interview and serve as a resource for the student during the appeal process. If a student contacts any employee other than the aforementioned, the employee will notify the Title IX Officer about the situation. In any situation that involves The Title IX Officer or Section 504/ADA Coordinator, the student should contact Dr. Jud Hicks, President. Dr. Hicks will hear the grievance only when it involves the Title IX Officer or 504/ADA Coordinator.
2. After discussing the allegations and the student's rights to proceed, a student may decide to write a formal grievance statement within twenty-one (21) days of the initial meeting. A student is not required to make a formal, written statement in order for the Title IX Officer to investigate the allegations. However, students are encouraged to do so as part of the record-keeping process should a hearing be necessary. During all conferences, however, the VPAA will make notes about the situation.
3. After receiving a grievance statement, either verbally or in writing, from a student, the Title IX Officer will contact the person against whom the allegation has been made and request a written statement regarding the situation.
4. Within fourteen (14) days of receiving the grievance statement from the student, the Title IX Officer will schedule a meeting with both parties in an effort to resolve the grievance. In the case of harassment, the student may request separate meetings in order to avoid direct contact with the alleged harasser. Both parties may present witnesses and other evidence during the meeting; however, no attorneys or other advisors may be present to represent either party. This meeting may not be recorded. After the meeting concludes, the Title IX Officer will complete any further investigation, make a determination regarding the violation of college policies, and render a written decision statement to both parties within fourteen (14) days of the meeting.
5. If the student is not satisfied with the decision made by the Title IX Officer, the student may appeal to a committee by notifying the Title IX Officer in writing within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the previous determination.
6. The Title IX Officer or his or her designee will convene the Student Grievance Committee, which consists of two faculty members, one staff member, and the president of the Student Government Association or his/her designee with the approval of the Title IX Officer or his or her designee. If any of the committee members are named in the allegation of discrimination, an alternate member will be appointed. The committee will choose a chairperson from its membership, and the chairperson will vote only in the case of a tie. If a student can present reasons why any regular member would be biased, the chairperson may choose an alternate.
7. The student will be notified in writing of the time and place of the formal hearing.
8. The Student Grievance Committee will convene for the formal hearing within 14 business days following the receipt of the written appeal for a committee hearing. The student will testify and may present evidence or call witnesses to support the allegations. Neither the student nor the institution is allowed to have an attorney present during the proceeding. No electronic recording or participation is permitted.
9. The committee will make a decision based on a majority vote. The chairperson of the committee will prepare a written document outlining the findings and making a determination about the

allegations within seven (7) days of the convening of the hearing. The decision will be given in writing to the Title IX Officer, who will notify the student.

10. The Title IX Officer will act on the request within 10 days. The Title IX Officer may affirm or overrule the decision in its entirety or may affirm or overrule the decision in part. The student will be notified of the final decision in writing.
11. Upon receipt of the final decision, the student appeal process is exhausted with no further opportunity to appeal within the college's policies.

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Student Complaints

A student may wish to make a complaint without going through an official appeal or grievance process. A student complaint form is available in the Office of Educational Services and through directors at Dalhart, Dumas, Hereford, and Perryton.

A student may choose to make the complaint anonymous to the person(s) about whom the complaint is lodged. However, the student will not remain anonymous to the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs who will handle the complaint on behalf of the student. If a student wishes to remain anonymous to anyone else, he or she will note this desire on the form. However, students must realize that, in order to address a complaint, the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs may have to convey information that makes the identity of the student clear. Before discussing the complaint with anyone, however, the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs will speak to the student who has made the complaint.

Because of the possibility of disciplinary action being taken on the alleged violator, the actions taken to resolve the complaint may not be shared with the student, but if a student feels the situation is not resolved, he or she may speak further with the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Only final grades may be appealed, but a student complaint form may be used to contest any other grades or actions taken by a faculty member. The student will be responsible for providing adequate documentation to support the complaint.

If a situation about which the student complains involves a crime, the VPAA may be required to notify law enforcement. In that case, the VPAA will speak with the student about the requirements.

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