ACCREDITATION: HIGHER LEVERAGE?
OR HINDRANCE AS GATEKEEPERS FOR EDUCATION QUALITY &
FOR LEARNERS’ EMPLOYABILITY & LIFE JOURNEY?

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ACCREDITATION: BENEFIT OR BARRIER?
U.S. REGIONAL ACCREDITATION COMMISSION (NEW ENGLAND, NECHE)

Standards for Accreditation

1. MISSION & PURPOSES
2. PLANNING & EVALUATION
3. ORGANIZATION & GOVERNANCE
4. THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM
5. STUDENTS
6. TEACHING, LEARNING & SCHOLARSHIP
7. INSTITUTIONAL RESOURCES
8. EDUCATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS
9. INTEGRITY, TRANSPARENCY & PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

Standard Four (49 criteria)

- Assuring Academic Quality
- General Education
- The Major or Concentration
- Graduate Degree Programs
- Integrity in the Award of Academic Credit
The institution’s academic programs are consistent with and serve to fulfill its mission and purposes. The institution works systematically and effectively to plan, provide, oversee, evaluate, improve, and assure the academic quality and integrity of its academic programs and the credits and degrees awarded. The institution sets a standard of student achievement appropriate to the degree or certificate awarded and develops the systematic means to understand how and what students are learning and to use the evidence obtained to improve the academic program.
General Education

- AA(20cr), BS(40cr): Arts&Humanities, Science, Math, Social Sciences
- UG: Gen Ed + Major
- Competence: English, Scientific & Quantitative Reasoning, Critical Analysis & Logical Thinking, Info Lit Skills, Aesthetic & Ethical dimensions of humankind

Integrity Award Credit

- Feds: Credit Hour Policy
- Credits: AA (60), BS(120), MS(30)
- Competency Based/Direct Assessment (cr equivalencies).
- Prior Learning, 25%max (30cr)
- Complete ¼ UG@Inst award degree.
- All programs, all locations, all modalities
The institution demonstrates its effectiveness by ensuring satisfactory levels of student achievement on mission-appropriate student outcomes. Based on verifiable information, the institution understands what its students have gained as a result of their education and has useful evidence about the success of its recent graduates. This information is used for planning and improvement, resource allocation, and to inform the public about the institution. Student achievement is at a level appropriate for the degree awarded.
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