

Acadeum Consortium Online Transfer Courses for Covenant Students

Typically, over 10% of Covenant students will take a class over the summer or online during the fall and spring semesters with other institutions. Some of these courses can only be completed in a classroom (e.g. core natural science lab, foreign language, most upper division major classes) but students have increasingly been choosing to pursue online courses for general core and elective credit hours. Commonly students are seeking a course to help them stay on track to graduate on time, or to lighten the schedule load they would have to carry during the fall or spring terms, or to repeat a class and replace the lower grade in the GPA calculation. A common question we receive is: What college(s) should I consider for an online course?

Many attend a local college during the summer, but with college having to move online due to the virus, I wanted to share some other options. Covenant has joined the Acadeum Consortium to offer students a pre-approved list of online transfer courses that have already been evaluated from regionally accredited institutions. We have had students transfer in many of these courses and this consortium is simply assisting in the selection of approved classes. I typically approve the general core areas and electives, but a student must still work with their faculty advisor to approve all major, minor or concentration classes, and to keep their advisor in the loop on the current graduation plan.

To view the Covenant pre-approved classes, the student must create an account with Acadeum using their Covenant.edu email address. A student can quickly search by academic discipline (categories), or term (e.g. summer, fall) to see the courses that have been pre-approved. When viewing a class, select “See Course Detail” and scroll down to the “Home Institution Equivalent Course” to note how Covenant will accept this class (e.g. Fine Arts, or Elective). There are hundreds of other courses that are available through the consortium (e.g. Art Appreciation offered by 20+ colleges) but we have initially limited our pre-approvals to some institutions who share a similar educational mission or that I have approved for students previously.

A student may improve their institutional GPA by repeating an equivalent course and excluding the lower grade from the GPA calculation. This may improve a student’s academic standing and/or financial aid eligibility. Please consult with the Office of Records and the Financial Aid Office to discuss options. For the fall and spring semesters, students must register for at least 12 hours of traditional campus classes to establish full-time enrollment status for financial aid purposes. Tuition for Acadeum courses are charged separately from Covenant terms, but as a member of the consortium these course charges and student payments will be processed through the Covenant Banner account.

The current pre-approved courses cover most of the typical online courses that students have transferred back to Covenant in the past, but not all courses are offered in every term, and some courses are offered in accelerated formats. There could be many other courses that have been added to the consortium list that have not been evaluated, so email records@covenant.edu if you are looking for a specific type of course not already approved.

We hope this additional resource will help students with identifying and selecting transfer courses. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Blessings,

Rodney Miller
Dean of Records