

Course Transferability Application

University of Belize



Introduction

Meet **THE TEAM**

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BACKGROUND

Transfer students face difficulties transferring credits from feeder schools. Which causes frustration for students and administrative challenges for the university.



INITIAL POV

The current transfer matrix is not user-friendly, resulting in students lacking the information needed to make the transfer process smoother.

ADDITIONAL NEEDFINDING



RESULTS

Silke Middleton



The system is hard to navigate, it is easy to lose track of what you are doing.

Challenging to search for a course and check its transferability, leading to frustration.

Abner Bobadilla



A user-friendly interface with searchable filters for institutions and majors, along with a side-by-side comparison of courses, is crucial for a smooth experience.

The current system lacks visibility and ease of use, causing confusion and delays in the transfer process. Users want a more attractive, accessible, and efficient tool integrated within the UB domain.

Ms. Rose Pineda



The matrix is not automated and depends heavily on manual processes handled by advisors, which can lead to inefficiencies and delays.

Communication between institutions is limited, leading to potential challenges in maintaining or updating the matrix.

Revised POVs

Silke Midleton

We Met...

Silke is transfer student who has experienced difficulty utilizing the current transfer matrix and emphasizes on the importance of an easy to navigate system.

We were amazed to realize...

How tedious and frustrating it is to cycle back and forth between pages when searching for courses.

It would be game changing to...

Implement a simplified one-page layout with a searchable database and automated course equivalency features, enabling users to easily track transferable credits.

Abner Bobadilla

We Met...

A transfer student who faced delays and uncertainty due to the lack of a clear and accessible system for understanding which credits would transfer to the University of Belize.

We were amazed to realize...

The current credit transfer process is inefficient and lacks clarity, leading to confusion, frustration, and extended time frames for degree completion.

It would be game changing to...

Develop a more transparent and user-friendly system, such as a searchable database, to provide clear information on transferable credits and streamline the entire process for students.

Ms. Rose Pineda

We Met...

Ms. Rose Pineda, the registrar, collaborates closely with other staff members in the registrar's office to maintain and update the transfer matrix.

We were amazed to realize...

That the reliance on manual updates and limited institutional communication poses significant challenges, leading to delays and inefficiencies for both students and staff.

It would be game changing to...

Automate the transfer matrix, allowing for real-time updates of course equivalencies, improved communication between institutions

Top Three HMWs

01

How might we ensure students can easily find information about their eligible transferable credits from different feeder institutions?

02


How might we present the transferable courses to the user?

03

How can we refine the search for transferable courses to align with a student's program?

Prototypes

Transfer Matrix



Menu

Home

Reports

Help

Instructions

Instructions

Institution

Instructions

Department

Instructions

Major

Instructions

Year

Check Transfer

Prototype 1

- We aim to improve the existing system by adding filters for searching transferable courses, while still redirecting users to another page.
- This was tested using an impersonation simulation.

RESULTS

- Allows direct evaluation of transferable courses based on a student's major.
- Restriction: Changing filters or searching requires returning to the previous page to resubmit the form.

VALIDITY

- Initial assumption was invalid: Students are only restricted to searching for transferable courses by major.
- New assumption: While useful on the homepage, more search features are needed.
- New assumption: Users prefer having all search options on one page for better efficiency.

Transfer Matrix



Menu

Home

Transferable Courses

Feeder Institutions

Help

Search



Feeder Institution		University of Belize		Transfer Status
Course	Title	Course	Title	
Wavy line	Wavy line	Wavy line	Wavy line	T
Wavy line	Wavy line	Wavy line	Wavy line	F
Wavy line	Wavy line	Wavy line	Wavy line	T
Wavy line	Wavy line	Wavy line	Wavy line	F
Wavy line	Wavy line	Wavy line	Wavy line	T
Wavy line	Wavy line	Wavy line	Wavy line	T
Wavy line	Wavy line	Wavy line	Wavy line	T
Wavy line	Wavy line	Wavy line	Wavy line	T

Prototype 2

- The database is displayed on a single page, allowing users to search by course or feeder institution.
- A Search box helps narrow down the results in the table, providing a more focused and efficient user experience.

RESULTS

- Having all results on one page improved efficiency but made the prototype difficult to read due to information overload.
- Users are searching anything that was inputted in the entire database which may lead to slower loading times

VALIDITY

- While it improved efficiency, it decreased readability due to information overload.
- Initial assumptions were valid.
- New assumption: Users would prefer better readability and a simpler UI.

Transfer Matrix

Menu

Home

Transferable Courses

Feeder Institutions

Help

Search

Institution

Major

Year

Feeder Institution		University of Belize		Transfer Status
Course	Title	Course	Title	

Prototype 3

- Combines elements from previous prototypes but requires search filters to render data.
- This approach ensures data is only displayed when relevant filters are applied, enhancing usability and reducing information overload.

RESULTS

- Use a visually appealing format and color scheme to enhance the user experience.
- Users preferred having everything on one page with information displayed dynamically based on the selected filters.

VALIDITY

- The assumption about the visual display was valid, as it helped students verify valid courses and reduced search efforts.
- Rendering entries only after filters are inputted increased usability by displaying only the necessary information.



SUMMARY

Although the transfer matrix system is useful in identifying course equivalencies, it is hindered by manual processes, limited search functionality and a lack of user-friendly navigation.

Adding search filters and displaying the database on a single page will streamline the process, allowing users to search by course and/or feeder institutions without information overload. These enhancements will make the system more efficient, accurate, and user-friendly for both students and advisors.

Thank You!