



### ***Transferring – Lesson Plan***

**Grade Level:** 10

**Suggested Duration:** 1 hour or 1 class period

**Target Audience:** Students who may be unaware of different college pathways

**Video:** “How I Got Here: Joseph”

## **§110.32. English Language Arts and Reading, English II (One Credit)**

### **(b) Knowledge and Skills**

#### **(11) Reading/Comprehension of Informational Text/Procedural Texts.**

Students understand how to glean and use information in procedural texts and documents. Students are expected to:

(A) analyze the clarity of the objective(s) of procedural text (e.g., consider reading instructions for software, warranties, consumer publications); and

(B) analyze factual, quantitative, or technical data presented in multiple graphical sources.

*In this video, Joseph describes how he transferred from Palo Alto Community College to The University of Texas at Austin. Transferring from community college is an excellent plan for dedicated students who are not ready to make the leap to a four-year college right away.*

**Student Objective:** Students will utilize online resources to explore mechanics, policies, and the benefits of transferring from a community college to a four-year institution.

**Lesson Preparation:** While preparing for this lesson with your students, make sure to watch the “How I Got Here: Joseph” video first. The video will provide guidance on how to navigate the lesson with your students and highlight the key messages for them to take away.

**Teacher Direction:** Play the “How I Got Here: Joseph” video for your class and have students recall that Joseph transferred from Palo Alto College (a community college in San Antonio) to The University of Texas at Austin.

Next, explain that many (but not all) courses at community colleges will “count” towards graduation requirements at public universities in Texas. Then explore a possible transfer pathway.

Possible Teacher Dialogue (directed to students):

*Imagine you live in San Antonio and want to get a bachelor’s degree in computer science. This usually takes four years, so you typically would need to attend a four-year college like The University of Texas at San Antonio. But let’s say you want to save money, live at home, and complete the first two years of your studies at Palo Alto College, like Joseph did. What courses should you take? Let’s see...*

*First, we can look at the list of advising guides on Palo Alto College’s website. Now let’s click on the Computer Science Advising Guide. Here we see a*

*recommended Four-Year Academic Plan. The plan shows which courses you should take at Palo Alto College that will transfer and count toward a computer science bachelor's degree at UTSA.*

- List of advising guides:  
<http://myalamocatalog.alamo.edu/content.php?catoid=124&navoid=6921> (or <http://tinyurl.com/paloaltocatalog>)
- Computer Science Advising Guide:  
[http://myalamocatalog.alamo.edu/preview\\_program.php?catoid=124&poid=12200&returnto=6921](http://myalamocatalog.alamo.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=124&poid=12200&returnto=6921) (or <http://tinyurl.com/compsciadvising>)

Next, ask students questions to familiarize them with the Advising Guide format, such as: How many semesters are covered? How many courses are listed in Semester 2? Then ask deeper questions, such as: Which math courses are prerequisites to enter the university degree plan at Palo Alto College? Why do you think they require these two courses?

Next, demonstrate how a student might use this page.

Possible Teacher Dialogue (directed to students):

*Imagine you're ready to register for courses at Palo Alto College to begin your computer science degree. Let's say you've already taken the math prerequisites. What math course should you take in your first semester at Palo Alto College? (MATH 2413 – Calculus 1) Which course at UTSA does MATH 2413 count as? (UTSA MAT 1214) What are some of the topics covered in COSC 2436 Programming Fundamentals, taken in Semester 3? (Recursion, fundamental data structures, and algorithmic analysis) Why are only UTSA courses listed in Semesters 4 through 8? (Because you've transferred to UTSA by that time.)*

Next, ask students to pair up. Give each pair of students a prompt from the student handout. Ask them to research the websites listed in the handout and write a response in the format of an advice column.

Close the lesson by asking students to share orally if they think transferring from community college to a four-year college is a good idea, and why or why not.