REACH ACT COMPLIANCE FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

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October 16, 2024

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REACH ACT

- Act 26 of 2021, known as the Reinforcing College Education on America's Constitutional Heritage Act (REACH Act), requires undergraduate students of South Carolina public institutions of higher learning to complete a three-credit course in which students, at a minimum, read in their entirety the following Founding Documents:
  - The United States Constitution
  - The Declaration of Independence
  - The Emancipation Proclamation
  - Five (5) Federalist Papers
  - One or more documents foundational to the African American Struggle.

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REACH ACT COMPLIANCE

- The General Assembly tasked the Commission on Higher Education (CHE) with ensuring the public institutions comply with REACH Act provisions and to collect information necessary from public institutions to ensure compliance.
    - CHE collects and reviews syllabi for REACH Act courses taught annually.

REACH ACT COMPLIANCE

- In Fall 2023, CHE clarified the compliance process for transfer students:
  - Beginning in Fall 2024, if an incoming transfer student has a transfer course equivalent to one of USC's REACH Act (FND) courses, the credit hours will be applicable toward their total hours, however, it will not count towards REACH Act compliance unless the transfer in course has been approved by CHE as REACH Act compliant. See list of CHE approved courses.
  - Additionally, beginning in Fall 2024 students should not be approved to take an FND course as a transient student at a non-USC institution, unless that course is a CHE-approved REACH Act course offered at another SC institution.

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REACH ACT COMPLIANCE FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

- Students with an equivalent, but not CHE-approved REACH Act course will be asked to complete an online module that covers the required founding documents.
  - Only transfer students with an equivalent transfer course will be eligible to take this module.
  - Students without an equivalent transfer course will still be expected to complete a 3-hour FND course at USC.

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REACH ACT MODULE FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

Founding Documents Online Course for Transfer Students

Course Content

👁 👁 Read Me First 👁 👁
This module provides an overview of this online course, why it is important, what you'll learn, and what you'll need to do complete it. You'll find more details here.
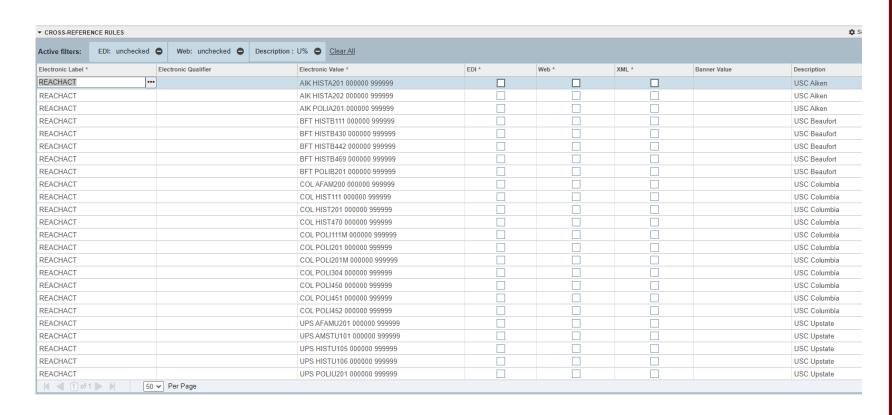
1 Declaration of Independence
Learn about the Declaration of Independence, the document that declared the American colonies' independence from Great Britain. Explore the key ideas and principles expressed in this important historical document.
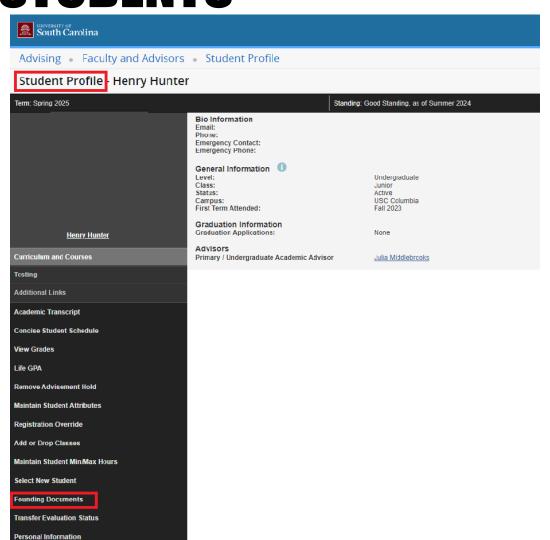
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REACH ACT COMPLIANCE FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

A custom table was created in Banner to store approved REACH Act (FND) completion pathways to include…

- Institutional Courses
- Transfer Courses
- Exam Credit (AP/IB)
- Exemptions
- Non-Course Requirement Completion (Blackboard Module)

▼ CROSS-REFERENCE RULES

Active filters:	EDI: unchecked ⊖	Web: unchecked ⊖	Description : U% ⊖	Clear All					
Electronic Label *	Electronic Qualifier	Electronic Value *		EDI *	Web *	XML *	Banner Value	Description
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REACHACT		COL POLI452 000000 999999		☐	☐	☐		USC Columbia
REACHACT		UPS AFAMU201 000000 999999		☐	☐	☐		USC Upstate
REACHACT		UPS AMSTU101 000000 999999		☐	☐	☐		USC Upstate
REACHACT		UPS HISTU105 000000 999999		☐	☐	☐		USC Upstate
REACHACT		UPS HISTU106 000000 999999		☐	☐	☐		USC Upstate
REACHACT		UPS POLIU201 000000 999999		☐	☐	☐		USC Upstate

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REACH ACT COMPLIANCE FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

- Founding Documents Self Service Page can be found on the Student Profile for both Students and Advisors.

- The page will indicate whether a student has met the requirement.

- If a student has met the requirement, the page will show how the requirement was met.

REACH ACT COMPLIANCE FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

- Founding Document Requirement Met with USC Course

Founding Documents Requirement

Home > Faculty and Advisors > Founding Documents Requirement

This Founding Documents Requirement page applies to students admitted to any USC system campus Fall 2024 and forward. Students admitted between Fall 2021 and Spring 2024 should review their DegreeWorks degree audit and consult with their academic advisor about meeting the Founding Documents requirement.

Per Act 26 of 2021 (Section 59-29-130), all undergraduate students across the University of South Carolina system must complete a course* that covers the founding documents including the U.S. Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, the Emancipation Proclamation, one or more documents foundational to the African American Freedom struggle, and a minimum of five essays from the Federalist Papers.

*Certain transfer students may be eligible to complete an alternative course in Blackboard. Eligible students will be notified by a representative from their USC campus.

Information for Benjamin Lea

Founding Document Requirement Met? Yes

The Founding Documents Requirement was met with the following course:

Fall 2022
POLI201 American National Government
USC Columbia

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REACH ACT COMPLIANCE FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

- Founding Document Requirement Met with Transfer Course

Founding Documents Requirement

Home > Faculty and Advisors > Founding Documents Requirement

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Information for Luke Grayson

Founding Document Requirement Met? Yes

The Founding Documents Requirement was met with the following course:

Spring 2015
HIS201
Greenville Technical College

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REACH ACT COMPLIANCE FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

- Founding Document Requirement Met with AP Exam (we are working to add exam description)

Founding Documents Requirement

Home > Faculty and Advisors > Founding Documents Requirement

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Information for Henry Hunter

Founding Document Requirement Met? Yes

The Founding Documents Requirement was met with the following course:

Spring 2022
AP07
APEXAM

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REACH ACT COMPLIANCE FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

- Founding Document Requirement Exemption: Student admitted prior to Fall 2021

Founding Documents Requirement

Home > Faculty and Advisors > Founding Documents Requirement

This Founding Documents Requirement page applies to students admitted to any USC system campus Fall 2024 and forward. Students admitted between Fall 2021 and Spring 2024 should review their DegreeWorks degree audit and consult with their academic advisor about meeting the Founding Documents requirement.

Per Act 26 of 2021 (Section 59-29-130), all undergraduate students across the University of South Carolina system must complete a course* that covers the founding documents including the U.S. Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, the Emancipation Proclamation, one or more documents foundational to the African American Freedom struggle, and a minimum of five essays from the Federalist Papers.

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Information for Blaine Alexander

Founding Document Requirement Met? Yes

The Founding Documents Requirement was met with the following course:

Fall 2024
ADMR
Pre-2021 Admit Exemption

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REACH ACT COMPLIANCE FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

- Founding Document Requirement Not Met

Founding Documents Requirement

Home > Student > Founding Documents Requirement

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Per Act 26 of 2021 (Section 59-29-130), all undergraduate students across the University of South Carolina system must complete a course* that covers the founding documents including the U.S. Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, the Emancipation Proclamation, one or more documents foundational to the African American Freedom struggle, and a minimum of five essays from the Federalist Papers.

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Information for Aaron C

Founding Document Requirement Met? No

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REACH ACT COMPLIANCE FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

- This new method for tracking the Founding Documents requirement will apply to the 2024-2025 Bulletin and Degreeworks and for academic years moving forward.

- Corresponding Data Warehouse Reports will be available soon.

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THANKS!

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