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UH West O'ahu Creative Media program offers students multiple pathways to bachelor's degree

Offering Bachelor of Applied Science in Creative Media concentration

KAPOLEI --- The University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu recently signed articulation agreements with all seven UH Community Colleges to provide additional pathways to a Creative Media bachelor's degree. The agreement ensures a smooth transfer for UH community college students and those currently taking Creative Media-related coursework into the program, which is also available for high school graduates. The Creative Media concentration prepares students for in-demand careers in transmedia production, graphic design, digital video production, mobile and platform game design, web interface design, iOS Apps, and other digital media outlets.

“We are proud to offer a clear pathway for community college students and those pursuing careers in Creative Media to obtain their bachelor's degree at UH West O'ahu,” said UH West O'ahu Chancellor Rockne Freitas. “Creative Media is a constantly evolving field and students will be able to take advantage of the latest technologies and learn from industry experts right here in West O'ahu. It is a natural partnership since many students first learned Creative Media skills through award-winning high school programs like Wai'anae High School's Searider Productions.”

“These transfer agreements with UH West O'ahu make it easier for our community college students to advance their skills and knowledge in this rapidly expanding creative media industry,” said UH Vice President John Morton. “The consumer's demand for creative content across all digital media is insatiable. This new degree pathway creates another great opportunity for community college students to participate in this exciting field.”

UH West O'ahu's Creative Media program will get a boost this fall with the completion of a brand new, state-of-the-art Creative Media lab and four additional faculty members, including an artist-in-residence, thanks to support from the Academy for Creative Media System. The Creative Media lab includes 20 new iMac computers, state-of-the-art camera equipment, large format scanners and printers, and the latest graphic design and editing software. New lower and upper division coursework will be offered in mobile/transmedia, game design and development, app development, digital archiving, and web design and development in the 2014-2015 academic year.

Interested students may elect to pursue a Bachelor of Arts in Humanities with a concentration in Creative Media or a Bachelor of Applied Science with a concentration in Creative Media at UH West O'ahu after completing recommended associate's degree coursework. Students who

complete or are currently completing 60 credits of 100/200 level coursework in digital media at the following UH Community Colleges are eligible for transfer admission to UH West O'ahu.

- Hawai'i Community College Hilo and Palamanui campuses
- Honolulu Community College
- Kapi'olani Community College
- Kaua'i Community College
- Leeward Community College Pearl City and Wai'anae campuses
- Maui College
- Windward Community College

UH West O'ahu's Creative Media program is offered in partnership with the University of Hawai'i System's Academy for Creative Media that identifies and coordinates the media studies efforts of all University of Hawai'i campuses. Taking full advantage of the system-wide approach, UH West O'ahu's program enables each student to develop his or her unique skill set at the community colleges and then transfer seamlessly to UH West O'ahu for continued scholarship and professional development.

"We are very grateful to the legislature and the governor for the positions and funds provided by SB 1273 to continue to realize the Academy for Creative Media System's mission to, in the words of the UH Board of Regents, 'engage all of the campuses within the University of Hawai'i System and work collaboratively across the system, drawing upon programs, faculty, and students system-wide,'" said Founder and Director of the Academy for Creative Media System, Chris Lee. "By leveraging and augmenting the existing centers of excellence in creative media at all of our campuses and this new articulation agreement, we hope to provide a seamless highway with multiple on-ramps to the 21st century jobs of the creative economy."

Students who have completed Creative Media-related coursework at other community colleges and universities are also eligible for admission to UH West O'ahu's Creative Media program. For more information, contact Assistant Specialist Sharla Hanaoka at (808) 689-2392 or shanaoka@hawaii.edu.

UH West O'ahu is accepting applications for the fall 2014 semester until July 1, 2014. Visit <http://www.uhwo.hawaii.edu/admissions>, email uhwo.admissions@hawaii.edu or call (808) 689-2900.

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UH West O'ahu became a four-year, regional comprehensive university when it served its first class of freshmen in fall 2007. The University offers quality education, small classes and personalized attention at convenient locations. UH West O'ahu serves approximately 2,400 students at its brand new, state-of-the-art campus that opened in the City of Kapolei in 2012. For more information, visit uhwo.hawaii.edu, twitter.com/uhwestoahu, facebook.com/uhwestoahu or call (808) 689-2800 or toll-free (866) 299-8656.