



March 17, 2023

Mr. Tim McDonald
President
Lanier Technical College
2535 Lanier Tech Drive
Gainesville, GA 30507

Dear Mr. McDonald:

Thank you for submitting the following substantive change:

Substantive change:

New Program-Approval

Technical Certificate of Credit in iOS App Development in Swift

Submission date:

12/1/2022

Intended Implementation date:

8/1/2023

Case ID:

SC020626

The 11-credit hour certificate prepares students for positions in app development for various Apple products and emphasizes the skills required to design, develop, and test programs using Swift and Xcode. The program will target professionals currently working in the field and will be open to students enrolled in the institution's Computer Information Systems program. The projected number of students in the first year of the program is 12 (evening/online), growing to 20 by the third year of the initiative. Instruction will be delivered through a combination of face-to-face and distance education methods of delivery on the Forsyth Campus (name as it appears in the SACSCOC database).

Program need was informed by U.S. Department of Labor Statistics and by the extensive use of Swift by many app and software developers. The program advances objectives in the institution's strategic plan and aligns with the institution's mission to provide *career-technical education programs*. Faculty input in the development of the program was effected through review and approval by the institutional Curriculum/Instruction Committee, composed primarily of faculty. The program has also been approved by the institution's President and by the State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia.

A curriculum plan, projected schedule of courses, and course descriptions were provided. The foundation course and the first hands-on development course will be delivered in half-terms in the fall, with the second development course offered in the regular 15-week spring semester. Program goals and student learning outcomes were delineated, and learning outcomes will be measured through criterion-referenced exams and rubric-scored projects. Admissions (non-competitive process) and graduation requirements were



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noted. Discussion of adherence to Standard 10.7 (policies for awarding credit) referenced congruence with State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia policy and U.S. Department of Education guidelines. Discussion of the responsibility of faculty program coordinators and academic deans in ensuring the course structure and calculations for credit hours was noted. The Computer Information Systems Program Director will provide administrative oversight of the program and reports to the Dean of Advanced Technology and Engineering.

The Computer Information Systems Technology program consists of four (4) full-time faculty, and a Faculty Roster for a full-time faculty member to teach courses in the certificate program was provided. Faculty qualifications and adequacy of faculty appear appropriate. Keep in mind that the ultimate determination of faculty qualifications is the responsibility of the peer review team who will assess the program as part of the institution's next SACSCOC accreditation review.

The extent of library resources to support the program includes print and electronic volumes, streaming videos, and electronic journals (selected list of resources included). Library resources are accessible via the institution's website, and users have access to the online library catalog, library orientation, resources, guides/tutorials, and others. The library uses OpenAthens, an authentication service to access online and electronic resources. Library services are discussed as part of New Student Orientation each semester, and students may contact library staff through email, telephone, or online chat.

Students have access to established student support services. Discussion of the range of services provided was noted.

A dedicated classroom for the program has been identified on the Forsyth Campus. The program requires use of the Xcode integrated programming environment and the iOS Software Development Kit running on a Macintosh computer. MacBook Pro computers have been purchased with a charging cart for the initial cohort of students. Multiple iOS devices will also be purchased to test student-developed applications. A locked storage closet is adjacent to the classroom for equipment storage when classes are not in session.

Programming costs for the first year of the initiative noted resources needed for the instructor salary, equipment/supplies, training/travel, and library materials as specified by the program director. The only expense in the second and third years of the program will be faculty salary. Financial support will come from state and local funds (tuition/fees), with CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) act funds already used for program development. Positive net revenue is projected beginning in the implementation year. Financial support appears adequate, and contingency planning was noted.



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Institutional effectiveness is assessed through strategic plan reviews, annual unit plans, student learning outcomes assessment reports, and other indirect assessment. Educational program groups comprise every credential offered by the institution, and the program director over each program group works with institutional effectiveness staff to construct matrices used to validate assessment of student learning outcomes. Faculty analyze assessment data and write a response including any needed changes to improve student learning. The certificate will be incorporated into the established Computer Information Systems report.

The Board of Trustees of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges reviewed the materials seeking approval of the Technical Certificate of Credit in iOS App Development in Swift. It was the decision of the Board to approve the program and include it in the scope of accreditation.

Enclosed is an invoice for \$500 to help defray the cost of reviewing the prospectus.

Should you need assistance, please contact Dr. Denise Y. Young at (404) 492-5386 or via email at dyoung@sacscoc.org.

Please include the Case ID number above in all submissions or correspondence about this substantive change.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Belle S. Wheelan".

Belle S. Wheelan, Ph.D.
President

BSW/MAC:lp

Enclosure (invoice with liaison's copy only)

cc: Dr. Joanne P. Tolleson, Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness and Operations, Lanier
Technical College
Dr. Denise Y. Young, Vice President, SACSCOC