

FS CURRICULUM COMMITTEE
REPORT NO. 3 – FEBRUARY 10, 2011
CORE CURRICULUM – PHILOSOPHY 2043

The following was the report given to Faculty Senate on December 9, 2010:

PHI 2043 – INTRODUCTORY LOGIC

This proposal was suggested for inclusion in Domain II (Mathematics). The intent of Domain II (2010-2012 UTSA catalog) is:

Students must demonstrate knowledge of higher mathematics sufficient to understand the basis of mathematical reasoning.

Under Domain II, students “must complete one course (3 semester credit hours)” from six mathematics or statistics courses listed under this domain or they may complete another mathematics or statistics course at an equivalent or more advanced level.

In addition to the committee members present, Dr. Sandy Norman, Chair of the Department of Mathematics, Dr. Michael Almeida, Chair of the Department of Philosophy and Classics, and Dr. Lawrence Williams, Vice Provost and Dean of Office of Undergraduate Studies, attended the meeting. During an extensive discussion of the proposal, it was suggested that while an introductory logic course is valuable, students need to have a basic quantitative experience at the level of algebra or statistics. Some members expressed concern that the inclusion of this course in Domain II would result in some UTSA students receiving degrees without gaining the skills needed to understand, interpret and evaluate real data. In addition, the course did not meet the student learning outcomes generated by the University regarding quantitative literacy, which emphasizes students graduating with knowledge and skills required to perform quantitative literary tasks, such as identifying and performing computations using numbers embedded in printed materials. Proponents contended that the introductory logic course satisfies the goal of Domain II and it would meet the same needs of undergraduate students as one of the mathematics or statistics courses.

After completion of the discussion, a motion was made and seconded to reject the introductory logic course for inclusion in the Core Curriculum. Eight members voted to reject the inclusion of the course, and four members voted not to reject. The recommendation of the Committee is to reject the inclusion of the introductory logic course into Domain II.

This report was received by the Faculty Senate on December 9, 2010, but no vote was taken.

Resolved that PHI 2043 not be included in Domain II of the Core Curriculum.