

**FACULTY SENATE – SEPTEMBER 13, 2012 MEETING
UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE
REPORT**

The University Curriculum Committee (UCC) reviewed 117 courses proposals for the UTSA Core Curriculum to be included in the 2014-2016 Undergraduate Catalog.

Revised State Core Curriculum

On October 27, 2011, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) approved the proposal for a revised core curriculum beginning in the fall of 2014. Under the revised core curriculum, all institutions will have a 42-semester credit hour (SCH) core (no exceptions). The core curriculum consists of the eight component areas (CA) shown in Table 1. The number of SCHs required in each component area is also provided in Table 1.

Table 1. Eight Component Areas and Required SCH

Component Area	Required SCH
American History	6
Communication	6
Creative Arts	3
Government/Political Science	6
Language, Philosophy, and Culture	3
Life and Physical Sciences	6
Mathematics	3
Social and Behavioral Sciences	3
Total SCH	36

In addition to the 36 SCHs shown in Table 1, 6 hours may be allocated to any of the eight component areas to complete the required 42 hours.

Revised UTSA Core Curriculum

In addition to the UTSA Core Curriculum meeting the required 36 hours noted in Table 1, it was proposed that a 3-hour course (Academic Inquiry & Scholarship) be included in the core curriculum of all UTSA students. It was originally suggested that it be included in the Social and Behavioral Science component area, but based upon the intent and objectives of the component areas, it was determined that it should be included in the Language, Philosophy, and Culture component area. This would increase the required SCHs to 6 for that area. The remaining 3 SCHs may be included in any of the eight component areas. This option may be based upon major requirements or at the election of the student.

Process

Guidelines for submitting course proposals for the UTSA Core Curriculum were developed by the UTSA Core Curriculum Committee. These guidelines and THECB core curriculum information were distributed to faculty through department chairs and college deans. Information was also provided on the Core

Curriculum Web site and workshops were conducted to assist faculty in writing proposals. Proposals were due by March 1, 2012. Sub-committees for each component area were formed to review the proposals, and rubrics were developed to use in evaluating each course for each component area. The rubrics used in the evaluations are provided in Appendix A. The sub-committees met during March and forwarded their recommendations to the Core Curriculum Committee. After the Core Curriculum Committee reviewed the proposals and recommendations from the sub-committees (during April and May), their recommendations were forwarded to the University Curriculum Committee (UCC).

The University Curriculum Committee met on May 23, 2012, to begin review of the proposals that had been recommended. The UCC members reviewed these proposals (117) over the summer and provided feedback (ratings and comments). These ratings and comments were accumulated and distributed at a meeting of the UCC on August 28, 2012. Each course proposal was considered and a recommendation made with respect to rejection or acceptance. The recommendation and comments were entered into the Core Curriculum Web site [<https://coreproposal.utsa.edu>]. Recommendations and Summary Comments are also shown in Appendix B. The individual committee members' comments and ratings are not shown on Appendix B; only the final recommendation and summary comments. Twenty-one proposals (including academic inquiry) had been denied by the Core Curriculum Committee and were under revision. The committee received those proposals on September 4, 2012, and they will be reviewed and recommendations made for the October Faculty Senate meeting.

The committee approved all of the recommendations. **Be it resolved** that the 117 course proposals be approved as noted on Appendix B.