

Tracking Cougar Curriculum



January 2018

THE BENEFITS OF AUTHORIZED PATHWAYS

When a discipline decides to become a program and can point to a well-defined series of courses that are both transferable to a university and applicable to a baccalaureate degree, the benefits are many. Students can earn an associate degree in the discipline and transfer with confidence that their Collin College courses will count towards their degree. The discipline can be added to the programs in the catalog and to diplomas along with the associate's degree to indicate a student's disciplinary concentration. Students participating in the program can be identified and their progress tracked to provide valuable information for further curriculum development and student support. And best of all, there are multiple ways to bring this about.

THECB FIELD OF STUDY CURRICULA

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has planned an aggressive, twenty-five program schedule aimed at creating new Fields of Study (FOS) and revising existing ones. All public institutions are required by state law to accept THECB-approved FOS courses for credit toward a degree program in that major. An institution whose lower division coursework does not correspond to the courses in the FOS must substitute FOS coursework for that institution's lower-division requirements. Contact the Curriculum Office for more information about adopting the FOS for your discipline and the companion academic certificate.

All of the THECB-approved FOS are available at this website: <http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/index.cfm?objectid=0BDF101B-0B61-7D8D-392A61E18CBC7093>

Information about current and forthcoming FOS Advisory Committees is available at this website:

<http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/index.cfm?objectid=32CCD247-B867-661B-B8F3BBF641F46BC5>

GENERAL EDUCATION CORE OBJECTIVES

- Critical Thinking
- Communication
- Empirical and Quantitative Skills
- Teamwork
- Personal Responsibility
- Social Responsibility

FOUNDATIONAL COMPONENT AREAS (with credit hours)

- American History (6)
- Communication (6)
- Creative Arts (3)
- Government/Political Science (6)
- Language, Philosophy and Culture (3)
- Life & Physical Sciences (6)
- Mathematics (3)
- Social & Behavioral Sciences (3)
- Component Area Option [distributed across the components] (6)

BEYOND THE THECB

But what if there is no FOS in your discipline? Consider developing an academic certificate. Careful research into the coursework required for the majors in your discipline at area universities will give you all the information you need to plan an articulation agreement and build a matching academic certificate. See next month's "Tracking Cougar Curriculum" to get step by step instructions for developing an academic certificate.

IMPLEMENTING YOUR PROGRAM

The fourth phase of the ADDIE Model for instructional design is **IMPLEMENTATION**.

During the implementation phase, the delivery team will establish the timetable for the course rollout; schedule the courses, enroll learners, and reserve classrooms; notify learners about the new course; select faculty; order textbooks; and ensure all instructional materials and/or equipment are available.

To prevent any problems in the implementation phase, many instructional designers will suggest creating a pilot course before offering the course to general academic student body.

Next month we complete the ADDIE Model series with a look at **EVALUATION**.

