These events are happening at the same time with different groups of players and different goals. Here’s a brief description of these terms and ways to distinguish them.

**Continuous Improvement Planning** (CIP) is the 2-year cycle of analyzing results and planning, then implementing & collecting data. “Analyze, plan, do & assess.” to improve your program or service unit results.

**Program Review** occurs on a five (5) year cycle, encompasses two 2-year cycles of Continuous Improvement Planning that roll up to support the fifth year of self-study. Findings are considered to determine a program’s needs. The schedule, timeline, self-study templates, and other information are available at the Teaching and Learning or the Curriculum intranet (CougarWeb) sites.

**Core Review by CAB** The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) has just completed major changes in the Texas Common Core curriculum. The biggest change replaces the exemplary educational objectives, basic intellectual competencies and perspectives on higher education with six core objectives.

The Curriculum Advisory Board (CAB), a faculty committee representing all core disciplines, workforce programs, and developmental areas, has undertaken the state-mandated core review process for Collin College. You may find a detailed description of the core review process, guidelines and a template for submitting a course for faculty review on the intranet.

### Texas 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 & Culture (3)
- Life and Physical Sciences (6)
- Mathematics (3)
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (3)
- Component Area Option [distributed across the components] (6)

## General Objectives Assessment with COAT

In order to develop a process for assessing the Collin College general education competencies, a faculty committee called COAT—Core Objectives Assessment Team—was established. This team has developed rubrics for each Texas core objective and posted them on the Teaching & Learning intranet site.

Each term, COAT will choose a sample of course sections representing campuses, times, instructor status, and delivery mode. Instructors of these sections will provide student artifacts to be assessed by a broad representation of full-time faculty using the rubrics. These rubrics are designed to capture the level of competency demonstrated by students for the required objectives. They will be shared with students enrolled in general education courses to establish observable criteria and a common assessment vocabulary for achieving the Texas general education core objectives and the college’s general education competencies.