Collin College’s curriculum is directly related and appropriate to the purpose and goals of the institution and the diplomas, certificates, or degrees awarded. The College offers an associate of arts degree, an associate of arts in teaching degree and an associate of science degree composed of freshman and sophomore academic coursework for university transfer. Collin College also offers a variety of associate of applied science degree and certificate programs to prepare students for the workforce. A complete list of degrees and certificates programs, and the courses required for each, is outlined in the 2009-2010 Collin College Catalog. An excerpt from the Collin College purpose statement, as documented in the 2009-2010 Collin College Catalog (page 15) and Board Policy AD (LEGAL), directly related to credit diplomas, certificates and degrees states, “through its campuses, centers and programs, Collin County Community College District fulfills its mission, purpose and goals by providing the following:

- Academic courses in the arts and sciences to transfer to senior institutions.
- Technical programs, leading to associate degrees or certificates, designed to develop marketable skills and promote economic development…”
The degrees and certificates awarded by Collin College are also consistent with the role and mission of public junior colleges as mandated in the Texas Education Code and Collin College Board Policy AD (LEGAL):

TEXAS EDUCATION CODE Sec. 130.0011. PUBLIC JUNIOR COLLEGES; ROLE AND MISSION. Texas public junior colleges shall be two-year institutions primarily serving their local taxing districts and service areas in Texas and offering vocational, technical, and academic courses for certification or associate degrees…

**APPROPRIATENESS OF DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES**

The associate of arts, associate of arts in teaching and associate of science curricula align with the rules established by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB). Through the THECB’s Lower Division Academic Course Guide Manual (ACGM), the THECB defines core requirements, degree length and course descriptions. Collin College faculty follow ACGM guidelines while developing and modifying academic programs.

The THECB’s Guidelines for Instructional Programs in Workforce Education (GIPWE) provides additional rules for the development of vocational and technical degree and certificate programs. Program and course requirements for vocational and technical awards must meet occupational skills required of the field, which are identified through environmental scanning, external accrediting bodies and input from advisory committees. Each vocational or technical degree program has an established advisory committee comprised of faculty in the discipline and representatives from local business and industry. Advisory committees play an essential role in ensuring that the curriculum is current and relevant to business and industry needs as documented in meeting
minutes. Minutes from Office Systems Technology and Fire Science advisory committee meetings provide examples of curricular discussions.

**CURRICULAR REVIEW**

Collin College utilizes a systematic curriculum development and review process conducted by the faculty-led Curriculum Advisory Board (CAB). CAB meets monthly during the academic year to hear departmental proposals to initiate or revise courses and programs at Collin College. CAB ensures the curriculum is directly related to the purpose and goals of the institution and aligns with curricular guidelines established by the THECB. CAB recommendations are approved by an academic officer prior to implementation or submission to the THECB and SACS for additional approval.

**SOURCE DOCUMENTS**

2009-2010 Collin College Catalog