

FACULTY SENATE – OCTOBER 11, 2012 MEETING
UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE
REPORT #2

The University Curriculum Committee (UCC) previously reviewed and presented recommendations for 117 courses proposals for the UTSA Core Curriculum, and these were approved by the Faculty Senate at the September 13, 2012, meeting.

As previously reported, 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 UTSA Core Curriculum meeting the required 36 hours noted in Table 1, it was proposed that a 3-hour course (Academic Introduction & Strategies) be included in the core curriculum of all UTSA students. It was originally suggested that the course be included in the Social and Behavioral Science component area, but based upon the intent and objectives of the component areas, the CCC 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 to meet the 42-hour requirement may be included in any of the eight component areas.

Originally, the Academic Introduction & Strategies course proposal had been denied by the Core Curriculum Committee, but has since been approved after revisions. The UCC met on September 28 and reviewed the revised Academic Introduction & Strategies course proposal. While the UCC approved the concept of an Academic Introduction course, it felt there were several issues with the proposed content and syllabus (e.g., too advanced for freshmen, vague content, difficulty in addressing all areas by one instructor, covered too many areas across university – perhaps more flexibility by college) that needed to be addressed before approving the proposal, syllabus and assessment plan. The UCC recommends the proposal be tabled and allow for a resubmission that addressed our concerns. Pending these revisions and our review, the UCC will make a recommendation to the faculty senate.