Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Review of the Academic Course Guide Manual

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Transferable and Fundable Courses for two-year Colleges

- Pre-approved freshman and sophomore academic courses
- Arranged by Texas Common Course Numbers (TCCNS)
- Includes funding codes for reporting courses
- Prescribes semester credit and contact hours
- Includes the course description
- Includes student learning outcomes
- Includes developmental education
- Technical workforce courses have a separate manual

Background and History

1980s
- Ad hoc committee
- ACGM organized by Classification of Instruction Codes (CIP)

1990s
- Statewide Common Numbers (TCCNS)
- Standing Advisory Committee

2000s
- Field of Study and Core Curriculum
- ACGM online as PDF; TCCNS as searchable database

2010s
- Student Learning Outcomes added
- ACGM online as searchable database
- Advisory Committee does annual comprehensive review of enrollments

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Realities and/or Aspirations

- 2-year college's ACGM courses are guaranteed transferable. Transferability is not the same as applicability.

- Universities identify ACGM/TCCNS course equivalents in their catalog and on websites.

- Universities include ACGM/TCCNS course equivalents in each foundation and component area of core curriculum.

- Required reporting of ACGM/TCCNS courses helps identify transfer patterns.

- ACGM/TCCNS courses are the building blocks for transfer initiatives.

- ACGM Student Learning Outcomes Project aligns community college courses with university courses.

ACGM Advisory Committee Membership

- 18 voting members approved by the Board
- 3-year term appointments
- 1/3 of membership rotates every year
- 9 public universities
- 9 public 2-year colleges
- 1 ex officio (TCCNS)
- Members are from enrollment management, transfer articulation, institutional research, advising, assessment, academic deans, academic VP, department heads, and faculty

Improvement and Change

Addition

- ACGM Advisory Committee approves and recommends the additions of courses to the Board
- Exception: Courses in a Board-approved field of study curriculum as outlined under §4.32 of this title (relating to Field of Study Curricula), or a statewide transfer compact shall automatically be added to the ACGM. RULE §9.73

Deletion

- ACGM Advisory Committee approves and recommends the deletion of courses to the Board
- ACGM Advisory Committee identifies courses as underutilized and/or obsolete through the annual comprehensive review of enrollments
- Discipline faculty of the Learning Outcomes Projects may be asked to make recommendations
- Institutions may appeal a scheduled deletion
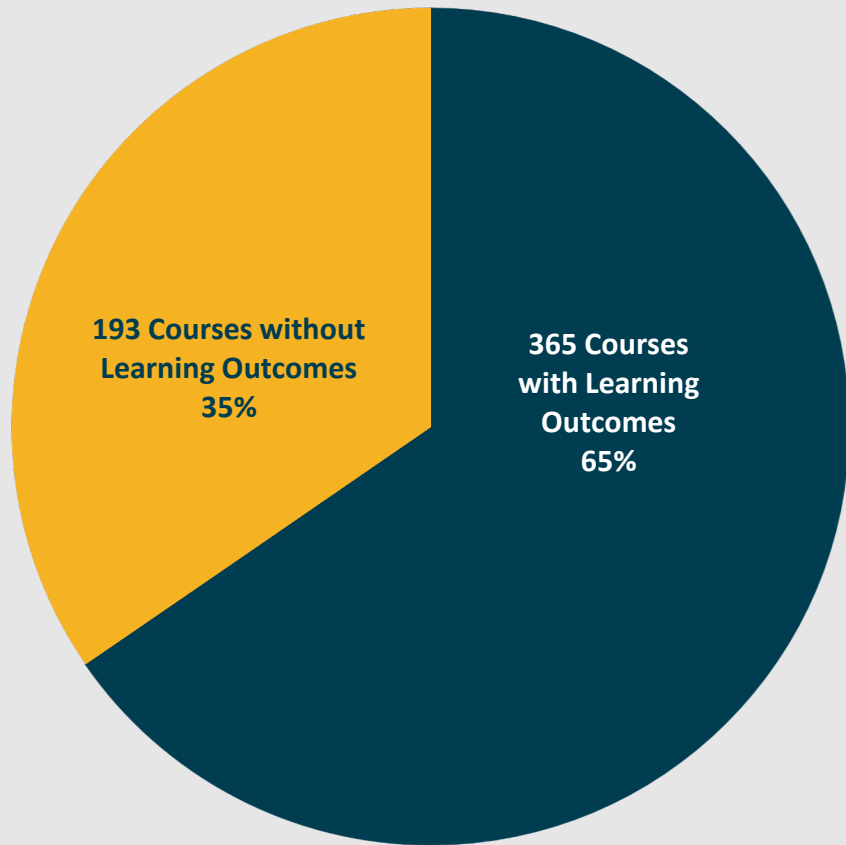
Modification

- ACGM Advisory Committee approves and recommends modifications of course to the Board
- Discipline faculty of the Learning Outcomes Projects
- Institutions can propose modifications and new courses
- Professional academic organizations consulted

Data and Rules for Decision Making

- Annual review includes enrollments for community college courses and courses reported by universities as equivalents

- Five years of data are reviewed

- Rules require that courses offered by **three** or fewer two-year colleges be reviewed and considered for deletion.

- A course to be added to the ACGM must either satisfy a discipline-specific requirement in the major, or satisfy a prerequisite requirement of the major, of a baccalaureate program at **five** or more Texas public universities; RULE §9.73

- A two-year teach-out and appeal period for courses scheduled for deletion

ACGM Learning Outcomes Project

There are 558 active and continuing courses in the ACGM. Courses without Learning Outcomes are 47 language courses, 45 academic cooperatives, 52 science courses for non-science majors, and 49 additional courses scattered through multiple disciplines

193 Courses without Learning Outcomes 35%

365 Courses with Learning Outcomes 65%

- Workgroup participants are discipline faculty from public universities and two-year colleges
- Review syllabi from institutions offering the courses
- Consider enrollments and sequencing
- Revise course descriptions and develop learning outcomes
- Review contact hours, course title, and semester credit hours
- Recommend deletions of courses within the discipline
- Public comment period

Questions?