Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

The Texas Core Curriculum

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Statement of Purpose

Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.

Texas Core Curriculum Structure

42 Semester Credit Hours (SCH)

8 Foundational Component Areas (FCA)

010 - Communication (6 SCH)

020 - Mathematics (3 SCH)

030 - Life and Physical Sciences (6 SCH)

040 - Language, Philosophy, & Culture (3 SCH)

050 - Creative Arts (3 SCH)

060 - American History (6 SCH)

070 - Government/Political Science (6 SCH)

080 - Social and Behavioral Science (3 SCH)

1 Component Area Option (CAO)

091 to 098 - Option A (3-6 SCH) 090 - Option B (0-3 SCH)

6 Core Objectives

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

Transferability

- In whole or by course
- To degree, not necessarily major
- Course must be a core curriculum course when and where it was taken
- Credit for non-public Texas coursework at institution's discretion
- Allow for different achievement levels

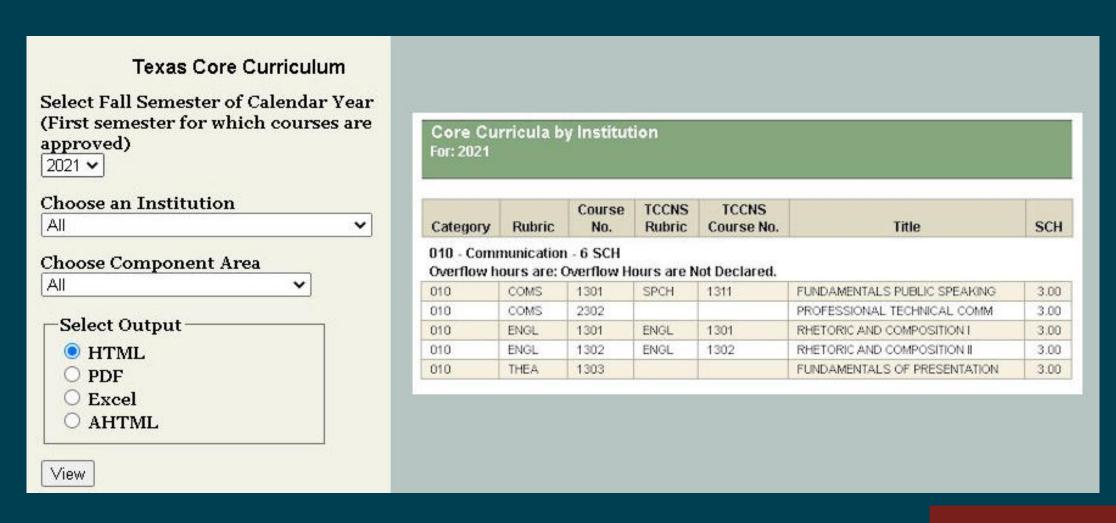
Texas Core Curriculum Resources

The Texas Core Curriculum (TCC)

Coordinating Board webpage: www.highered.texas.gov/TCC (direct link)

- Links to statute and rules
- PDF document: History and TCC Components
- TCC Web Center: List of core curriculum courses by institution.

Texas Core Curriculum Web Center



General Education

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Foundational Component Areas

Introduction to the work in eight academic areas:

- 1. Communication Rhetoric, written communication, technical writing, etc.
- 2. Mathematics Elementary math, statistics, logic, calculus, etc.
- 3. Life and Physical Sciences Scientific method
- 4. Language, Philosophy, and Culture Cultural expressions of the human experience
- 5. American History
 Events and ideas relative to the United States including Texas
- 6. Government/Political Science
 Constitution of the United States and Texas
- 7. Creative Arts
 Film, theatre, dance, music, visual arts, etc.
- 8. Social and Behavioral Sciences Economics, psychology, ethics, society, human development, etc.

Foundational Knowledge for All Future Learning

Scope of Topics

Breadth and depth across time and cultures

Appreciation of work in eight academic areas includes a foundation of:

- Developments over time
- Diversity or interconnectedness across cultures
- Dynamics between groups and constructs
- Foundation on which to build future achievements

Suitable for All Majors

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Foundational Component Areas Definitions

Two-part definition for each FCA:

Examples:

- Language, Philosophy, and Culture
 - o Focus on how ideas, values, beliefs, express and effect human experience
 - o Explore ideas that foster aesthetic and intellectual creation
- Creative Arts
 - o Appreciate and analyze of creative works of the human imagination
 - o Enable critical, creative, and innovative communication
- Social and Behavioral Sciences
 - Empirical and scientific methods for the understanding of what makes us human
 - Explore behavior and interactions and their impact on the individual, society, and culture

Skills

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Core Objectives

Core objective skills are tied to the FCA:

The core objectives are taught through the materials and topics of the course.

- All courses require "Critical Thinking" and "Communication"
- "Empirical and Quantitative Skills"
 - o In Math, Life and Physical Sciences, Social and Behavioral Sciences
- "Social Responsibility"
 - o In Language, Philosophy & Culture (LP&C), Creative Arts, American History, Government/Political Sciences, and Social and Behavioral Sciences
- "Personal Responsibility"
 - o In Communication, LP&C, American History, Government/Political Sciences
- "Teamwork"
 - o In Math, Life and Physical Sciences, Social and Behavioral Sciences

Summary

Core curriculum course

- General education course
- Suitable for all majors
- Foundational knowledge for all future learning

Courses not appropriate for the core curriculum

- Major-only courses
- Courses with a narrow scope
- Advanced upper-division courses
- Individual skills courses
- Skills for a profession courses

Questions?