

Academic Course Guide Manual, Core Curriculum, and Dual Credit



Texas Higher Education
Coordinating Board

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Lower Division Academic Course Guide Manual (ACGM) for Two Year Colleges

- ❖ Pre-approved freshman & sophomore academic courses
- ❖ Arranged by Texas Common Course Numbers (TCCNS)
- ❖ Includes funding approval codes for reporting courses
- ❖ Prescribes contact and credit hours
- ❖ Includes course descriptions
- ❖ Includes course student learning outcomes
- ❖ Includes developmental education courses
- ❖ Available online as a PDF and interactive database

ACGM Importance

- ❖ ACGM courses guaranteed transferable
- ❖ Universities' transfer information in catalog and web sites identifies equivalent ACGM/TCCNS courses
- ❖ Universities' Core Curricula include ACGM/TCCNS courses in each area
- ❖ Required reporting of ACGM/TCCNS courses helps identify transfer patterns
- ❖ ACGM/TCCNS courses are the building blocks for Field of Study (FOS) curricula, which are guaranteed applicable to bachelor's degrees
- ❖ ACGM Student Learning Outcomes Project aligns community college courses with university courses

ACGM Change

- ❖ ACGM Advisory Committee approves additions, deletions, and modifications of courses
 - Discipline faculty workgroups of the Learning Outcomes Projects
 - Institutions
 - Professional academic organizations
- ❖ ACGM Advisory Committee responds to statewide initiatives (FOS, Tuning, TSI)
- ❖ ACGM Advisory Committee identifies courses as underutilized and/or obsolete

ACGM Advisory Committee Membership

- ❖ 18 Voting Members approved by the Board
 - Appointments for a 3-year term
 - 1/3 of membership rotates every year
 - 9 Universities
 - 9 Community Colleges

- ❖ 1 Ex Officio (TCCNS)

- ❖ Members are from Enrollment Management, Transfer Articulation, Institutional Research, Advising, Assessment, Academic Deans, Academic VP, Department Heads, Faculty

ACGM Learning Outcomes Project

- ❖ 2010 - First learning outcomes were added to ENGR (Engineering) courses as part of Texas Tuning Project
- ❖ 2011 - ACGM Learning Outcomes Project began with courses in disciplines of HIST, ENGL, GOVT, MATH, ECON
- ❖ Participants- discipline specific faculty from universities and community colleges
- ❖ Benefits
 - Students: Preparation
 - Faculty: Clarification
 - Institutions: Creditability
 - State: Efficiency

ACGM Learning Outcomes Project Process

- ❖ Revise course description
- ❖ Develop Learning Outcomes
 - Follow the style convention of the ACGM
 - Make the learning outcomes measurable
- ❖ Review contact hours, course title, and semester credit hours
- ❖ Recommend deletions of courses
- ❖ Respond to comments

History Courses in the ACGM

- ❖ HIST 1301 & 1302 United States History I & II w/LO
- ❖ HIST 2301 Texas History w/LO
- ❖ HIST 2311 & 2312 Western Civilization I & II w/LO
- ❖ HIST 2321 & 2322 World Civilizations I & II w/LO
- ❖ HIST 2327 & 2328 Mexican-American History I & II
- ❖ HIST 2381 African-American History

History Course Enrollments FY 2015

ACGM/TCCNS Courses	2 yr Colleges		Universities	
	Students	Inst	Students	Inst
HIST 1301 United States History I	162,239	72	58,927	34
HIST 1302 United States History II	132,190	73	57,337	35
HIST 2301 Texas History	6,712	54	2,794	9
HIST 2311 Western Civilization I	2,158	31	2,697	13
HIST 2312 Western Civilization II	1,164	25	2,101	14
HIST 2321 World Civilizations I	3,165	40	2,195	17
HIST 2322 World Civilizations II	2,334	35	2,083	17
HIST 2327 Mexican-American History I	677	14	0	0
HIST 2328 Mexican-American History II	569	17	0	0
HIST 2381 African-American History	480	11	972	2

Texas Core Curriculum

Foundational Component Areas (FCA)	Semester Credit Hours
Communication	6
Mathematics	3
Life & Physical Sciences	6
Language, Philosophy & Culture (LPC)	3
Creative Arts	6
American History (AH)	6
Government/Political Science	3
Social & Behavioral Science (SBS)	3
Component Area Option (CAO)	6
TOTAL	42

Core Curriculum Objectives

- ❖ **Critical Thinking Skills (CT)** - creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- ❖ **Communication Skills (COM)** - effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- ❖ **Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS)** - manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- ❖ **Teamwork (TW)** - ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
- ❖ **Social Responsibility(SR)** - intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities
- ❖ **Personal Responsibility (PR)** - ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making

Foundational Component Areas (FCA)

❖ **American History (AH)**

Focus on the consideration of past events and ideas relative to the United States, with the option of including Texas History for a portion of this component area. Involve the interaction among individuals, communities, states, the nation, and the world, considering how these interactions have contributed to the development of the United States and its global role.

Core Objectives: Critical Thinking, Communication, Social Responsibility, Personal Responsibility

❖ **Language, Philosophy & Culture (LPC)**

Focus on how ideas, values, beliefs, and other aspects of culture express and affect human experience. Involve the exploration of ideas that foster aesthetic and intellectual creation in order to understand the human condition across cultures.

Core Objectives: Critical Thinking, Communication, Social Responsibility, Personal Responsibility

❖ **Social Behavioral Sciences (SBS)**

Focus on the application of empirical and scientific methods that contribute to the understanding of what makes us human. Involve the exploration of behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events, examining their impact on the individual, society, and culture.

Core Objectives: Critical Thinking, Communication, Empirical Quantitative Analysis, Social Responsibility

Core Course Approval & Core Assessment

❖ A good syllabus goes a long way

- Rule 4.227 defines syllabus
- At a minimum, include the following:
 - brief description of each major course requirement, including each major assignment and examination
 - the measurable learning outcomes for the course
 - a general description of the subject matter of each lecture or discussion;
 - lists of any required or recommended readings
- HB 2504

❖ Assessment

- Determined by each institution.
- Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP) - a set of sample rubrics normed at more than 80 colleges and universities as part of the Valid Assessment of Learning in Undergraduate Education (VALUE)

History Courses in Core Curriculum at Institutions

ACGM/TCCNS Courses	Component Area			
	AH	LPC	SBS	CAO
HIST 1301 United States History I	87			9
HIST 1302 United States History II	87			10
HIST 2301 Texas History	37		4	11
HIST 2311 Western Civilization I		24	6	12
HIST 2312 Western Civilization II		22	5	12
HIST 2321 World Civilizations I		22	6	11
HIST 2322 World Civilizations II		22	6	12
HIST 2327 Mexican-American History I	10		1	4
HIST 2328 Mexican-American History II	11			5
HIST 2381 African-American History	6		2	4

Dual Credit Statute and Rules

- ❖ **Texas Education Code (TEC) 130.008**
 - Outlines how agreements between public junior colleges and school districts establish which college courses also apply for high school credit.

- ❖ **Texas Education Code (TEC) 28.009**
 - Requires that each school district implement a program under which students may earn at least 12 semester credit hours of college credit in high school.

- ❖ **Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Ch. 4, Sub. D**
 - Sections 4.81 through 4.85 addresses Dual Credit Partnerships

Dual Credit Basics

❖ Dual Credit Partnership

- must be approved by governing boards of college and public or private high school prior to offering courses

❖ Eligible Courses

- ACGM
- Workforce Education
- University's approved lower division course inventory

Funding for dual credit courses limited to core curriculum, career and technical education courses, and foreign language courses.

❖ Grade Level Eligibility

- 9th-12th grades-as agreed upon in local policy

❖ Dual Credit Course Load: no limit in rules-as agreed upon in local policy

Dual Credit Partnerships

❖ Institutional Agreements

Texas Administrative Code TAC Ch. 9, Sub. H, Section 9.144

❖ Elements to be addressed in the Agreement

- student eligibility
- faculty qualifications
- location and student composition of classes
- provision of student learning and support services
- eligible courses
- grading criteria
- transcription of credit
- funding provisions

Teaching Dual Credit Courses

❖ Curriculum

- The college shall ensure that a dual credit course and the corresponding course offered at the main campus of the college are equivalent with respect to curriculum, materials, instruction, and method/rigor of student evaluation.

❖ Faculty

- Faculty must meet the same standards and approval procedures used by the college to select faculty responsible for teaching the same courses at the main campus of the college.
- The college shall supervise and evaluate instructors of dual credit courses using the same procedures used for faculty at the main campus of the college.

Dual Credit Growth

- ❖ **Fall 2000 Dual Credit Enrollment**
Statewide Headcount 17,784
- ❖ **Fall 2005 Dual Credit Enrollment**
Statewide Headcount 42,167
- ❖ **Fall 2010 Dual Credit Enrollment**
Statewide Headcount 90,364
- ❖ **Fall 2015 Dual Credit Enrollment**
Statewide Headcount 133,342

HIST 1301 Dual Credit Enrollments & Grade Distribution

Year	Total Dual Credit Enrollment	Dual Credit Enrollment on High School Campus	Dual Credit Enrollment Other Locations
Fall 2012	20332	8219 (40%)	12,113 (60%)
% A or B		73%	69%
Fall 2013	20,227	9761 (48%)	10,466 (52%)
% A or B		78%	70%
Fall 2014	21,680	10,158 (47%)	11,522 (53%)
% A or B		77%	70%

More Information about ACGM, Core Curriculum, and Dual Credit

- ❖ www.thecb.state.tx.us/
- ❖ www.thecb.state.tx.us/ACGM
- ❖ www.thecb.state.tx.us/TXcorecurriculum
- ❖ www.thecb.state.tx.us/CoreCurriculumSearch
- ❖ www.txhighereddata.org/

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