Fields of Study
A Texas Transfer Initiative

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How FOS Helps *60x30TX*

- All college courses transfer, but not everything applies to a degree
- Applying coursework to a major is the problem, and reaching the goals of *60x30TX* will require degree pathways that minimize time and hours to degree
  - Educated population
  - Completion
  - Debt
FOS Part of a Portfolio of Solutions

• Degree Plan and Advising
  • Required when a student accumulates 30 semester credit hours

• Core Curriculum
  • 42 semester credit hour core curriculum required of all students

• Programs of Study
  • Block of lower division career and technical education courses for transfer
  • Applies to certificate and Associate of Applied Science programs

• Academic Course Guide Manual (ACGM)

• Common Course Numbering System
What is FOS?

• Texas Education Code, Chapter 61, Section 61.823, Field of Study Curriculum: “If a student successfully completes a field of study curriculum developed by the board, that block of courses may be transferred to a general academic teaching institution and must be substituted for that institution's lower division requirements for the degree program for the field of study into which the student transfers, and the student shall receive full academic credit toward the degree program for the block of courses transferred.”
What is FOS?

• If a student completes part of the FOS curriculum, then those courses must transfer into a degree program. The students may be required to complete the institution’s remaining requirements for the lower-division courses in the major.

• If the student is enrolled in more than one institution, follow the FOS requirements where the student is classified as degree-seeking

• Each institution must note FOS courses on student transcripts

• Each institution must review and evaluate its compliance with FOS on the same timetable as core curriculum evaluations

• FOS curriculum committees of 24 members, equally from 2-year and 4-year institutions
Legislative History

• Transfer issues were a concern for the 85th Legislature
• Draft of the FOS legislation set a target for 25 completed FOS curricula by the start of the 86th Legislature in January 2019
• The Coordinating Board is on schedule to reach that goal, and it is a high CB priority
• Accelerated schedule is necessary
Completed FOS

- Mexican American Studies (July 2016)
- Nursing (July 2017)
- Music (July 2017)
- Architecture (July 2017)
- Engineering (July 2017)
  - Mechanical
  - Electrical
  - Civil
  - Chemical
Current FOS

Meetings in Dec. 2017-Feb. 2018:

- Psychology
- Biology
- Kinesiology & Exercise Science
- Criminal Justice
- Business Administration & Management
Upcoming FOS

Nominations due November 17:
• Finance
• Marketing
• English Language & Literature
• History
• Political Science
• Social Work
Curriculum Committees

• Nominations requested in October from all CAOs at 2-year, 4-year, and Lamar institutions

• Committees will have up to 24 members, chosen equally between 2-year and 4-year institutions

• If there are fewer than 12 universities with majors in the discipline, then there will still be equal numbers of 2-year and 4-year representatives

• Encourage participation and contact with committee members
CAWS and Board approval required:

- Rules authorizing the formation of committees
- Membership of committees
- Final approved FOS curriculum

Board processes require notification of public meetings and 30-day public comment periods. The timetable for reaching the goal of 25 FOS by January 2019 is constrained by the schedule of quarterly CAWS and Board meetings.
Committee Meetings

- All meetings are broadcast live on the web and archived on YouTube
- Meetings last up to two days
- Review curricula from programs at representative 2-year and 4-year institutions
- Review approved courses in the Academic Course Guide Manual (ACGM)
- Decide on relevant core curriculum courses and total SCH
- Decide on which lower-division courses are absolutely necessary for success in upper-division courses in a major
- Adjust ACGM objectives and descriptions as necessary
## Sample FOS

- **Mexican American Studies**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>SCH</th>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>HUMA 1305</td>
<td>Introduction to Mexican-American Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>HIST 2327</td>
<td>Mexican-American History I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>HIST 2328</td>
<td>Mexican-American History II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>GOVT 2311</td>
<td>Mexican-American Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English/Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ENGL 2351</td>
<td>Mexican-American Literature</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Any Spanish course</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fine Arts</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>HUMA 1311</td>
<td>Mexican-American Fine Arts Appreciation</td>
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**Sample FOS**

- Civil Engineering

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course Rubric and Number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>SCH</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MATH 2413</td>
<td>Calculus I</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>MATH 2414</td>
<td>Calculus II</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 2415</td>
<td>Calculus III</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 2320</td>
<td>Differential Equations</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHEM 1409 (or CHEM 1309/1109)</td>
<td>General Chemistry for Engineering Majors</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHYS 2425 (or PHYS 2325/2125)</td>
<td>University Physics I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 2426 (or PHYS 2326/2126)</td>
<td>University Physics II</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGR 1304</td>
<td>Engineering Graphics</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGR 2301</td>
<td>Engineering Mechanics: Statics</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGR 2302</td>
<td>Engineering Mechanics: Dynamics</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGR 2332</td>
<td>Mechanics of Materials</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total SCHs:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>39</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>
FOS Isn’t Effective If It Isn’t Used

• All institutions will have to accept FOS courses and blocks for transfer: 2-year to 4-year, or 4-year to 4-year

• 2-year institutions are encouraged to support the FOS curricula by offering sections, advising, and degree plans

• 4-year institutions are not required to use the same FOS courses for their lower-division requirements, but then each course will need to be mapped to equivalents when students transfer in
Questions or Comments?

Please contact:

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Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board