# Core Curriculum
# Revisions 2014

**Catherine Parsoneault, Ph.D.**
Senior Program Director

and

**Lucy Heston**

Assistant Director
Workforce, Academic Affairs and Research

November 6, 2012

# Transformative Change

## 1999 CORE

- ✓ A dissociated list of courses to complete.

## 2014 CORE

- ✓ A set of skills to master in a variety of disciplinary settings.

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

# Purpose & Core Objectives

Through the 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.

## Core Objectives:

- ✓Critical Thinking Skills
- ✓Communication Skills
- ✓Empirical & Quantitative Skills
- ✓Teamwork
- ✓Social Responsibility
- ✓Personal Responsibility

Coordinating Board Rules Chapter 4 Subchapter B §4.28

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

# Core Curriculum Components

| Component Area | | SCH | Transcript Code |
|---|---|---|---|
| Communication | Foundational Component Areas (FCA) | 6 | 010 |
| Mathematics | | 3 | 020 |
| Life & Physical Sciences | | 6 | 030 |
| Language, Philosophy & Culture | | 3 | 040 |
| Creative Arts | | 3 | 050 |
| American History | | 6 | 060 |
| Government/Political Science | | 6 | 070 |
| Social & Behavioral Sciences | | 3 | 080 |
| Component Area Option (CAO) | | 6 | 090 |
| TOTAL | | 42 | |

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

# FCA Content Description
## Creative Arts

- ✓ Courses in this category focus on the appreciation and analysis of creative artifacts and works of the human imagination.
- ✓ Courses involve the synthesis and interpretation of artistic expression and enable critical, creative, and innovative communication about works of art.

Coordinating Board Rules Chapter 4 Subchapter B §4.28 (b)(3)(E)

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

# Core Objectives Mapped to FCAs

● Required ○ Optional

| FCA | CT | COM | EQS | TW | SR | PR |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Communications | ● | ● | ○ | ● | ○ | ● |
| Math | ● | ● | ● | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Life & Physical Sci | ● | ● | ● | ● | ○ | ○ |
| L,P & C | ● | ● | ○ | ○ | ● | ● |
| Creative Arts | ● | ● | ○ | ● | ● | ○ |
| American History | ● | ● | ○ | ○ | ● | ● |
| Gov't/Pol Science | ● | ● | ○ | ○ | ● | ● |
| Social/Behav Sci | ● | ● | ● | ○ | ● | ○ |
| CAO | ● | ● | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

# Component Area Option

- ✓ All courses must be aligned with the description of at least one of the 8 FCA
  - ✓ At least 3 SCH + match FCA description & Core Objectives
  - ✓ Up to 3 SCH + match FCA description & 3 Core Objectives (Critical Thinking + Communication Skills + Institutionally-selected CO)
- ✓ 6 SCH in CAO
- ✓ Replaces the Institutionally Designated Option
- ✓ Over-flow SCH from other FCA
- ✓ Can allow for student choice and flexibility

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

# Assessment

- ✓ Determine attainment and methods for evaluating 6 Core Objectives
- ✓ Assessment cycle should include direct and indirect measures
- ✓ Core Curriculum assessment will meet SACSCOC Comprehensive Standard 3.5.1
  - ✓ Core Curriculum Assessment Report due to THECB 2 years before SACSCOC documentation submission

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

# What will the THECB require by November 2013?

- ✓ Course Selection Process
  - ✓ Brief summary of process and procedures for course approval, including faculty and committee involvement
- ✓ Core Objective Assessment
  - ✓ Process for determining attainment level of each Core Objective
  - ✓ Plan for assessment, including methods, targets/criteria, analysis, and actions and follow-ups
- ✓ Proposed Courses
  - ✓ Course information – prefix, number, title, TCCNS equivalent, component area
  - ✓ Link to specific evidence of where the students will demonstrate the Core Objectives such as syllabi and other relevant material.

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

# Other Information

- ✓ Unique need courses will no longer be allowed
- ✓ A student must be able to complete the core in 42 SCH
- ✓ Universities must lay out plan for transfer students if courses do not align with GOVT 2305/2306
- ✓ One change per year per institution
  - ✓ Schedule that suits the institution
  - ✓ Request received before March 1 will be approved for following Fall semester
- ✓ Submissions sent through online portal
- ✓ All approved courses posted on Core Curriculum WebCenter

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

# Implementation

- ✓ **November 2011 - November 2013:** Faculty develop and select courses
- ✓ **August 1, 2013 - November 30, 2013:** Institution's core curriculum due to Coordinating Board staff for review
- ✓ **February 2014:** All reviews complete by THECB staff
- ✓ **Fall 2014:** Statewide implementation of core curriculum for incoming Freshmen

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

# Contacts for Questions

Catherine Parsoneault, Ph.D.

catherine.parsoneault@thecb.state.tx.us

(512) 427-6214

Lucy Heston

lucy.heston@THECB.state.tx.us

(512) 427-6228

*For more information on the Core Curriculum, please visit:*

http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/corecurriculum2014

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board