

CURRICULUM DESIGN  
INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS AND COURSES

EFA  
(LEGAL)

ANNUAL LIST OF  
COURSES

Each governing board, including each college district governing board, shall submit to the Coordinating Board once each year on dates designated by the Coordinating Board a comprehensive list by department, division, and school of all courses, together with a description of the content, scope, and prerequisites of all those courses, that will be offered by each institution under the supervision of the governing board during the following academic year. The list for each institution must also specifically identify any course included in the common course numbering system under Education Code 61.832 that has been added to or removed from the institution's list for the current academic year, and the board shall distribute that information as necessary to accomplish the purposes of Education Code 61.832. Each governing board must certify at the time of submission that the institution does not:

1. Prohibit the acceptance of transfer credit based solely on the accreditation of the sending institution; or
2. Include language in any materials published by the institution, whether in printed or electronic form, suggesting that such a prohibition exists.

After the comprehensive list of courses is submitted by a governing board, the governing board shall submit on dates designated by the Coordinating Board any changes in the comprehensive list of courses to be offered, including any changes relating to offering a course included in the common course numbering system. The Coordinating Board may order the deletion or consolidation of any courses so submitted after giving due notice with reasons for that action and after providing a hearing if one is requested by the governing board involved.

*Education Code 61.052*

COURSE SCHEDULE

Each institution of higher education, including each college district, shall, for each semester or academic term, compile a course schedule indicating each course offered by the institution for the semester or term to postsecondary students. A textbook list must be included with the course schedule. Both must be posted in accordance with Education Code 51.452 [see EDA]. *Education Code 51.452*

ONLINE POSTING  
REQUIREMENT

Each institution of higher education, including each college district but excluding each medical and dental unit, shall make available to the public on the institution's Internet website the following information for each undergraduate classroom course offered for credit by the institution:

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1. A syllabus that satisfies any standards adopted by the institution; provides a brief description of each major course requirement, including each major assignment and examination; includes the measurable learning outcomes for the course, as defined in 19 Administrative Code 4.104; lists any required or recommended reading; and provides a general description of the subject matter of each lecture or discussion. If multiple sections of a course use an identical syllabus with identical assignments and readings, only one syllabus shall be posted.
2. A curriculum vitae of each regular instructor, including each instructor of record for each section of the course, that lists at least all institutions of higher education attended, with the degree(s) earned; all previous teaching positions, including the names of the institutions, the position, beginning and ending dates; and a list of significant professional publications relevant to the academic positions held, including full citation data for each entry. The curriculum vitae may include the instructor's professional contact information, such as office telephone number, work address, and institutional e-mail address. The curriculum vitae may not include any personal information, including the instructor's home address or home telephone number.
3. The departmental budget report. If a course is offered through a unit other than a department — such as a program, college, or institute — substitute the budget for that unit as appropriate. If the institution posts general budget data on its website in which the information required by statute is reported, it may substitute a hyperlink to that data in place of a separate departmental budget report. The budget report shall include detail for the most recent academic year for which data are available; income from all sources; and a summary by functional categories such as salaries and wages, travel, and the like (as defined by the National Association of College and University Business Officers).

*Education Code 51.974(a)-(a-1); 19 TAC 4.227(a)(2)–(3), (9), .228(a)–(b)*

DEFINITIONS

“INSTRUCTOR(S)  
OF RECORD”

The “instructor(s) of record” is the primary instructor or co-instructors of a course who are responsible for the course content and the assignment of final grades. This includes tenured and tenure-track faculty, lecturers, adjuncts, and graduate assistants who are not working under the supervision of an instructor of record. It does not include guest lecturers or others who may be brought in to teach less than 50 percent of the class sessions. 19 TAC 4.227(5)

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|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| "UNDER-GRADUATE CLASSROOM COURSE"        | An "undergraduate classroom course" is any lower- or upper-division credit course offered to five or more students. This includes on-campus, off-campus, distance education, and dual credit courses (including those taught on high school campuses). It excludes courses with highly variable subject content that are tailored specifically to individual students, such as Independent Study and Directed Reading courses. It excludes laboratory, practicum, or discussion sections that are intrinsic and required parts of larger lecture courses and are directly supervised by the same instructor(s) of record for those large courses. <i>19 TAC 4.227(10)</i> |
| ACCESSIBILITY                            | This course information must be accessible from the institution's Internet website home page by use of not more than three links. The information must be searchable by keywords and phrases and accessible to the public without requiring registration or use of a user name, a password, or another user identification. <i>Education Code 51.974(b); 19 TAC 4.228(c)</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| TIME FRAME FOR POSTING                   | The institution shall make the online course information available not later than the seventh day after the first day of classes for the semester or other academic term during which the course is offered. The institution shall continue to make the information available on the institution's Internet website until at least the second anniversary of the date on which the institution initially posted the information. <i>Education Code 51.974(c); 19 TAC 4.228(c)</i>                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| UPDATING INFORMATION                     | The institution shall update the online course information as soon as practicable after the information changes at least once for every semester in which the course is offered. <i>Education Code 51.974(d); 19 TAC 4.228(c)</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| DESIGNATION OF RESPONSIBLE ADMINISTRATOR | The governing body of the institution shall designate an administrator to be responsible for ensuring the implementation of the posting requirement. The administrator may assign duties under this section to one or more administrative employees. <i>Education Code 51.974(e); 19 TAC 4.228(f)</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| REPORT REQUIRED                          | Not later than January 1 of each odd-numbered year, each institution of higher education shall submit a written report regarding the institution's compliance with the posting requirement to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the presiding officer of each legislative standing committee with primary jurisdiction over higher education. <i>Education Code 51.974(f); 19 TAC 4.228(f)</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| MINIMUM LENGTH OF COURSES                | Traditionally delivered three-semester-credit-hour courses should contain 15 weeks of instruction (45 contact hours) plus a week for final examinations so that such a course contains 45 to 48 contact hours depending on whether there is a final exam.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

Courses delivered in shortened semesters are expected to have the same number of contact hours and the same requirement for out-of-class learning as courses taught in a normal semester.

Institutions of higher education, including college districts, may offer a course in a nontraditional way, for example, over the Internet or through a shortened, intensive format, that does not meet these contact hour requirements, if the course has been reviewed and approved through a formal, institutional faculty review process that evaluates the course and its learning outcomes and determines that the course does, in fact, have equivalent learning outcomes to an equivalent, traditionally delivered course.

*19 TAC 4.6(a), (d)–(e)*

TEXAS COMMON  
COURSE NUMBERING  
SYSTEM

Institutions of higher education, including college districts, shall include the applicable course numbers from the Texas Common Course Numbering System (TCCNS) in its printed and electronic catalogs, course listings, and any other appropriate informational resources, and in the application of the provisions of 19 Administrative Code Chapter 4, Subchapter B (Transfer of Credit, Core Curriculum, and Field of Study Curricula). Institutions that do not use the TCCNS taxonomy as their sole means of course numbering shall publish the following information in their printed and electronic catalogs, course listings, and any other appropriate informational resources:

1. The TCCNS prefix and number must be displayed immediately adjacent to the institutional course prefix and number at the beginning of each course description; and
2. The printed and electronic catalogs shall include a chart, table, or matrix, alphabetized by common course prefix, listing all common courses taught at the institution by both the common and local course number. For printed catalogs, the chart, table, or matrix should be referenced in a table of contents and/or a subject index.

Each institutional catalog shall include an explanation of the TCCNS and the significance of TCCNS courses for transfer purposes.

*19 TAC 4.35*

LEARNING  
OUTCOMES

To foster a transparent student learning environment at institutions of higher education and to facilitate the universal articulation of undergraduate courses that are transferable for credit among all institutions of higher education, each institution of higher education, including each college district, shall identify, adopt, and make available for public inspection measurable learning outcomes for

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each undergraduate course, as defined in 19 Administrative Code 4.103(3), offered by the institution other than:

1. A course with a highly variable subject content that is tailored specifically to an individual student, such as an independent study or directed reading course; or
2. A laboratory, practicum, or discussion section that is an intrinsic and required component of a lecture course.

An institution of higher education may adopt learning outcomes for a course that are the same as or based on those identified for that course by the institution's recognized accrediting agency.

Statements of the measurable learning outcomes shall be kept on file for at least two years after the course is taught and made available for public inspection upon request to the provost's office of each institution.

If the institution is in compliance with 19 Administrative Code 4.225 - 4.228 (relating to Public Access to Course Information), then the institution is also in compliance with this section since learning outcomes are required to be a part of each course syllabus posted on the institution's website.

*Education Code 51.96851(b)–(c); 19 TAC 4.104(b)–(c)*

“MEASURABLE  
LEARNING  
OUTCOMES”

“Measurable learning outcomes” are defined as the knowledge and skills a student is expected to acquire or achieve upon completion of a course. Measurement may be quantitative or qualitative, depending upon the subject matter of the course. *19 TAC 4.103(2)*

STATE-FUNDED  
COURSES

State funding shall be provided for lower-division academic courses at public community colleges, public technical colleges, or public state colleges if such courses:

1. Are approved for inclusion in the Lower-Division Academic Course Guide Manual (ACGM);
2. Have been reviewed and approved by Coordinating Board staff in accordance with the criteria for unique need courses [see 19 Administrative Code 9.74]; and
3. Are consistent with the TCCNS.

*19 TAC 9.73(a)*