



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

CORE CURRICULUM

TSU FALL 2012 DATA

- Public Doctoral Research University
- HBCU
- 9646 Students
- 7021 Undergraduates
- 296 Ranked faculty
- 10 Colleges
- 64 Core courses
- 1 Institutionally designated option: CS
- Assessment coordinators in over 80+ Academic Program areas, and in 10+ Academic Support Units
- Gen Ed Subcommittee oversees implementation and assessment of core curriculum

CURRENT GENERAL EDUCATION CORE

- 6 TSU General Education Objectives
- Students select from 60+ courses for 44 credits
- Institutionally Designated Option (IDO): Computer Science

Assessment of Core Competencies

The 6 TSU core competencies are (1) communications and critical thinking; (2) quantitative reasoning; (3) scientific method in health and well-being; (4) humanities; (5) social, cultural, historical, economic, and political systems; and (6) computer technology for communication, research, and problem solving.

The TSU core competencies are measured in embedded in student work in core courses at the general education level and at the program level in capstone projects.

Rubrics have been developed for grading various competencies, including speech performance and research essays.

The QEP to improve freshman achievement by accelerating information literacy and communication skills has added the SAILS test in information literacy to the first year freshman communications curriculum, as of Fall 2011.

NEW GENERAL EDUCATION CORE

42 credits; 2 IDOs, 6 THECB Objectives

Procedures & Timeline

1. Gen Ed Subcommittee expanded to include faculty in each core component (Fall 2012)
2. Course Selection Process:
 - a. Revise core courses to incorporate THECB SLOs and core objectives
 - b. Submit on Core Curriculum Course Form Proposal due January 15, 2013
3. Consensus on two institutional options: Speech & Computer Science (Spring 2013)
4. Signature assignments, formative and summative assessments, and grading rubrics (Spring 2013)
5. Timeline and rotation of assessment of variables and courses (Spring 2013)

Assessment of Communication Skills, Critical Thinking, Team Work, Social Responsibility, and Personal Responsibility

Student achievement in Communication is assessed through imbedded assignments on two direct measures, knowledge and performance. An objective test on rhetoric is combined with a written essay or a speech on a set prompt, calibrated and graded with a nationally normed rubric. A third direct assessment measure is being added to each communication course: a research project which incorporates communications components and THECB objectives: critical thinking, empirical and quantitative skills, teamwork, social responsibility, and personal responsibility. The SAILS test on information literacy is given as a pre-test in fall Comp 1 (ENGL 1301) and as a post-test in spring Comp 2 (ENGL 1302). Electronic grade sheets and Blackboard grade book settings facilitate collection of data across multiple sections.

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Foundational Component Area (FCA)
Communication
Mathematics
Life and Physical Sciences
Language, Philosophy & Culture
Creative Arts
American History
Government/Political Science
Social and Behavioral Sciences



CT: Critical Thinking Skills
 COM: Communication Skills
 EQS: Empirical and Quantitative Skills
 TW: Teamwork
 PR: Personal Responsibility
 SR: Social Responsibility:

Core Curriculum Course Proposal

TSU Course	TCCNS Equivalent	SCH	TSU Description	THECB Description	Foundational Component Area (FCA)	Student Learning Outcomes SLOs	CT	COM	EQS	TW	PR	SR