

CORE CURRICULUM

UNT Vital Statistics

35,694 students
28,282 undergraduates
819 ranked faculty
14 colleges/schools/divisions
300+ core courses

Core Action Plan: A Guiding Principle

Adopted by the University Curriculum Committee, Spring, 2012

The process of moving into compliance with the new State rules for the 2014 Core Curriculum will be viewed as *realigning* course justifications and assessment plans rather than *re-applying* for admission to the core curriculum. That is, by default, courses currently in the UNT core curriculum will remain in their current component areas (with component area names adjusted as appropriate).

Tentative Timeline

AY 2012-2013

- All core course realignment justifications and assessment plans to be submitted to the Oversight Committee on the Core Curriculum and to the University Curriculum Committee
- Develop UNT rubrics for CT, CS and TW

AY 2013-2014

- Pilot rubrics and institutional process for CT, CS, TW
- Develop UNT rubrics for EQRS, SR, and PR
- Courses may, if they choose, begin assessing toward the new objectives

AY 2014-2015

- Full implementation of new 2014 compliant core curriculum

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Current Core

Students choose courses (42 units total) working with their academic advisors. Many courses allow for a “double dip” to count towards the core and as program requirements.

Institutionally Designated Option: 3 units of “discovery” and 3 units of “capstone experience” (to continue in 2014 as CAOs)

Course level assessment is the responsibility of the department that offers the course. The approval process includes a faculty committee review of assessment plans. Implementation is left to the departments. Data is submitted by departments via TracDat annually.

ETS Proficiency Profile administered in a sampling of capstone courses (to continue in 2014).

NSSE and Noel Levitz Student Satisfaction Survey administered to a sampling of students across levels (to continue in 2014).

New Assessment Choices for 2014 Core Curriculum

As part of the realignment process, there are new choices for assessment of the mandated core objectives at the course level. A course can choose to develop (or repurpose) its own assessment plan in which case that course/department will continue to be responsible for all data collection and submission to IR&E. OR a course can “opt in” to an institutional assessment process.

Institutional process overview

- a) Rubrics...appropriate for cross curricular scoring will be developed by UNT faculty for each of the 6 core objectives. The rubric development will include opportunities for feedback from all faculty at UNT in order to ensure that the final product reflects the unique perspectives of our faculty.
- b) Sampling/cycling... through core objectives and core courses will be established at the institutional level. The sampling/cycling will be developed to ensure that the data are significant and so that each course will receive summary data for use for continuous improvement at least once during the cycle (which could be up to 4-5 years in total).
- c) Student artifacts...that demonstrate core objectives will be identified by course faculty, in consultation, from among existing assignments. These assignments will be stored electronically for future sampling and scoring.
- e) Scoring... for core objective attainment will be carried out by faculty teams against the UNT rubrics.
- f) Data...will be submitted by facilitators of the communal scoring process for analysis, record keeping, and use for continuous improvement.