

University Core Curriculum Committee Progress Report

January 25, 2013

The University Core Curriculum Committee (UCCC) received five charges at its initial meeting on August 24, 2012:

- Overseeing the composition of the core curriculum;
- Certifying (and re-certifying) courses and experiential learning activities nominated for inclusion as part of the KU Core;
- Monitoring the achievement of learning outcomes through these courses and activities;
- Reviewing and recommending proposals for certificate programs (e.g., GAP, REP, SLP); and
- Envisioning innovative ways to meet learning outcomes.

During the Fall 2012 semester, UCCC made the following progress toward the fulfillment of those charges:

- UCCC approved a procedure for the online nomination of courses for inclusion in the KU Core.
- UCCC approved 486 course-learning outcome matches for the KU Core Curriculum:

Goal & Learning Outcome	Approved
Goal 1, Learning Outcome 1	37
Goal 1, Learning Outcome 2	15
Goal 2, Learning Outcome 1	7
Goal 2, Learning Outcome 2	3
Goal 3	216
Goal 4, Learning Outcome 1	33
Goal 4, Learning Outcome 2	150
Goal 5, Learning Outcome 1	16
Goal 5, Learning Outcome 2	0
Goal 6	9

UCCC returned approximately 75 course applications to nominating units for revision and resubmission.

At the beginning of the Spring 2013 semester, 445 courses are in queue for UCCC evaluation:

Goal & Learning Outcome	In Queue
Goal 1, Learning Outcome 1	18
Goal 1, Learning Outcome 2	5
Goal 2, Learning Outcome 1	5
Goal 2, Learning Outcome 2	1
Goal 3	48
Goal 4, Learning Outcome 1	25
Goal 4, Learning Outcome 2	54
Goal 5, Learning Outcome 1	9
Goal 5, Learning Outcome 2	4
Goal 6	276

- In reviewing the total number of courses approved to date for each goal, UCCC noted that several courses approved for Goal 2 (including Engl 101, Engl 102, and Engl 203) have multiple sections. In Spring 2013, UCCC will work with the KU Core Implementation Committee to ensure that capacity exists to meet the goals of the KU Core as well as those of General Education requirements and degree programs.
- UCCC accepted the definition of capstone courses approved by the Kansas Board of Regents and currently used by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) to designate capstone courses. CLAS capstone courses thus can receive batch UCCC approval for fulfillment of Core Goal 6. UCCC did note that students in all such courses should, as required by Goal 6, “generate new ideas” or “creative products.”
- UCCC approved a First Year Seminars (FYS) course option for academic units. Courses approved for the FYS program meet the Core’s critical thinking requirement.
- UCCC approved KU’s Research Experience Program as meeting Goal 6.
- UCCC detailed and approved a process for revising the composition of the KU Core. Modeled on University Senate rules and regulations, the process involves seeking feedback from students, staff, and faculty and making final recommendations to the Provost’s Office.
- After gathering and evaluating campus feedback, UCCC recommended revising the procedures for meeting the culture and diversity goal of the KU Core. Replacing the original options, the UCCC recommended that students acquire the two units required to meet this goal by either (1) a unit meeting Learning Outcome 1 and a unit meeting Learning Outcome 2 or (2) a unit

meeting Learning Outcome 1 and a significant study abroad experience. The intent of the proposed revision is to ensure that KU undergraduates study U.S. diversity as well as diversity within and among worldwide cultures.

- UCCC reviewed the Policy Statement that establishes the KU Core Curriculum and forwarded recommendations to the Provost's Office.
- UCCC received confirmation that the six baccalaureate programs at the Medical Center would also follow the criteria of the KU Core.
- UCCC began considering options for reviewing and recertifying approved courses.

Membership of UCCC

Paul Atchley, College (Social Sciences); Bill Carswell, Architecture, Design, & Planning; Tyler Childress, student; John Coler, student; David Darwin, Engineering; Amy Devitt, College (Humanities); Erin Ellis, Libraries; Nelda Godfrey, KU Medical Center; Christopher Johnson, Music; Alice Lieberman, Social Welfare; Bruce Lieberman, College (Natural Sciences and Mathematics); Charles Marsh, Journalism & Mass Communications; Susan Scholz, Business; Kelli Thomas, Education; Sherrie Tucker, College (International and Interdisciplinary Studies); Gina Westergard, College (School of the Arts); Barbara Woods, Pharmacy; and Maggie Zehren, student. Supporting UCCC from the Provost's Office are Chris Haufler, Special Advisor to the Provost; Paul Klute, Research Analyst; Terri Morris, Administrative Assistant; and Amy Smith, Director of the Policy Office.

For more information on the KU Core Curriculum, please visit www.kucore.ku.edu.

Submitted by:

Charles Marsh
Chair, University Core Curriculum Committee