

Core 2009 Research and Decision Making

“Liberal Education is an approach to learning that empowers individuals and prepares them to deal with complexity, diversity, and change...” **General Education** is “the part of a liberal education shared by all students. It provides broad exposure to multiple disciplines and forms the basis for developing important intellectual and civic capacities.”

http://www.aacu.org/leap/What_is_Liberal_Education.cfm

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| Sept. 2007 – Nov. 2007 | 1. Read and summarized THECB Bibliography of General Education research and resources. Followed links to additional resources. |
| Nov. 2007 – Jan. 2008 | 2. Conducted 17 forums. Analyzed forum input, identified themes, coded data, summarized and posted on web page. |
| Nov. 2007 – Mar. 2008 | 3. Requested input from DCCCD community prior to component area discussion using SUGGESTION FORM on web page. Read and analyzed ~150 emails submitted to SUGGESTION FORM. |
| Dec. 2007 – Mar. 2008 | 4. Conducted research in component area teams using the following framework: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. What courses are in our current core?b. What is the content (or merit) of these courses in meeting the Perspectives, Intellectual Competencies, and Exemplary Educational Outcomes?c. What is in our DCCCD catalog that is not in the core? Why are these courses not in the core?d. What courses in the ACGM (Lower Division Academic Course Guide Manual) are not found in the DCCCD catalog? Should any of these courses be considered for inclusion in the core?e. What are the courses in the cores of outstanding community colleges?f. What trends do you see in university cores at our top receiving institutions?g. What suggestions were sent to the committee via the Suggestion Form?h. What insights and suggestions were offered at the student and faculty/staff forums?i. What insights were found in the research of the 17 readings from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board bibliography?j. What's working/not working with the current core? |
| Mar. 2008 – May 2008 | 5. Selected courses for inclusion in the Core to address VP Council charges, THECB component area requirements, course descriptions and Exemplary Educational Objectives, enrollment and transfer patterns, and existing prerequisites. |
| May 2008 | 6. Identified Thematic Domains and descriptions using THECB component area requirements, THECB Perspectives and Intellectual Competencies, LEAP Council research, and research on Promising Models. |
| May 2008 | 7. Placed selected courses in Thematic Domains, analyzed domains, |

considered other options, and resolved conflicts and gaps.

June 2008 – Sept. 2008

8. Released First Draft, accepted input using FEEDBACK FORM on web page.

Aug. 2008

9. Conducted 7 forums. Analyzed forum input, identified themes, coded data, summarized and posted on web page.

Sept. 2008 – Oct. 2008

10. Analyzed all feedback submitted in ~180 emails to FEEDBACK FORM on web page, conducted additional research, met with individuals and groups to clarify issues. Made revisions to the First Draft using the following framework:

- a. Identify the issue(s) raised in the emails sent to the Feedback Form on the web page, Fall 2008 forums and Q and A sessions.
- b. Review questions and answers addressed in the framework for component area research (see 4 above) that relate to the issue(s)
- c. Is additional information/data needed? If so, collect and document the source(s) of this information/data.
- d. Identify options for making revisions to address the issue(s).
- e. Analyze the pros/cons for each option.

Oct. 2008

11. Released Revised Draft. Emailed responses to 19 Discipline Committees and 15 individuals who submitted substantive feedback not addressed in Discipline Committee responses. Posted Discipline Committee responses to web page.

Oct. 2008

12. Conducted 2 forums. Will analyze forum input, identify themes, code data, summarize, and post on web page.