



ARTICULATION NEWSBRIEF

San Diego Mesa College
November–December 2008 Edition

LDTP UPDATE—Official LDTP Economics Course Descriptor Notification

The following memo and report was received September 26, 2008 from the California Community College Chancellor's Office on behalf of the LDTP Steering Committee.



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September 25, 2008
To: Mark McKellip, Associate Director
Lower Division Transfer Patterns (LDTP) Curricular and Articulation Programs
CSU Office of the Chancellor
From: Barbara Swerkes, Chair
Lower Division Transfer Patterns Project Advisory Committee
Mark Van Selst, Chair
Lower Division Transfer Patterns Project Steering Committee
CC: Keith Boyum
Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs
CSU Office of the Chancellor
Subject: Report of the Ad Hoc Intersegmental Committee to Review the LDTP Economics Course Descriptors

On September 17, 2008, the Lower Division Transfer Patterns (LDTP) Project Steering Committee received and approved the attached report of the Ad Hoc Committee appointed to review the course descriptors for Micro and Macroeconomics that have been developed for application in the LDTP Project. The membership of the Ad Hoc Committee included Economics, Math and Business faculty appointed by their respective CSU and CCC Academic Senates. The details of the committee membership, process, meetings and recommendations are included in the attached memo.

Please share the full text of this memo and communicate to articulation officers in the California Community Colleges (CCC) and the California State University (CSU) the following implications of this report:

- The Microeconomics and Macroeconomics course descriptors will immediately be re-posted for Community College course submission as they were originally developed, approved by the discipline faculty of the CSU and posted, listing Intermediate Algebra as a required prerequisite. Please suggest review of the full text of the Ad Hoc Committee recommendations for the rationale for this decision.
- Pending ratification of this recommended change by CSU Business and Economics departments, Economics Course Reviewers will be directed to consider the inclusion of subject matter in International Trade as optional content in the Macroeconomics courses.
- Courses originally submitted for approval against these course descriptors may now be forwarded to the Course Review Team for review.
- In view of the timing of this notice in close proximity to the October 15, 2008 fall deadline for community college submission of courses for LDTP review, we request that the Chancellor's Office staff provide flexibility throughout the fall semester for the submission of courses for review against these descriptors.
- The Ad Hoc Committee recognized that a major difficulty created by the prerequisite requirement for these courses continues to be the expectation that a single course can serve the purposes of both General Education and major preparation in Business or Economics. The CSU members of the Committee indicated their willingness to work with their colleagues in the community colleges and with colleagues in the CSU to

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Outcome of CSU—CCC Committee on the Economic Course Descriptors

September 2, 2008



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

TO: Barbara Swerkes, Chair
LDTP Advisory Committee

FROM: Joseph P. Magaddino, Chair
CSU Committee to Review Economic Course Descriptors

SUBJECT: Outcome of CSU-CCC Committee on the Economic Course Descriptors

As you are aware, the CSU ad hoc committee was formed by the CSU Academic Senate to revisit the Economic Course Descriptors after receiving informal criticism from the Academic Senate of the CCC. The CCC Academic Senate formed an ad hoc committee composed of three faculty members in economics and a faculty member in mathematics. The CSU ad hoc committee was composed of three faculty members in economics and two faculty members in business administration.

The CCC ad hoc committee was asked to draft a memorandum indicating their views on the Economics Course Descriptors. This draft was circulated among the members of the CSU ad hoc committee. There were a series of email exchanges among the CSU committee members. Attempts to schedule a face-to-face meeting of CSU faculty was not practical and instead a conference call was conducted. The purpose of the conference call was to discuss the CSU ad hoc committee's response to the CCC ad hoc committee. A response draft was circulated to assure that there was unanimous agreement among the CSU ad hoc committee members and then

this document was sent to the CCC ad hoc committee. There was a strong sense among the CSU committee members that we should have a face-to-face meeting with our CCC counterparts. This proved to be more difficult than initially envisioned given the teaching and other

professional commitments of the CCC and CSU committee members. Instead, two separate meetings were conducted—one in Northern California involving Professors Goldsmith (CCC) and Maxwell (CSU) and another in Southern California involving the remaining members of the CCC committee (Professors Odebunmi, Rosenberg, and Smith) and a CSU faculty member (Professor Magaddino).

The purpose of this memorandum is to formally inform you of the outcome of our discussions and meeting with the CCC faculty committee regarding the economic course descriptors. As you are aware, the CCC faculty voiced concern over the economic course descriptors that were developed by a committee of CSU and CCC faculty (the drafting committee included three CSU economists and one CCC faculty member) and later adopted, without dissent, by the departments of economics within the CSU system. Let me begin by stating the concerns raised by the CCC faculty in their memorandum and in our discussions and the recommendation of the CSU faculty.

The descriptors added the prerequisite of intermediate algebra to Principles of Macroeconomics and Microeconomics.

This change would impact a number of California Community Colleges. The CCC ad hoc committee raised concern that increasing the level of mathematics required may reduce accessibility and diversity of students taking these classes at community colleges.

Recommendation: We agree that this prerequisite may reduce enrollments in these courses in the short run. However, in the final evaluation the reason for the prerequisite boils down to our shared belief that in order for these courses to be taught at a level that can form the foundation for the baccalaureate degree in economics and properly prepare students for upper division coursework in business, the level of mathematical skills needed in these courses is indeed intermediate algebra. Moreover, we were informed, by a CCC ad hoc committee member, that intermediate algebra is scheduled to become an exit requirement for the associate degree. Once this requirement is implemented, much of the problem may be avoided by proper sequencing of classes.



Outcome of CSU—CCC Committee on the Economic Course Descriptors—continuation...

The CSU course descriptors were written for those students seeking majors in economics and business. This neglects a large number of community college students that transfer to the CSU seeking majors other than economics and business. Many of these students seek general education credit and oftentimes are interested in majors that are less quantitative. The introduction of the intermediate algebra prerequisite and the increased reliance on mathematics may discourage these students from enrolling in introductory economics.

Recommendation: We agree that this is a problem. We believe, as a result of our conversations with the CCC ad hoc committee that it is possible for the CCC faculty to create a course or courses in introductory economics which fulfill the spirit of the general education guidelines even though these courses may not be appropriate for students majoring in economics or business. In fact, there are several examples within the CCCCSU articulation agreements where this has been done. We are willing to write our colleagues in economics throughout the CSU and encourage them to facilitate the articulation of courses that would satisfy the general education requirement although not be transferable as equivalent to introductory courses suitable for majors in economics or business.

There has been little formal empirical work on whether the intermediate algebra prerequisite will improve student performance.

Recommendation: We agree that there have been few formal studies within the CSU. The Long Beach campus has generated two reports on this issue and both statistically address the importance of mathematical training in student success. Nonetheless, more studies need to be done. These studies are likely to be completed as part of the assessment activities taking place on campuses as well as the CSU Chancellor's initiative on low success classes. It is important that these studies be shared across the CSU as well as with our CCC colleagues.

The descriptors include the topic of international trade in both macroeconomics and microeconomics and international finance in macroeconomics. The CCC faculty believe that international trade should be included in microeconomics but NOT in macroeconomics.

Recommendation: We believe that faculty should be given latitude regarding whether or not to include international trade in macroeconomics. Accordingly, we ask that the CSU reviewers involved in LTDP approve of macroeconomics topics even if international trade is not listed as a topic, as long as other aspects of the course are in compliance.

cc: Professors Beth Smith, Fola Odebunmi, Alannah Rosenberg, Deborah Goldsmith
CCC Committee to Review LDTP Economics Descriptors

Professors Nan Maxwell, Paul Rivera, John Tarjan, Gary Grudnitski,
CSU Committee to Review LDTP Economic Descriptors





ACADEMIC SENATE FOR CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES ADVANCE PLACEMENT (AP) EQUIVALENCY RESOLUTION ~ ADOPTED APRIL 2008

4.04 S08 CCC GE Advanced Placement (AP) Equivalency PASSED

Dave DeGroot, Allan Hancock College, Articulation and Transfer Ad Hoc Committee

Whereas, Title 5 §55063, Minimum Requirements for the Associate Degree outlines specific general education area requirements that each college must include for the associate degree;
Whereas, The only way for a California community college student to receive associate degree General Education area credit for an AP score is if an equivalency has been locally established;
Whereas, Many students attend more than one California community college campus and AP course equivalencies may not exist or may vary greatly among the California community college campuses; and
Whereas, AP GE area course equivalencies exist system-wide for students completing IGETC or CSU GE breadth;
Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges develop a California community college General Education area Advanced Placement equivalency list for local consideration and potential adoption.

2008—2009 University of California Transfer Course Agreement (UCTCA) Submission Results

New courses approved as UC Transferable:

- ARTF 231 Introduction to Digital Art
- ARTF 232 Introduction to Digital Drawing and Painting
- ARTF 233 Introduction to Digital Photographic Imaging
- ENGE 116 Computational Methods in Engineering



Note: Please update your 08-09 Mesa Catalog.

Publication Deadlines for CRC Review 2008—2009

CRC MEETING

February 5, 2009
March 5, 2009
May 7, 2009
February 2009

PUBLICATION

Summer Schedule 2009
Fall Schedule 2009
Spring Schedule 2010
Mesa Catalog – 2009/2010

*Please note that all items submitted prior to and by these deadlines remain dependent upon subsequent CIC/Board of Trustee's and/or State approval. Until the appropriate subsequent approvals are given items cannot be included in the above publications. For updates and changes to deadlines please contact the Curriculum Chair (Shirley Flor 388-2986)



Curriculum Review Committee (Mesa CRC) Meeting Schedule 2008-2009 Thursdays ~ 2:00 p.m.

Fall 2008
Spring 2009

November 6
November 20
December 4



March 19
April 2

January 22 Virtual Vote
February 5
February 19
March 5

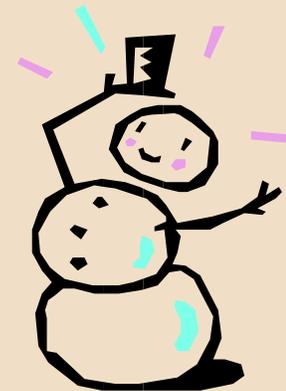
SDCCD Curriculum and Instructional Council (CIC) Meeting Schedule 2008—2009 Thursdays—2:00 p.m.

CIC Meeting Dates

November 13, 2008
December 11, 2008
January 29, 2009
February 12, 2009
February 26, 2009
March 12, 2009
March 26, 2009
April 23, 2009
May 14, 2009

Proposals due to the District

October 17, 2008
November 21, 2008
December 19, 2008
January 23, 2009
February 6, 2009
February 20, 2009
March 6, 2009
April 3, 2009
Apr 17, 2009



Important Dates



2008

November

UCTCA Submission Response for 08-09

December

CSUGE-B/IGETC Submission Deadline for 09-10

2009

April

CSUGE-B/IGETC Submission Response for 09-10
SDSU Articulation Renewal Deadline for 09-10

Please Click below for additional Important Dates

[Articulation Timeline](#)

LDTP UPDATE—Official LDTP Economics Course Descriptor...continuation from page 1

“facilitate the articulation of courses that would satisfy the general education requirement although not transferable as equivalent to introductory courses suitable for majors in economics and business.”

Our thanks to all members of the Intersegmental Ad Hoc Committee and especially to Professor Joseph Magaddino, (Chair Economics Dept. at CSU Long Beach) Committee Chair, who devoted many hours to the thoughtful review, discussion and recommendations regarding these difficult issues.

The Region 10 Community Colleges are not participating in the CSU LDTP. Region 10 community colleges include: Cuyamaca, Grossmont, Imperial Valley, Mira Costa, Palomar, San Diego City, San Diego Mesa, San Diego Miramar and Southwestern Colleges. However, Region 10 colleges will work to maintain articulation that best serves the needs of our students.

For questions or discussion; please contact Juliette Parker by calling ext. 2639 or by email at: jparker@sdccd.edu



**San Diego Mesa College
November–December 2008 Edition**

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ARTICULATION NEWSBRIEF

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