

Collin County Community College District Board of Trustees

2024-03-10

March 26, 2024

Resource: Dr. Jon Hardesty
Vice President of Academic Affairs

AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of Approval of Three Associate of Arts Degree Programs Incorporating the Political Science, Psychology, and Sociology Field of Study Curricula

DISCUSSION: The 2023-2030 Collin College Strategic Plan identifies a goal to develop and implement strategies to become a national exemplar in program and student outcomes and a goal to create and implement comprehensive pathways to enrich the student experience and support student completions.

In 2020, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) initiated a review of the state of Transfer among public institutions of higher education in Texas. This effort led to revised transfer rules being adopted that established a new framework for transfer curricula that centered upon revising Field of Study (FOS) curricula in the most popular majors at the bachelor's degree level at public universities. Per Texas Education Code Section 61.823 and THECB Rule in Title 19 Texas Administrative Code Section 4.32, for any student that successfully completes an FOS curriculum and transfers to a public university, the university "...must substitute that block of courses (FOS Curriculum) for the receiving institution's lower division requirements for the degree program...into which the student transfers." This ensures that all FOS curriculum courses that a student completes will transfer and apply to the major aligned to the FOS curriculum. Likewise, if students complete only portions of an FOS curriculum, those courses the student did complete must transfer and be applied toward the major aligned to the FOS curriculum. Universities may then require students to satisfy remaining course requirements in the FOS curriculum or require additional requirements in the receiving institution's program as long as those requirements do not duplicate course content the student completed through the FOS curriculum.

The proposed AA degree that incorporates the FOS curriculum in Political Science comprises a total of 60 semester credit hours that includes 18 semester credit hours of coursework in the Political Science FOS curriculum, and 42 semester credit hours of core curriculum courses.

The proposed AA degree that incorporates the FOS curriculum in Psychology comprises a total of 60 semester credit hours that includes 18 semester credit hours of coursework in the Psychology FOS curriculum, and 42 semester credit hours of core curriculum courses.

The proposed AA degree that incorporates the FOS curriculum in Sociology comprises a total of 60 semester credit hours that includes 42 semester credit hours of core curriculum courses and a total of 21 semester credit hours of coursework in the Sociology FOS curriculum (18 hours of electives +3 hours included in the core curriculum requirements).

**DISTRICT PRESIDENT'S
RECOMMENDATION:**

The District President recommends approval of the new Associate of Arts degrees incorporating the Political Science, Psychology, and Sociology Field of Study curricula.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

"Mr. Chairman, I make a motion that the Board of Trustees of Collin County Community College District approves the new Associate of Arts degrees incorporating the Political Science, Psychology, and Sociology Field of Study curricula."