

# CURRICULUM

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# SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE

## CORE CURRICULUM

The Core Curriculum at South Texas College has, at its foundation, the philosophy and purpose of the College and is a composition of general education courses which form the foundation of all Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degrees. These are degrees that are designed for students who plan to continue their education at a four-year university in order to earn a Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree.

STC is committed to the preparation of intellectually flexible, creative, and productive citizens. Through exposure to a varied range of disciplines and technologies, students will develop:

- an understanding of the importance of lifelong learning
- broad global and social perspectives
- essential skills for tomorrow's workforce

The ***purpose*** of the Core Curriculum is to provide the foundation through which STC students can continue to advance their competencies in reading, writing, speaking, mathematics, and critical thinking. This common body of essential knowledge and skills is taught and reinforced through courses selected in six ***Core Components: Communication, Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Humanities and Visual and Performing Arts, Social and Behavioral Sciences, and Computer Science.***

### COMMUNICATION

#### Composition/Written Communication

##### 6 credits

ENGL 1301 Composition

ENGL 1302 Composition II - Rhetoric

#### Speech

##### 3 credits

SPCH 1311 Introduction to Speech  
Communication

SPCH 1315 Public Speaking

SPCH 1318 Interpersonal Communications

SPCH 1321 Business and Professional Speaking

The objective of a Composition/Written Communication and Speech Components of the Core Curriculum is to enable the student to write clear, correct prose and communicate in a style appropriate to the subject, occasion, and audience.

Through the Composition/Written Communication and Speech Components of the Core Curriculum, competencies the student will be able to demonstrate are to:

- demonstrate writing as a process; this includes pre-writing and invention, writing, revision, editing and proofreading;
- demonstrate the importance of specifying audience and purpose and to select appropriate communication choices;
- identify and appropriately apply modes of expression, i.e., descriptive, expository, narrative, scientific, and self-expressive, in written, visual, and oral communication;
- participate effectively in groups with emphasis on listening, critical and reflective thinking, and responding;
- apply basic principles of critical thinking, problem solving, and technical proficiency in the development of expositions and argument;
- develop the ability to research and write an MLA/APA style documented paper and give an oral presentation.

### MATHEMATICS

#### 4 credits

MATH 1414 College Algebra

MATH 2412 Precalculus Algebra &  
Trigonometry

MATH 2413 Calculus I

The objective of the Mathematics Component of the Core Curriculum is to develop a quantitatively

literate college graduate. Every college graduate should be able to apply basic mathematical tools in real-life applications.

Through the Mathematics Components of the Core Curriculum, competencies the student will be able to demonstrate are to:

- apply arithmetic, algebraic, geometric, higher order thinking, and statistical methods to modeling and solving real-world solutions;
- access and evaluate basic mathematical information verbally, numerically, graphically, and symbolically;
- demonstrate mathematical reasoning skills and formal logic to develop convincing mathematical arguments;
- use appropriate technology to enhance mathematical thinking and understanding and to solve mathematical problems and justify the results;
- interpret mathematical models such as formulas, graphs, tables, and schematics, and draw inferences from them;
- determine the limitations of mathematical and statistical models;
- develop the view that mathematics is an evolving discipline, interrelated with human culture, and understand its connections to other disciplines.

## **NATURAL SCIENCES**

### **8 credits**

BIOL 1408 General Biology I  
BIOL 1409 General Biology II  
CHEM1411 General Chemistry I  
CHEM1412 General Chemistry II  
GEOL 1403 Physical Geology  
GEOL 1404 Historical Geology  
GEOL 1447 Meteorology  
PHYS 1401 College Physics I  
PHYS 1402 College Physics II  
PHYS 1411 Introductory Astronomy I  
PHYS 1412 Introductory Astronomy II  
PHYS 2425 University Physics I  
PHYS 2426 University Physics II  
PHYS 1415 Physical Science I  
PHYS 1417 Physical Science II

The objective of the Natural Sciences Component of the Core Curriculum is to enable the student to understand, construct, and evaluate empirical relationships in the natural science and to understand the basis for theory-building and testing.

Through the Natural Sciences Component of the Core Curriculum, competencies the student will be able to demonstrate are to:

- relate and apply method and appropriate technology to the study of natural sciences;
- identify scientific and quantitative methods and the differences between these approaches and other methods of inquiry and to communicate findings, analyses, and interpretation both orally and in writing;
- identify and recognize the differences among competing scientific theories;
- demonstrate knowledge of the major issues and problems facing modern science, including issues that touch upon ethics and values and public policies;
- demonstrate knowledge of the interdependence of science and technology and their influence on, and contribution to modern culture.

## **HUMANITIES & VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS**

### **Visual and Performing Arts**

#### **3 credits**

ARTS 1301 Art Appreciation  
ARTS 1303 Art History  
ARTS 1304 Art History II  
DANC 2303 Dance Appreciation  
DRAM 1310 Drama Appreciation  
HUMA 1311 Mexican-American  
Fine Arts Appreciation  
HUMA 1315 Fine Arts Appreciation  
MUSI 1306 Music Appreciation  
MUSI 1308 Music Literature I  
MUSI 1309 Music Literature II

#### **Humanities**

#### **3 credits**

ENGL 2341 Introduction to Literature  
ENGL 2321 British Literature

ENGL 2326 American Literature  
 ENGL 2331 World Literature  
 HUMA 1301 Introduction to Humanities I  
 HUMA 1305 Introduction to  
     Mexican-American Studies  
 HUMA 2319 American Minority Studies  
 HUMA 2323 World Cultures  
 PHIL 1301 Introduction to Philosophy  
 PHIL 1304 Introduction to World Religions  
 PHIL 2303 Introduction to Logic  
 PHIL 2306 Introduction to Ethics  
 PHIL 2307 Introduction to Social &  
     Political Philosophy  
 SGNL 2301 Intermediate American Sign  
     Language I  
 SPAN 2311 Intermediate Spanish I  
 SPAN 2313 Spanish for Spanish Speakers I  
 SPAN 2316 Career Spanish I  
 SPAN 2321 Introduction to Spanish Literature I  
 SPAN 2323 Introduction to  
     Latin American Literature  
 SPAN 2324 Spanish Culture

The objective of the study of the Visual and Performing Arts Component of the Core Curriculum is to enable the student to understand and employ creative processes in the production of visual arts, the production of performing arts and to develop an aesthetic awareness and appreciation of the arts.

The objective of the Humanities and Visual and Performing Arts is to expand students' knowledge of the human condition and human cultures, especially in relation to behaviors, ideas, and values expressed in works of human imagination and thought. Through study in disciplines such as literature, philosophy, and the visual and performing arts, students will engage in critical analysis, form aesthetic judgments, and develop an appreciation of the arts and humanities as fundamental to the health and survival of any society.

Through the Humanities and Visual and Performing Arts Component of the Core Curriculum, competencies the student will be able to demonstrate are to:

- To demonstrate awareness of the scope and

- variety of works in the arts and humanities;
- To understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context;
- To respond critically to works in the arts and humanities;
- To engage in the creative process or interpretive performance and comprehend the physical and intellectual demands required of the author or visual or performing artist;
- To articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities;
- To develop an appreciation for the aesthetic principles that guide or govern the humanities and arts;
- To demonstrate knowledge of the influence of literature, philosophy, and/or the arts on intercultural experiences.

## **SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES**

The objective of the Social and Behavioral Science Component is to increase students' knowledge of how social and behavioral scientists discover, describe, and explain the behaviors and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, events and ideas. Such knowledge will better equip students to understand themselves and the roles they play in addressing the issues facing humanity.

### **U. S. History 6 credits**

HIST 1301 U. S. History I  
 HIST 1302 U. S. History II

**Or**

HIST 2327 Mexican-American History I  
 HIST 2328 Mexican-American History II

The objective of studying history is to analyze the past. Through the Core Curriculum Component in History, students will learn to understand past events and patterns of historical development by engaging historical evidence and the interpretations of historians. Through the History Component of the Core

Curriculum, competencies the student will be able to demonstrate are to:

- interpret and appraise different types of historical evidence (documentary and scientific) and differing historical points of view;
- weigh and explain reasonable criteria for the acceptability of historical evidence;
- summarize and appraise historical texts (primary and secondary) critically and synthesize them for oral and written discussion;
- appraise historical, social, political, economic, cultural, diplomatic and global forces in the area under study;
- comprehend the origins and evolution of U.S. and Texas political systems, with a focus on the growth of political institutions, the constitutions of the U.S. and Texas, federalism, civil liberties, civil and human rights;
- demonstrate an understanding of the evolution and current role of the U.S.;
- demonstrate an understanding of the roles of choices and of cause and effect in history;
- assess the use and the potential misuse of historical analogies in contemporary situations; analyze, critically assess, and develop creative solutions to public policy problems;
- practice, recognize and assume one's responsibility as a citizen in a democratic society by learning to think for oneself, by engaging in public discourse, and by obtaining information through the news media and other appropriate information sources about politics and public policy;
- appraise and identify differences and commonalities with diverse cultures.

### **Political Science**

#### **6 credits**

GOVT 2301 American Government I

GOVT 2302 American Government II

### **Social & Behavioral Sciences Electives**

#### **3 credits**

ANTH 2301 Physical Anthropology

ANTH 2302 Introduction to Archeology

ANTH 2351 Cultural Anthropology

CRIJ 1301 Introduction to Criminal Justice

CRIJ 1306 Court Systems and Practices

CRIJ 1307 Crime in America

CRIJ 1310 Fundamentals of Criminal Law

CRIJ 2313 Correctional Systems and Practices

CRIJ 2328 Police Systems and Practices

ECON 2301 Principles of Economics I - Macro

GOVT 2304 Introduction to Political Science

GOVT 2389 Academic Cooperative in Government

PSYC 2301 General Psychology

PSYC 2307 Adolescent Psychology

PSYC 2314 Lifespan Growth and Development

PSYC 2317 Statistical Methods in Psychology

SOCI 1301 Introductory Sociology

SOCI 1306 Contemporary Social Problems

SOCI 2301 Marriage and the Family

SOCW2361 Introduction to Social Work

The objective of the Social and Behavioral Science Elective Component of the Core Curriculum is to increase students' knowledge of human behavior, interaction, and the political, psychological, and sociological factors influencing both individual and social development. Such knowledge should include: an understanding of the scientific methods used in studying human behavior and interaction; relationships among individuals, groups, institutions, events, and ideas; as well as the occupations and careers awaiting those who choose a major in the social and behavioral sciences.

Through the Social and Behavioral Sciences Electives Component of the Core Curriculum, competencies the student will be able to demonstrate are to:

- Employ the appropriate methods, technologies, and data that social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition;
- Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods, social structures, and culture;
- Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories;
- Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary

- social issues;
- Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on the area under study;
  - Identify and understand differences and commonalities within diverse cultures.

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

### 3 credits

- COSC 1301 Microcomputer Applications  
 COSC 1320 C Programming I

The objective of the Computer Science component of the Core Curriculum is to enable students to identify and use microcomputer hardware and software.

Through the Computer Science component of the Core Curriculum, competencies the student will demonstrate are to:

- Apply the appropriate application and systems software to produce documents, reports, spreadsheets, presentations, and databases for educational and workplace environments;
- Demonstrate an understanding of various computer concepts/ issues such as e-mail technologies, file management, viruses, data backup, networking, and web technologies and development;
- Locate various computer hardware components and describe their functions;
- Demonstrate the use of effective data mining techniques to search the Internet and analyze and evaluate relevant data.

**Total credits: 45**

## HUMANITIES ELECTIVE OPTIONS FOR THE ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREES

### HUMANITIES & VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

#### Literature\*

- ENGL 2321 British Literature  
 ENGL 2326 American Literature  
 ENGL 2331 World Literature

- ENGL 2341 Introduction to Literature

#### Foreign Language\*

- SGNL 2301 Intermediate American Sign Language I  
 SPAN 2311 Intermediate Spanish I  
 SPAN 2313 Spanish for Spanish Speakers I  
 SPAN 2316 Career Spanish I  
 SPAN 2321 Introduction to Spanish Literature I  
 SPAN 2323 Introduction to Latin American Literature  
 SPAN 2324 Spanish Culture

#### Dance

- DANC 2303 Dance Appreciation

#### Drama

- DRAM 1310 Drama Appreciation

#### Art

- ARTS 1301 Art Appreciation  
 ARTS 1303 Art History  
 ARTS 1304 Art History II

#### Music

- MUSI 1306 Music Appreciation  
 MUSI 1308 Music Literature I  
 MUSI 1309 Music Literature II

#### Philosophy

- PHIL 1301 Introduction to Philosophy  
 PHIL 1304 Introduction to World Religions  
 PHIL 2303 Introduction to Logic  
 PHIL 2306 Introduction to Ethics  
 PHIL 2307 Introduction to Social & Political Philosophy

#### Humanities

- HUMA 1301 Introduction the to Humanities I  
 HUMA 1302 Introduction the to Humanities II  
 HUMA 1311 Mexican-American Fine Arts Appreciation  
 HUMA 1305 Introduction to Mexican-American Studies  
 HUMA 1315 Fine Arts Appreciation  
 HUMA 2319 American Minority Studies  
 HUMA 2323 World Cultures

*\*Check catalog for course pre-requisites.*