

Approval Chart for Curriculum Changes

A = Approve I= Information Item¹ R= Advise & Respond²

Course Number _____ or Degree Plan(s) University Requirements

State the requested change and reason. A memo may be attached if more space is necessary.

After the academic councils and faculty voted to remove CORE 210 as a required course in the sequence of CORE classes, we are left with a question about the status of CORE 115 for transfer (not matriculating from high school) students with 24 or more hours. (See p. 16 of ACU catalog.) The content of CORE 115 incorporates material from both CORE 110 and 210, with the majority overlapping with CORE 210. Since CORE 210 is no longer a required course, it is proposed that we eliminate the requirement of CORE 115 for transfer students as well.

Circle the number that corresponds to the requested change. Degree plan changes are on the second page.

		COUNCIL ³								
	Change to a Course	Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	TEC	UGEC	UUAC	GRAD	Provost	President
1.	Title (description unchanged)	A	A	A	I				I	I
2.	Description (not affecting content)	A	A	A	I				I	I
3.	Content (substantive change)	A	A	A	I				A	A
4.	Number of hours (lecture, lab, contact)	A	A	A	A				A	A
5.	Course number within the hundred	A	A	I	I				I	I
6.	Course number beyond the hundred	A	A	A	A				A	A
7.	Prerequisites	A	A	A	I				I	I
8.	Course fee(s)	A	--	A	--				A	I
9.	From U to G <i>or</i> G to U	A	A	A	A				A	A
10.	Cross list with another department: U or G level	A	A	A	A				A	A
11.	Department of record	A	A	A	A				A	A
12.	Open or close a course	A	A	A	A				A	A
13.	New course — See website for application and process. This change includes combining or splitting a course(s).	A	A	A	A				A	A

Note: When an academic unit does not have a council, the UGEC and/or UUAC will serve as its academic council, depending on the nature

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of the issue.

	Change to a Degree Plan	Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	COUNCIL ³				Provost	Faculty	President	Board of Trustees
					C	EC	AC	AD				
1.	University Requirements — Change in approved course content ⁶	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
2.	University Requirements — Add or drop a required course from the University Requirements chart ⁶	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	--
3.	University Requirements — Add or drop a course from a menu within the University Requirements ⁶	A	--	--	A				A	--	A	--
4.	University Requirements — Change hours within a menu on the University Requirements chart ⁶	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	--
5.	Major — Revision of major ^{4,5}	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
6.	Major — Adopt or change admission requirements	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
7.	Major — Add ^{4,5}	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I
8.	Major – Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I
9.	Major – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	See below.										
10.	GPA — Revise major or cumulative requirement	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	--
11.	Minor — Revise course selection	A	A	A	I				I	--	I	--
12.	Minor — Add	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
13.	Minor – Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
14.	Minor – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	See below.										
15.	Degree — Add	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I
16.	Degree – Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I
17.	Degree – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	See below.										
18.	Any change to a graduate degree program	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--

	Provost-Proposed Change	Provost	Department	Dean	COUNCIL ³			Faculty	President	Board of Trustees
					TEC	UAC	Graduate			
1.	Major/Graduate Program – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	A	R	R			A	A	A	I
2.	Minor – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	A	R	R			A	--	A	--
3.	Degree – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	A	R	R			A	A	A	I

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COUNCIL³

	Change to the Catalog Information	Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	UGEC	UUAC	GRAD	Provost	Faculty	President
1.	General requirements for graduation including course requirements that are common to all majors for all degrees ⁷	--	--	--		A		A	A	A
2.	Admission requirements	--	--	--		A		A	A	A
3.	Policies governing academic probation and suspension	--	--	--		A		A	A	A
4.	Requirements for graduating with honors	--	--	--		A		A	A	A
5.	Other academic policy changes	--	--	--		A		A	--	A

¹ Councils may request additional information about “Information” items. These items are approved as “Consent Agenda.”

² The Dean and Department should respond to the Provost’s recommendation to close a program in writing. Advise & Respond (R) requires that the voting body should receive the written responses at least one week prior to the vote.

³ All courses that meet University Requirements for general education must go through UGEC. Courses or degrees offered only to students seeking teacher certification must go through the Teacher Education Council. All undergraduate changes must go before the UUAC. All graduate degree plan changes must go through the Graduate Council.

⁴ A minimum of 30 hours is required for a major. A maximum is specified for each degree (e.g., BA, BS). The university minimum for elective hours is 6, unless the requirements of external accrediting bodies make it impossible.

⁵ Program or course changes that apply to any major that includes Teacher Certification will be reviewed by the college, the Teacher Education Council (TEC), and then the UUAC.

⁶ Courses that satisfy ACU’s University Requirements (General Education) will normally have lower-level numbering, be free of prerequisites and co-requisites, appeal to more than one or two majors, and “not narrowly focus on those skills, techniques, and procedures specific to a particular occupation or profession” (SACS 2.7.3). Departments may request exceptions to the first three criteria.

⁷ The UUAC approved the clarification that “general requirements for graduation” means the enumerated items in the “General Requirements for Bachelor’s Degrees” section of the catalog.

Revised 1-29-16

Curriculum/Catalog Changes Signature Page

Department/School Chair(s)	
_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>
_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

College Academic Council(s)	
_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>
_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

Dean(s)	
_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>
_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

Teacher Education Council	
_____ <i>Chair's signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

General Education Council	
_____ <i>Chair's signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

Undergraduate Academic Council	
_____ <i>Chair's signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

Graduate Council	
_____ <i>Chair's signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

Provost	
_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

Faculty	
_____ <i>Chair of faculty senate</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

President	
_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

To: UGEC and UUAC
From: Greg Straughn
Date: February 3, 2016
Re: Elimination of CORE 115 for Transfer Students

Context

Earlier this academic year, the academic councils and faculty voted to restructure ACU's general education to remove CORE 210 as a required course in the sequence of CORE classes.

This action did not address the CORE 115 course required of transfer students who have 24 or more hours credited to their ACU degree. CORE 115 was created as a kind of hybrid course: drawing material from CORE 110 (Cornerstone) and 210 (Human Identity and Community). The majority of the content and outcomes match the 210 course.

Rationale

Eliminating CORE 115 does the following:

- Removes a barrier to graduation that is not unique to ACU for students considering transferring to ACU, thus making it more likely that they would transfer.
 - Unlike Bible courses, one of the distinctive facets of our curriculum, CORE 115 engages material that, in part, is in common with other general education classes.
- Will not impact the retention rate of transfer students. Currently, transfer students retain about five percentage points lower than Freshmen (70% vs 75% in 2013-14). While CORE 115 was, in part, designed to help provide a community-building experience for transfer students, the effect has not provided the increased retention that would mark a well-established community.
- Is consistent with removing CORE 210 from the non-transfer student requirements. 4 out of 5 outcomes in CORE 115 are the same, or nearly the same, as CORE 210 (see chart below).

CORE 115 Outcomes	CORE 210 Outcomes
1. Articulate a critical assessment of various views of the self (including at least ancient, modern, post-modern, and the physical);	1. Describe theories of the self and community from more than one field of study, recognizing the historical and cultural contexts of each.
2. Utilize a multidisciplinary approach to analyzing the self in a variety of locations such as historical and philosophical milieu, aesthetic and communal context, and theological framework.	
3. Demonstrate a critical awareness of social location;	2. Demonstrate a critical awareness of the systemic nature of social issues and the competing goals of their various stakeholders.
4. Understand the historical and cultural context of critical terms and concepts that inform different views of the self and community.	3. Demonstrate understanding of community contexts and the student's role in the cultivation of good communities.
5. Explore the ethical, civic, and moral implications of living an integrated, Christ-centered life of faith through informed judgments, reasoning, and evaluations;	4. Demonstrate proficiency in the skills necessary to organize and write an effective research paper, including how to structure an argument and how to identify and use effective sources.
	5. Propose solutions that indicate comprehension of an identity- or community-related controversy or topic.

- Reduce the number of instructors needed, thereby freeing up budgeted dollars to provide a portion of the expected transfer-monies to CAS and CBS not presently being received.

Proposal

Eliminate CORE 115 for transfer students who have 24 or more hours credited to their ACU degree. Maintain the requirement for CORE 110 (Cornerstone) for students who have less than 24 hours credited to their ACU degree. See chart below.

Current CORE Requirements for Transfer Students (page 16 of 2015-16 Catalog)

Transfer hours credited to ACU degree	CORE hours required for ACU degree	Courses required
0-23	6	CORE 110, 210
24 or higher	3	CORE 115

Proposed CORE Requirements for Transfer Students

Transfer hours credited to ACU degree	CORE hours required for ACU degree	Courses required
0-23	3	CORE 110