

LDTP Update

The Lower-Division Transfer Patterns Project



Volume 2

Issue 2

June, 2007

The first review cycle for courses submitted by the California Community Colleges (CCC) for articulation to the Lower-Division Transfer Patterns program (LDTP) is off to a good start. Like many ambitious new academic programs, the process takes adaptation, evolution and modification as the pieces of the program are implemented.

We are hopeful that as we gain experience with this process, there will be greater alignment of expectations, and we look forward to continued success in the course review process. CSU is dedicated to the continued collaboration with CCCs in these efforts.

LDTP Cycle 1

22 LDTP course descriptors were posted for LDTP Review Cycle 1 and 1,235 articulation requests were made. Course proposals for economics, statistics and art have been delayed. The course descriptors for statistics are being revised and the economics discipline is reviewing the course pre-requisite issues raised by the community colleges. The art courses are currently being reviewed by the discipline review team. To date, approximately 830 articulation decisions were finalized for Cycle 1.

The results of the LDTP review for Cycle 1 varied quite significantly – by both subject area and by submitting community college. By discipline, the rate of approval ranged from 94% for sociology courses to 2% for ethnic studies courses. By college, the rate of approval ranged from 75% to 10%. We anticipate that CCC course outlines will be

updated and refreshed to reflect the topical content identified in the LDTP course descriptors.

We look forward to clarifications relative to the economics descriptors following anticipated meetings of faculty from both segments (CCC and CSU). We are hopeful also that modest, easy to identify changes may be made in ethnic studies course outlines that will transform a 2% approval rate into a 98% or 99% rate. We look forward, in sum, to learning via discussions, and to success.

LDTP Cycles 2 and 3

Additional LDTP course descriptors were posted for Cycle 2 (24) as well as Cycle 3 (12) with approximately 1,700 CCC course outline requests submitted for Cycle 2 and 400 for Cycle 3. The faculty review process for these submissions has been delayed by a series of software and hardware issues, but the processes are now back on track. We plan to distribute LDTP outline review decisions at several junctures over the next two months. These will be emailed directly to CCC articulation officers.

Interim LDTP Articulation on the Basis of CAN Designations

Many statewide Lower-Division Transfer Patterns have specified courses that currently bear CAN designations. For an interim period, CCC courses that currently have CAN designations will be acceptable as meeting the associated statewide LDTP requirement. Each

community college has been sent a list of their courses that have CAN designations and are qualified - for an interim period - for articulation to specified LDTP course descriptors. Approximately 4,400 CCC courses have been articulated for LDTP via the CAN designation. This interim articulation will be superseded by full articulation once course outlines of record have been approved through LDTP submission and review process.

Articulation for Broad LDTP Requirements

Several LDTP disciplines have requirements that are broad in nature. For instance, the African-American Studies pattern requires students to "...complete a course in African-American/Africana/African/Black art or humanities." Using the ASSIST database, we have worked with the CSU LDTP discipline faculty to identify several courses at the community colleges that meet this type of broad requirement. Approximately 520 courses have been approved for LDTP articulation in this way – for the areas of African-American Studies as well as Native American Studies. Other disciplines will be reviewed over the next few months.

There may be additional courses that a community college would like to have considered for this type of broad requirement. We will share how the process works with the articulation officers once the mechanisms are in place to handle such community college requests.

Faculty Updates

The CSU Academic Senate unanimously adopted two resolutions this past year that are unique and underscore the strong support for the LDTP initiative. The first resolution indicates that California Community College courses that are approved for articulation for LDTP should be articulated at all CSU campuses offering a comparable course. This

is intended to enable articulation beyond the realm of LDTP.

The second resolution, adopted in May 2007, encourages CSU campus disciplinary faculties to articulate their appropriate lower-division courses to the LDTP course descriptors. This will demonstrate the concordance of CSU course content and objectives with the strong LDTP course descriptor learning goals and topical coverage. CSU faculty will want to make just that demonstration, and not incidentally to facilitate CSU-to-CSU lower division transfer.

In addition, a work group – comprised of five CSU faculty members appointed by the CSU Academic Senate and two CSU articulation officers as well as five CCC instructional faculty and two articulation officers appointed by the CCC Academic Senate – will gather this summer to share perspectives and discuss issues regarding LDTP implementation.

Further Updates

- CSU will continue to work with the ASSIST Coordination Site to design a mechanism to display LDTP patterns and articulation.
- CSU will continue to work with XAP Corporation to develop functionality to enable students to track and plan their progress towards meeting LDTP requirements and to enact an LDTP admissions agreement with a particular CSU campus. More patterns will soon be available for search and viewing via CSUMentor.
- The first edition of the guidebook designed to provide more detailed information on LDTP course descriptors will be distributed this summer.

Latest LDTP Course Submission Tips

- When submitting course outlines for articulation with LDTP science course descriptors where a lab component is specified, please insure that the outline includes information about the proposed course's lab activities, topics and content.
- Please review your submission list in advance of the filing date to make sure that you have accurately paired your outline with the appropriate LDTP course identifier, i.e. Math course submitted for a Math descriptor rather than for a Sociology descriptor. Such errors are very easy to make.

LDTP Information

The LDTP project presents potential transfer students with an efficient path to a bachelor's degree from the CSU. LDTP is one of many ways to prepare for study at the CSU.

For students who know exactly what major they wish to pursue and at which CSU campus, current major preparation articulation and transfer admission agreements are quite useful. For students who are initially uncertain about a major and/or CSU campus, the LDTP provides a measure of flexibility and options for preparation.

LDTP benefits *all* students who complete the statewide and/or whole pattern. Statewide patterns will be honored at all CSU campuses offering the discipline. Just as CSU GE-Breadth is a statewide alternative to each CSU campuses' unique General Education – the LDTP is a statewide alternative to each CSU campuses' lower-division major preparation.

For more information about LDTP, the website <http://www.calstate.edu/acadaff/ldtp/> is a resource. It will be updated periodically to reflect important information concerning LDTP. The website currently contains links to LDTP patterns for Phase I disciplines, LDTP Newsletters, and LDTP course descriptors. Please visit the website for continued updates.

For general questions about LDTP, feel free to contact Kurt Hessinger at 562-951-4715 or via e-mail at khessinger@calstate.edu.

LDTP Advisory Committee

The LDTP Advisory Committee (LDTPAC) membership consists of faculty and staff from both the California State University and the California Community College systems. The LDTPAC's main responsibilities are to provide the CSU Office of the Chancellor with general policy advice, feedback, and guidance on the implementation of LDTP. LDTPAC members welcome input from faculty and staff from the CSU and CCC community.

2006-2007 Committee Membership

- Barbara Swerkes (Chair), *Academic Senate CSU – CSU Northridge*
- Deanna Abma, *Articulation Officer – City College of San Francisco*
- Keith Boyum, *Associate Vice Chancellor – CSU Chancellor's Office (ex-officio, non-voting)*
- Christine Hanson, *Academic Programs – CSU Chancellor's Office*
- Allison Jones, *Student Academic Support – CSU Chancellor's Office*
- Thomas Krabacher, *Academic Senate CSU – CSU Sacramento*
- Michelle LaCentra, *Articulation Officer – CSU East Bay*
- Jane Patton, *Academic Senator CCC – Mission College*
- James Postma, *Academic Senate CSU – CSU Chico*
- Jeff Spano, *Coordinator, Transfer and Articulation – CCC Chancellor's Office*
- John Tarjan, *Academic Senate CSU – CSU Bakersfield*
- Mark Van Selst, *Academic Senate CSU – San José State*
- Darlene Yee-Melichar, *CSU Academic Affairs Committee – San Francisco State (ex-officio, non-voting)*

Staff

- Marshall Cates, *LDTP Faculty Director*
- Rachel Hendrickson, *Student Academic Support – CSU Chancellor's Office, rhendrickson@calstate.edu, (562) 951-4729*
- Kurt Hessinger, *Student Academic Support – CSU Chancellor's Office, khessinger@calstate.edu, (562) 951-4715*