

Core Curriculum Committee

Original Mandate

The Core Curriculum Committee shall function as the principal agent of the college in planning and coordination of the core curriculum of Calvin College. Accordingly, it shall review curriculum and its implementation to insure that the core curriculum serves the needs of students and faculty in a way consistent with *An Engagement with God's World: The Core Curriculum of Calvin College*, including its Statement of Purpose and its implications for professional programs.

In implementing this mandate, the committee shall:

1. Review all courses proposed or designated for fulfilling a core requirement; this includes a cycle of regular review (as defined by the committee) for courses previously approved as meeting a category requirement and any courses newly proposed to meet a category.
2. Solicit, review, and recommend DCM courses in consultation with the Interim Term Committee.
3. Review the relationship between the core curriculum and the educational programs of the Student Life Division to ensure effective collaboration and mutual support.
4. Review the core curriculum requirements of any professional programs; this includes a cycle of regular review (as defined by the committee) for programs using previously approved reductions in core as well as any new professional program proposals.
5. Review proposals that would allow for core requirements to be met by means of high school exemptions and AP credit.
6. Review the core curriculum structure on a regular basis, ensuring that it remains consistent with the Statement of Purpose.
7. Present recommendations from all reviews to the Educational Policy Committee for action.

Composition

Nine members: five faculty members, one from each division of the college and one professional program representative; one of these faculty members shall be the chairperson; one dean from the Academic Division who shall also be a member of the Educational Policy Committee; the Vice President or a Dean from the Student Life Division; a representative of the Registrar's office (ex officio); one student.

Explanation and Rationale

This structure is modeled after the relationship of the Teacher Education Committee and the Educational Policy Committee. TEC is a standing committee of the college, yet its recommendations for curricular change do not go directly to the Faculty Senate, but instead to the Educational Policy Committee which manages the (sometimes competing) interests of both majors/programs and the core.

The guiding document for the committee's review is *An Engagement with God's World*, including the *Statement of Purpose for the Core Curriculum* and *The Core Curriculum* description. This document provides the curricular purposes and the objectives that must be met for any course to be part of the core curriculum. In addition, the committee is guided by the "Professional Program Requirements and the Proposed Core Curriculum" section of the Proposal for a Revised Core Curriculum, which provides the rationale and plan for reductions of the core curriculum.

The membership includes significant faculty representation to give the committee breadth to match the breadth of the core curriculum across the college. In addition, the dean provides the link between the committee and EPC and performs the administrative duties of the committee.