

Academic Program Review

~~An academic program is a series of courses leading to a college credential. The College will maintain procedures to assure end-to-end currency, quality, and efficacy standards are maintained in all academic programs and constituent courses. Standards of currency, quality, and efficacy of curriculum and instruction are based upon the expectations of peer and transfer educational institutions, students, faculty, employers, and community needs/interests. These expectations shall be continuously reviewed through ongoing routine professional contact between stakeholders. Standards of curricular and instruction currency, quality will be maintained in a systematic way. To this end, the College will: (1) maintain responsiveness to stakeholders, (2) promote subject matter integration and reinforcement across disciplines, (3) ensure external continuity through ongoing articulation with other institutions, (4) promote the use of innovative curriculum and instructional techniques, and (5) consistently apply cost/benefits standards when assessing program viability.~~

~~Instructional faculty and academic officers, supported by appropriate administrative offices and College committees, are responsible for review and analysis leading to recommendations that will improve programs of study. The program reviews are to both be part of planning and assessment activities, as well as activated when major program concerns arise. (For example: low enrollments or high costs.) The processes for program review are to be open and collaborative.~~

~~The main goal of the Academic Program Review process is to uphold and enhance the quality of the College's academic programs by evaluating the quality, rigor, and productivity of current degree programs and creating strategies for continuous improvement. The reviews aim to be constructive and supportive in the following areas:~~

- ~~• Acknowledging strengths and accomplishments~~
- ~~• Identifying areas for improvement~~
- ~~• Encouraging goal setting and strategic planning~~

~~Each academic program will undergo a review every five years, unless extenuating circumstances require an adjustment to the timeline. Any formal request for an exception to the review schedule must be submitted by the Division Director to the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Student Services, who will consult with the Dean of Instruction. If an external accreditation process is in place, the self-study document may be used to expedite an internal program review.~~

~~The reviews are designed to provide valuable insights for both the academic programs under review and their respective college administrators, as well as offering an informed perspective~~

to external stakeholders regarding the strengths, challenges, and needs of the programs. To this end, the College will maintain responsiveness to stakeholders, promote subject-matter integration and reinforcement across disciplines, ensure external continuity through ongoing articulation with other institutions, foster the use of innovative curriculum and instructional techniques, and consistently apply cost/benefit standards when assessing program viability.

The Academic Program Review process is closely tied to other assessment and accreditation activities. To streamline the process, program accreditation reports, and Academic Program Review evaluations will be integrated as much as possible.

Related College Policies:

1. Contact Hour to Academic Credit (Policy No. 5052)
2. Minimum Number of Credits Required for Graduation (Policy No. 4005)