

FOOTHILL COLLEGE
College Curriculum Committee
Policy on Course Currency

Background/Issue

There exists a reasonable expectation of current and prospective students, the State Chancellor's Office and the general public that Foothill College offer all the courses published in our college catalog with some regularity. All published materials should accurately reflect our programs and course offerings.

There can be serious consequences for transfer students when courses that are listed in our catalog are not offered. Receiving universities may deny transfer students admission for not completing articulated lower division major requirements regardless of whether the courses were offered or not, during their enrollment.

ACCJC Accreditation Standards call for courses to be reviewed for currency and offered to assist student completion:

Standard IIA6 - The institution schedules courses in a manner that allows students to complete certificate and degree programs within a period of time consistent with established expectations in higher education.

Standard IIA16 - The institution regularly evaluates and improves the quality and currency of all instructional programs offered in the name of the institution, including collegiate, pre-collegiate, career-technical, and continuing and community education courses and programs, regardless of delivery mode or location. The institution systematically strives to improve programs and courses to enhance learning outcomes and achievement for students.

Policy

Courses that have not been taught within the last 4 years will be deactivated and thereby removed from Foothill publications unless there is an exemption request by the Division Curriculum Committee that is approved by the College Curriculum Committee.

Procedures

On February 1st, the Office of Instruction will publish and forward to the Division Curriculum Committees a list of courses that have not been taught in the previous 4 years.

Division Curriculum Committee representatives should discuss the list with division faculty and the Dean and follow the "Procedure for Course Deactivation/Reactivation" to deactivate the courses as appropriate.

If the Division Curriculum Committee determines that a course should remain active, justification for retaining the course should be forwarded to the College Curriculum Committee with identification of the next quarter(s) in which it may be scheduled and a plan developed in consultation with the Dean for a regular cycle of offering. The College Curriculum Committee will consider this information to determine if an exemption of the course from the Currency Policy be approved.

Courses not approved for continuance will be forwarded to the Curriculum Coordinator for deactivation and removed from the catalog for the following year.

Procedure for Course Deactivation/Reactivation

(CCC approved 11/30/10)

Deactivation:

1. Deactivation of a course must be agreed upon by the Division Curriculum Committee and be documented in the Division CC Minutes. If the course is a transferable course, you must also notify the Articulation Officer before proceeding.
2. The faculty owner/author must determine whether the course is used as a requirement or elective for a degree or certificate from another division, or if the course is a current GE course*. If so, the appropriate division curriculum reps and dean must be notified of the planned deactivation BEFORE proceeding.
3. Deactivation may be done in one of two ways:
 - a. The faculty owner/editor of the course may edit the outline in the C3MS by changing the “Course Status” to Inactive and forwarding the course through the division’s normal approval process or
 - b. The faculty owner/editor or the Division CC Rep may email the Division CC Minutes to the Instruction Office Administrative Assistant giving directions to inactivate the course. Please remember to indicate which quarter the course will no longer be taught (i.e. the effective date).
4. The Division Curriculum Rep must report the deactivation to CCC.
5. The Curriculum Coordinator updates the online Catalog and Banner for the quarter indicated.
6. Deactivated courses will be held in the C3MS as “Inactive.”
7. Please be aware that inactive courses:
 - a. will continue to appear in the faculty’s access list,
 - b. will **not** print in any Catalog or Schedule,
 - c. may be viewed by anyone with access to the C3MS,
 - d. may be held “dormant” for three years, after which time they will be RETIRED from the current C3MS but will ALWAYS remain in the archive. Archived records can be accessed by the Instruction Office at any time, upon request.

Reactivation:

1. A course is eligible for reactivation once it has been inactive for at least three quarters. If the division feels that there is a compelling reason to reactivate a course in a period less than the three quarters, a formal request must be made to the CCC.
2. Reactivation must be approved by the Division Curriculum Committee and be documented in the Division CC Minutes.
3. Upon reactivation, the course must also be resubmitted for articulation if the intent is for the course to be transferable.
4. After division approval, the Division Curriculum Representative must notify the CCC.
5. Upon receiving the Division CC minutes documenting the approval, the Curriculum Coordinator will contact the faculty author to arrange the reactivation. The retired outline(s) will be sent to the faculty as a PDF or a Word document (faculty preference), the faculty will be given editing access to that course number(s), and they may copy and paste the information into the outline template as appropriate.
6. The course(s) will then follow the regular approval process through the C3MS.