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TMCs and C-ID Descriptor Development

C-ID's descriptors are an established vehicle for describing the required courses in the transfer model curricula (TMCs) developed to coordinate a statewide response to the degree development mandate established by SB 1440. Not all courses in a TMC, however, are required or even specified. Furthermore, the development of descriptors began prior to the passage of SB 1440 such that descriptors were developed for some courses that were explicitly not major preparation and, therefore, not likely a component of a TMC.

For most disciplines descriptors have been developed for courses in the REQUIRED core of the TMC. "Required" means the course is specified and there are either no options or minimal options (e.g., choosing one of 2 specified courses). In other words, lists where the TMC indicates "choose X from the following" are instances where courses are "specified" but not required. Not all specified courses will have C-ID descriptor. In the instance where a specified course is not described by a C-ID descriptor, major preparation articulation is required, unless otherwise indicated. When a specified course is articulated by 30% or more of the CSUs with the major as major preparation, a descriptor will typically be developed. Ultimately, whether or not a descriptor is to be developed is determined by the FDRG.

It should be noted that while descriptors exist within a given discipline of C-ID, this does not dictate where a given course is housed at a community college. Courses are awarded a C-ID designation based on their comparability to a descriptor, not the consistency of the discipline to which they are assigned. As a consequence, a course that is in one discipline in C-ID might be in a different discipline at a given community college.