



Major Preparation IS The Next Big Thing!

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Overview

- What is major preparation?
- Why should CC curriculum committees be concerned?
- How to use resources to align your curriculum
- Scheduling considerations

What is Major Preparation?

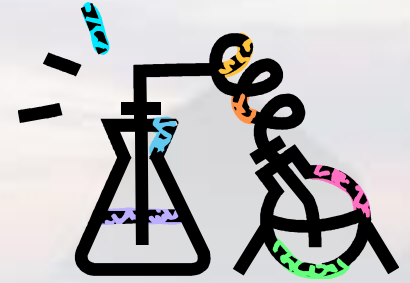
- Freshman and Sophomore level coursework for baccalaureate degrees
- Equivalent / Acceptable coursework at the CC and CSU or UC
- Designates foundation for upper-level study in a discipline



General Education

- For many years, students have believed that their best opportunity to transfer to a CSU or UC campus was to complete GE certification (CSU GE Breadth or IGETC).
- Completing GE would allow students to prepare for any major and to focus on courses in that major after they transferred.

STEM



- Most students majoring in Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics (STEM) have been transferring without completing GE certification.
- These students are expected to complete a group of courses specific to their chosen major to be selected for transfer.
- Students without major preparation are at a disadvantage for university admission

The Changing Tide of Transfer

- While STEM majors have been dealing with major preparation for years, many other majors are beginning to look at major preparation as well.
- How many of you have looked at the major preparation options in your major at your local CSUs and UCs?



What Our Students Need to Know!

- Student preparation for transfer is now more important than ever.
- All UC campuses are selective admission
- Nearly all CSU campuses are impacted
 - Many have designated completion of sets of coursework for admission
- Completion of GE may be secondary focus for admission selection

Begin The Conversation

- The Curriculum Committee is a great place to begin the discussions about major preparation.
- Consider giving your Articulation Officer and other counselors the opportunity to come to the committee and have an open discussion about what transfer universities are looking for.

Understanding Our New Reality

- Once your curriculum committee has a better understanding of where major prep fits in, they will need to take this information back to their divisions/departments.
- With the help of the committee, the Curriculum Chair needs to be a resource to the faculty that hope to change their curriculum to benefit students.

ASSIST To The Rescue



- For faculty to be open to changing their curriculum, they need to know what gaps exist, where to start.
- Show them how they can look at your articulation agreements on ASSIST.
- They will be able to see lower division courses their students get credit for and those that they don't.
- Course-to-Course vs Course-to-Requirement
- Knowledge is power!

An Informed Curriculum Committee

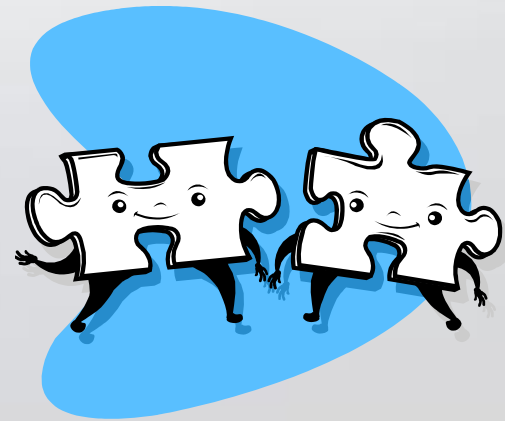
- As the conversations about major preparation continue on your campus, your committee will begin to ask about where courses fit into major preparation requirements.
 - Work with your Counselors
- Curriculum Chairs should work with the AO before meetings to make sure they are both informed about all of the courses being considered.
- Your AO and Counseling faculty are amazing resources that Curriculum Chairs should rely on often.

Enrollment Management

- Major preparation courses often have prerequisites. If students can't complete their prerequisites, they will never be able to enroll in your course.
- Departments must work together to ensure that there is a way for students to complete their educational path.
- An enrollment management committee is a place where things like this could be handled.

Enrollment Management in STEM

- Cross-disciplinary conversations regarding scheduling
 - Sequencing of coursework
 - Finding roadblocks with STEM coursework
 - Overlapping lecture/labs
 - Course offerings each semester



Summary

- Major preparation is becoming increasingly important and may be more important than GE for some students.
- Work with your faculty to educate them about the importance of major preparation and what they can do to help students.
- Make sure that your scheduling of courses doesn't block students from completing their educational goals!

Thank You For Coming

- Do you have any questions?
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