

TAMS 2024 Annual Conference
Commission on Curriculum, Articulation, and Transfer
Meeting Report: Friday January 26th at 2:45pm

The commission meeting included representative members from all institution types, with the largest representation from 2-year schools. Of the conversation topics came two main points:

1. THECB Texas Transfer Advisory Committee work on the re-vamping of degrees currently marked as Field of Study. It appears that Music will be coming up for review/adoption starting after the April 2024 meeting, as a sub-committee within TTAC charged with creating an Alternative Framework for degrees where the necessary pre-requisites prevent core completion had their recommendation approved. This recommendation allows for a reduced core to no less than 30 credit hours, leaving 30 credit hours available for course work in the specific discipline. Rule Making on this plan is now in progress, with that expected for completion in April and subject areas are named. The expectation is that music will be one of them, as it was discussed in length during the December 2023 meeting. In addition, the letter that TAMS wrote to THECB was received and had a positive impact. As this process unfolds, both 2-year and 4-year schools need to be in alignment. More to come on this, all members should be keeping aware of the progress. It is also worth mentioning that any institution-specific articulation agreement is still valid.

2. Dual Credit challenges: students are coming out of high school with as many as 63 credit hours. Without seeming to be “anti-dual credit,” investigating on how these students are academically advised is appropriate, especially given the majors that fit into the category above. Are they aware of the 75 hour credit cap? Some examples were given from a few institutions, which would lead members to believe that the process is not universal. And how are the students fairing after their AA is earned before leaving HS? Do they understand how to hold themselves accountable for turning in work? Among other concerns discussed were:

- Content warnings for MUSI 1310 classes and kids being under 17 years old
- Messaging to parents/students that is fair, balanced, and allows an informed decision to enroll.
- If an Outside Educational Resource is being used, what quality does it have? How is copyright handled?

Overall, a very lively discussion and more follow up will come as commission chair and membership gather information.