

# What Does The Curriculum Committee Do?

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- Curriculum comes in two basic types:
  - Courses
  - Programs (degrees and certificates)
- We have something like 500 courses and 100 programs in our catalog.

# What Does the Curriculum Committee Do?

- The curriculum committee helps the college tend to and care for its curriculum, i.e., its courses and programs:
  - We help update things to keep them fresh
  - We help prune old things that have outlived their time (deactivation)
  - We help new stuff take root
- The committee itself never officially proposes changes to the college curriculum. It reviews such proposals from faculty and votes on whether to approve them.

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- But the committee does not play a purely passive role in managing the college's curriculum, e.g.:
  - We reach out to departments to initiate advance planning.
  - We act as project manager for large-scale curriculum projects, such as getting courses approved for Area F.
  - We alert faculty when changes at the state level require updates on our part, such as when a TMC changes.

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- But what we do with our curriculum is not just up to us.
- Some examples:
  - State regulations dictate how the unit value of a course must be determined.
  - State regulations dictate when we can put a prereq on a course.
  - State regulations dictate what we must require from students in order to award them an AA/AS degree.
- It's the committee's responsibility to ensure that, as the college builds its curriculum, it does so within the constraints imposed on us by the state and others, such as accrediting agencies.

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- That means it's our responsibility to be aware of what all the outside constraints on us are—which is not easy!
  - The Program and Course Approval Handbook (PCAH) runs to 137 pages.
- We'll do some further trainings this year to help committee members learn more about what is allowed and what is not.

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- But not everything which is technically allowed is a good idea.
- It's also our responsibility to ensure that our courses and programs truly provide value to the student.
- Carrying out that responsibility is more about applying common sense and making a point of asking basic questions.