



Common Sequence: A Blend of Programs

LeTourneau University

Longview, Texas

Kathy Majzner



Overview

- Background-how did we get to where we are?
- Strategic planning - why did we need to do something new?
- Creative thinking - why can't we just do what we have always done?
- Common Sequence development - how do we make it happen?
- Adding value - are there additional benefits we can reap?



Background

- Our program developed “backwards”
 - Started with Degree Completion and MBA
 - Added lower level courses
- Started with a single program - Business
 - Added Online program
 - Added Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies (Education program)
 - Added Master of Educational Leadership
 - Added BBM in Aviation
 - Introducing Bachelor of Psychology
 - Introducing BBA in Information Systems



Strategic Planning

- Multiple Programs
 - Wide variety of courses needed
- Multiple Levels
 - Students enter at many different points in the program
- Multiple Departments
 - Each creating their own piece of the puzzle
- Limited Resources
 - Classroom space
 - Instructors in various disciplines
 - Statistics



Creative Thinking

- Start with what we know
 - List the issues



Creative Thinking

- We cannot do what we have always done and then hope for better results
- R.G. LeTourneau's personal philosophy –
 - “There is always a better way”
 - “Use both ends of the tool”
 - “If your mind can conceive it, and you can believe it, you can do it”
 - “It's always too soon to quit”
 - “*Whatsoever your hand finds to do, do it with your might...*” Ecc. 9:10



Creative Thinking

- *Start with what we know*
 - *List the issues*
- Do the research
 - Develop the necessary tools for statistical analysis

Common Sequence Development

- Break Even Analysis for '05-'06

	Business Core	CS1	CS2	Education Core	PACT	Masters	Gen Ed
Cost per class							
FT faculty costs	7,583	-	-	-	-	7,583	-
PT faculty costs	2,164	2,164	2,164	2,164	2,164	2,164	2,164
All site costs (excluding faculty)	1,061.58	976.71	871.49	1,783.46	1,911.53	972.42	524.31
Site costs and Admin OH costs	6,786.22	6,070.32	5,258.78	6,680.80	4,042.23	5,479.69	3,145.60
Site, Admin OH and PT Faculty costs	8,949.92	8,234.02	7,422.48	8,844.50	6,205.93	7,643.39	5,309.30
Site, Admin OH and FT Faculty costs	14,369.55	6,070.32	5,258.78	6,680.80	4,042.23	13,063.02	3,145.60
Tuition per student per 3 hour class	1,017.00	840	840	840	864	1,332.00	840
Break even in number of students							
Cover PT faculty costs only	2.13	2.58	2.58	2.58	2.5	1.62	2.58
Cover PT faculty and site costs	3.17	3.74	3.61	4.7	4.72	2.35	3.2
Cover PT faculty, site and Admin OH costs	8.8	9.8	8.84	10.53	7.18	5.74	6.32
Cover FT faculty costs only	7.46	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.69	N/A
Cover FT faculty and site costs	8.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.42	N/A
Cover FT faculty, site and Admin OH costs	14.13	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	9.81	N/A

Common Sequence Development

- Utilization Report

Room #	Room Capacity	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Saturday		Total
		Cohort #	Number of Students	Cohort #	Number of Students	Cohort #	Number of Students	Cohort #	Number of Students	Cohort #	Number of Students	
1	26			BBAD0756	19	BBAD0885	16	BBAD0796	20			55
2	22					BIBL2073	13			PTED0167*	12	25
3	22	CS1D0040	17	CS20837	12	CS2D0816	14	ECED0045	9	PTMD0198*	3	55
4	24					BBAD0817	8	BBAD0772	17	PTED0197*	12	37
5	22	MBAD0157	10	BB1D788	11	CS2D0901	5	CS1D0836	5	PTSD0199*	6	37
6	15					BIBL3623	2	PSYC 1273	2	PTED0169*	9	13
7	22					ENGL2173	8	CS2D0037	5	PTSD0214*	5	18
8	22					BB2D0786	11	MBAD0140	6	PTMD0213*	11	28
9	22	EC1D0027	11			BBAD0964	18			PTMD0212*	10	39
Total			38		42		95		64		68	307



Creative Thinking

- *Start with what we know*
 - *List the issues*
- *Do the research*
 - *Develop the necessary tools for statistical analysis*
- Brainstorm
 - List all options
- Decide which way to go
 - Common Sequence




Creative Thinking

- Programs offer many of the same courses
- Why pay two instructors and take up two classrooms for the same course just because some students are in the business program and some in education?
- Why not try combining the students in the entry level courses and see if it works?



Common Sequence Development

- BB1 and EC1 conversion to CS1
 - BB2 and EC2 conversion to CS2
 - Still a lock-step program, but now with “break out” sessions (see handouts)
 - First 8 courses are combined then the last three courses are broken out by program
 - Started July 1, 2006
 - Have made adjustments along the way
- 



Common Sequence Development

- Early entry points went well so let's try core level combinations in the business program
- Still a lock-step program, but now with "break out" sessions
- Break out courses should not be scheduled last in a core group
- Students need a "taste" of their major early in core
- Started BCC January 1, 2007
- Moved to Education department - April, 2007



Adding Value

- Additional Benefits:
 - Can start groups more quickly (our starts require 10 students per group)
 - Can offer more stand alone course (need fewer rooms for cohort groups)
 - More students able to experience the top level instructors
 - More diversified learning experience for students by combining students from various programs
 - Other?