
Statewide Dual Credit (SDC) Courses Approvals

The Background:

T.C.A. § 49-15-104 creates a consortium on cooperative, innovative high school programs and mandates the group create statewide early postsecondary opportunities through dual credit and dual enrollment. The chancellor of the Board of Regents and the President of the University of Tennessee, or their designees, are responsible for convening postsecondary faculty to develop statewide early postsecondary opportunities. This section of code gives the State Board of Education, the Board of Regents, and the Board of Trustees of the University of Tennessee final approval of statewide early postsecondary credit initiatives within their respective institutions. T.C.A. § 49-15-109 creates a process to develop dual credit courses, assess their effectiveness, and make changes through a validation process. This process is led by the Board of Regents and the University of Tennessee.

In 2020 and 2021, the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) convened college faculty to review and update six (6) of the 11 statewide dual credit (SDC) courses, including SDC American History. The SDC American History course was also reviewed for compliance with recent legislation, including T.C.A. § 49-6-1019. The American History course was approved by TBR faculty and is now recommended for State Board approval. The State Board staff recommends approval, provided that the content is presented as part of the impartial discussion of history.

The review and update of the remaining five (5) SDC courses took place in the fall and spring of the 2021-22 school year and include revised standards for SDC Introduction to Criminal Justice, SDC Introductory Statistics, SDC Introduction to Agriculture Business, SDC Introduction to Psychology, and SDC Speech and Communication.

Additionally, there were two (2) new SDC courses developed. Those courses include SDC Principles of Marketing and SDC Introduction to Education. These courses will be embedded into their respective CTE programs of study.

The Recommendation:

The SBE staff recommends approval of this item on final reading.