

OSCAR

Online Services for Curriculum and Articulation Review – OSCAR

Mission:

OSCAR is an online, web based computer system for submission, review, and archiving of course outlines. The OSCAR project is being developed intersegmentally to streamline the submission and review processes for general education approval of community college courses. OSCAR course outlines will be utilized for updating the Intesegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) and the CSU General Education Breadth (GE-B) course certification lists. OSCAR is to be employed intersegmentally by the California Community Colleges, the California State University, the University of California and ASSIST (the official repository for articulation information in California) and is intended to remain responsive to the needs of these entities over time.

Goals:

1) Enhance curriculum submission processes for the IGETC and CSU GE programs:

Objectives:

- Expedite the curriculum submission process by providing course outline submitters and reviewers 24-hour a day online access via the Internet to online submission and review processes using standard web browsers.
- Enhance access to historical curriculum submissions as points of reference for those submitting materials by storing submissions and reviewer comments from each annual review cycle.
- Reduce incomplete and erroneous curriculum submissions and reviews via an online system that provides detailed forms and related descriptions for all requested information and that requires complete information submissions.
- Enhance the consistency of submitted materials and review processes by linking the online system to existing course data in the ASSIST database.

2) Enhance curriculum review processes for IGETC and CSU GE submissions:

Objectives:

- Enhance current curriculum review processes by making them less paper driven via online and computer-assisted applications.
- Expedite the curriculum review processes by providing those submitting course outlines and course outline reviewers with 24-hour a day online access via the Internet to online submission and review processes using standard web browsers.
- Afford reviewers easy access to updated and complete records of their own review work and notes as well as the review work and notes of others.
- Enhance access to historical curriculum submissions as points of reference for those reviewing submissions by storing submissions and reviewer comments from each annual review cycle.

3) Augment access to curriculum review outcome data and historical articulation review records:

Objectives:

- Increase the dissemination of knowledge about the submission and review process and its outcomes through augmented online information and resources.
- Facilitate the creation of printable course outlines and notes on the results of the curriculum review for intersegmental use.
- Facilitate the automation of other curriculum-based submission and review activities including the UCOP Transferable Course Agreements (UC TCAs) and the California Articulation Number System (CAN) by establishing a common method for collecting and storing course outlines.

Overview of Data Flow:

- 1) Online submission of course outlines from authorized California Community College users via a new web site to be created and supported by the ASSIST Coordination site.
- 2) Initial course outline data from CCC submissions transmitted electronically from ASSIST to the CSU Chancellor's Office at the close of the submission cycle.
- 3) Staff and faculty review process for IGETC and CSU GE commences online - internal process to CSU and UC via a web site to be created and maintained by the CSU Chancellor's Office.
- 4) CSU and UCOP notes and final decisions are completed online via a web site to be created and maintained by the CSU Chancellor's Office.
- 5) CSU and UCOP final outcomes from course reviews compiled and submitted electronically to ASSIST.
- 6) Online notification of submission outcomes and rationales for decisions from CSU and UC to CCCs .
- 7) Publication and storage of complete and final IGETC and CSU GE-B curriculum records and notes for each annual review cycle on ASSIST web site.

Note: It is probable that OSCAR will be introduced in stages and that OSCAR will be fully functional within a few years. Participation in OSCAR will be optional in the beginning stages to determine the feasibility of full implementation with all CCCs, UCs, and CSUs. An intersegmental advisory group has been established to oversee the development, piloting, implementation, and evaluation of the various phases of the OSCAR project.

