

University Curriculum Committee

Summary Report to Faculty Senate

March 2026 Meetings

Meetings Covered:

- March 2, 2026
- March 16, 2026

During the March meetings, the University Curriculum Committee (UCC) reviewed and approved a large set of curriculum actions, including **new courses, program modifications, course revisions, policy updates, and catalog maintenance changes**. All approved items were forwarded to **the Office of the Provost for final approval**.

Major Administrative and Policy Actions

Degree Designation Update

The committee approved a change to the degree designation for the **Athletic Training graduate program**.

Program	Change
Athletic Training	Degree designation updated from Master in Athletic Training (M.A.T.) to Master of Science in Athletic Training (M.S.A.T.)

This change was requested by the **Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC)** to ensure alignment with state program designation standards.

Academic Policy Updates

The committee approved revisions to several Academic Affairs policies to improve clarity and compliance.

Policy	Update
Policy 2:001 – Curricular Development	Updated titles and clarified language
Policy 2:016 – Textbooks / OER	Updated faculty/staff titles
Policy 2:024 – Reverse Transfer	Increased minimum credit requirement from 15% to 25%

These updates ensure policies remain **clear, current, and consistent with institutional practices**.

New Courses Approved

Several new courses were approved across multiple colleges.

Selected New Courses

College	Course	Description
Arts & Letters	ENGL 5210	Black Women Writers
Arts & Letters	ENGL 5220	Black Queer Literature
Arts & Letters	ENGL 5280	Contemporary American Fiction
Arts & Letters	ENGL 5720	Cultural Rhetorics
Business	ECON 5230	Global Business, Economics & Policy
STEM	BIOL 2030 / 2031	Human Anatomy & Physiology Bridge
Education	EDUC 5930	Graduate Clinical Mentoring
Education	SPED 5395	Advanced Assistive Technology

New Academic Program Development

New Concentration

Program	Change
B.S. Education	Added 6–12 Secondary Physics Education Concentration

Major Program Modifications

Several degree programs underwent structural revisions, primarily within the **College of Education**.

Key MAT Program Changes

Many **Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT)** concentrations were restructured to:

- Introduce **Job Embedded (Option B)** pathways
- Introduce **Non-Licensure (Option C)** options
- Reduce overall program credit hours

Program	Previous Hours	Revised Hours
Elementary Education (K-5)	42–48	40–45
Integrated Early Childhood (PreK-3)	45	37–42
Middle Grades Math	42	34–39
Middle Grades Science	42	34–39
Secondary Education	33–39	31–36
Secondary Science	42	34–39

Course-Level Curriculum Maintenance

The March meetings included many **catalog updates**, particularly in the **English and Linguistics graduate curriculum**, reflecting a broader program restructuring.

Course Revision Summary

Type of Action	Approximate Volume	Purpose
Course Title Updates	20+	Improve clarity and reflect program restructuring
Course Number Changes	30+	Align graduate course numbering
Course Description Updates	Multiple	Clarify content and expectations
Credit Hour Adjustments	Several	Align with TN DOE teacher licensure requirements
Prerequisite Updates	Multiple	Improve sequencing and program access
Course Deletions	~18	Remove inactive courses

Many deleted courses had **not been taught in several years or lacked available faculty**, and their removal improves catalog accuracy.

Additional Curriculum Actions

Other curricular updates included:

English Program Updates

- Extensive **course renumbering and retitling** to support graduate program restructuring.

Computer Science

- CSCI 4460 was renamed from **Content Management Systems** to **Web Development Framework** to reflect modern front-end frameworks.

Teacher Education

- Student teaching courses revised to align with the **Tennessee Department of Education grade bands**.

These changes improve **curriculum alignment with professional standards and disciplinary developments**.

Academic Catalog Update

During the **March 16 meeting**, the committee received a **demonstration of the new Academic Catalog system** as part of the university's transition to **Coursedog**.

The new catalog interface is designed to improve:

- Student navigation
- Program transparency
- Visualization of four-year graduation pathways.

Summary

The March 2026 UCC meetings focused on **program modernization, catalog maintenance, and policy updates**. Major outcomes included:

- Approval of **new graduate and undergraduate courses**
- Creation of a **Secondary Physics Education concentration**
- Significant restructuring of **MAT graduate programs**
- Extensive **English graduate curriculum realignment**
- Updates to **institutional academic policies**
- Preparation for the **new academic catalog system**

These actions support the university's ongoing efforts to maintain **accurate academic records, efficient degree pathways, and curriculum aligned with disciplinary and workforce expectations**.