

What UC Berkeley is doing to ensure our students get the courses they need when they need them

Lower time to degree = Lower overall cost of attendance and improved student experience

We are bringing the campus together to plan and deliver key areas of the undergraduate curriculum.

The Berkeley campus directs a portion of fee increases toward improving the delivery of key areas of the curriculum, specifically the “common-good” courses that are critical to undergraduate students’ intellectual development, academic success, and timely graduation.

Targeted areas of the Common-Good Curriculum (CGC) include:


- Foreign Language Instruction involving 16 different language programs.
- Reading & Composition involving 26 different departments.
- Math & Science lower division “gateway” courses involving the Mathematics, Physics, Statistics, Chemistry, Biology, and Computer Science departments.

Together we set targets on how many additional course sections to offer and how many students to enroll in order to meet demand and maintain optimal class sizes.

We are adding sections to key courses that undergraduates rely on and are in high demand.

In the last three years (2010–13) we invested \$10.9 million in CGC funds to add 871 additional primary and secondary course sections for a total of 23,528 additional seats. Nearly all of the participating departments are able to offer 90–100% of their targeted course sections and fill those classrooms with the targeted number of students. This demonstrates the initiative is addressing students’ needs while utilizing resources efficiently.

We are developing data solutions that support curriculum long-term planning and weekly course enrollment management so we can adjust offerings to meet demand.



In June 2013, we released Curriculum dashboards for campus use in Cal Answers. The lessons learned from the CGC's coordinated effort to set targets and meet them informed dashboard design. Now all units on campus have access to course enrollment data via dashboards that allow them to set curriculum targets, monitor how courses are filling during registration, and adjust offerings to meet demand. These tools will be augmented with a new dashboard release in fall 2013 that features information about the majors of the students taking a course, as well as the courses that majors take.

CGC Annual Report FY12-13:

<http://opa.berkeley.edu/CGCAnnualReportFY12-13.htm>

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