

# Protecting Student Transfer and Curricular Transparency in Cross-Listed Credit Courses

2026-04

Whereas, Title 5 §55002 establishes the Course Outline of Record (COR) as the official document defining a course's objectives, content, and rigor, and the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) has defined cross-listing as the maintenance of identical CORs under multiple discipline prefixes, a practice that creates complications for data integrity, program review, and transfer articulation, including inconsistent or failed approval of courses for CSU GE Breadth and CalGETC requirements when identical outlines are submitted under multiple prefixes to transfer institutions that evaluate each prefix independently; and

Whereas, discipline assignment, which specifies within a single Course Outline of Record that a course may be taught by faculty meeting minimum qualifications in more than one discipline, supports interdisciplinary teaching without duplicating course outlines and provides a more transparent and administratively sound alternative to cross-listing; and

Whereas, the California Community Colleges Ethnic Studies Task Force, in ASCCC-published guidance, strongly discourages cross-listing of ethnic studies courses on the grounds that doing so may lead to courses being taught by faculty without ethnic studies discipline expertise and may negatively impact students' transfer or Associate Degree for Transfer acceptance at the CSU, concerns further illustrated by the articulation confusion documented in ASCCC Resolution 15.04 (Fall 2022) regarding CSU GE Breadth Area F submissions; and

Whereas, students rely on accurate and transparent curriculum representation when making enrollment, transfer, and degree planning decisions, and cross-listing practices that obscure disciplinary identity or create inconsistent articulation outcomes directly undermine students' ability to make informed choices; therefore,

Resolved, that the Academic Senate recognizes that the cross-listing of certain courses may convey misleading or incomplete information to students regarding disciplinary identity, degree applicability, or transferability and may thereby adversely affect their academic pathways;

Resolved, that the Academic Senate formally discourage the cross-listing of credit courses and directs the Curriculum and Instruction Council (C&I) to apply heightened scrutiny to any crosslisting proposal prior to approval;

Resolved, that, consistent with the ASCCC-published guidance and the ASCCC Ethnic Studies Task Force guidance cited above, the Academic Senate affirms that Ethnic Studies courses should not be cross-listed under any other discipline prefix without prior, substantive, and documented consultation with, and a written recommendation from, the Ethnic Studies Department; and,

Resolved, that C&I shall review all existing cross-listed courses within two academic years of adoption, in consultation with the affected departments, and recommend for each either continuation, discontinuation of the non-primary prefix, or conversion to a single COR with appropriate discipline assignment notation.

Contact: Raul Madrid Jr., Academic Senate Co-Vice President

Reviewed and approved by the Academic Senate on August 27, 2026

Read to the Mt. San Antonio College Board of Trustees on September 9, 2026