

Core Curriculum Council's Recommendations
July 2009
(Based on 2009 Core Assessment)

1. Core Curriculum test should be administered annually to graduating seniors at the end of the Spring semester in order to continually assess the effectiveness of the core curriculum.
- 2A. Based on the outcome of Core Curriculum test of Spring 09, clearly more writing assignments are needed, especially ones that are designed to meet the expectations of the Core Curriculum (ie. critical and analytical thinking, correctly utilizing and citing secondary sources, etc).
- 2B. Some - but not all - of these assignments can be implemented in existing ENGL courses, particularly 1123, 1133, and 2143.
- 2C. Consequently, more writing must be required in non-English courses and that writing must be evaluated according to ENGL standards not entirely for content.
3. Writing and its connections to critical and analytical thinking need to be emphasized throughout the tenure of students at PVAMU. More writing needs to be required at all levels of instruction and not just lower-level (ie. up to 2000) courses.
4. This last recommendation entails a great deal of coordination and work, but we could extend the Core Curriculum test to students at all levels, from freshmen to seniors so that they become accustomed to its presence and utility. The test should also be administered in the middle of the semester, not at the end when students are least likely to care about it, especially if they are seniors.
5. Consider dropping the Computing requirement under the current Core Curriculum to replace it with a Critical Thinking and Reading course. Examine current core requirements and the Texas Common Core Numbering system to see what type of course would be most effective and transferable. This may be a University-specific course, if allowed by the state.