

Approved High School Courses Policy 3.205

The Background:

Approved High School Courses Policy 3.205 identifies courses that have been approved by the State Board for instruction in Tennessee schools. Several courses that are part of the Statewide Dual Credit program have proposed course standard changes at this board meeting.

The Statewide Dual Credit (SDC) course standards for American History, Introduction to Psychology, and Speech and Communication have proposed changes recommended for approval at this meeting. While reviewing standards for this course, State Board staff found that these courses had not yet been added to this policy, though they have been offered for several school years: American History since 2017-18, Introduction to Psychology since 2016-17, and Speech and Communication since 2018-19. The item proposes to add these courses to the list of approved courses to correct the oversight.

Two new SDC courses are also recommended for approval for the first time at this meeting: Statewide Dual Credit Introduction to Education, and Principles of Marketing. The item proposes to add both these courses to the policy.

Additionally, this item proposes to remove SDC Sociology from the list of approved high school courses to ensure alignment with recent changes to state law, effective with the 2022-23 school year.

Finally, the Department of Education is proposing a new course, Teaching as a Profession: Foundational Literacy Practicum. The item adds this proposed course.

There has been one change since first reading. Biology II has been added back to the list of approved science courses after being inadvertently deleted for first reading.

Policy Justification:

T.C.A. § 4-5-230 requires that justification for adopting an item as a policy instead of a rule be submitted to the chair of the Government Operations Committee. This item is proposed to be adopted as a policy because it defines or explains the meaning of a statute or rule and/or concerns only the internal management of state government that does not affect private rights or privileges.

The Recommendation:

The SBE staff recommend approval of this item on final reading.