Proposed Common Core Structure and College Option at CSI

I. **Required Core (12 credits)**

   A. **English Composition** (6 credits)
      i. Proposed: ENG 111 and ENG 151, converted to 3 credit 3 hour courses.
      ii. Current equivalent: ENG 111 3 credits 4 hours and ENG 151 4 credits 4 hours

   B. **Mathematical and Quantitative Reasoning** (3 credits)
      i. Proposed: one 3 credit 3 hour course, chosen from the current list of mathematics courses, converted to 3 credit 3 hour courses, except where the course fulfills a major requirement and the STEM exception allows CSI to list a 4 credit course.
      ii. Current equivalent: Science and Technology B. Mathematics, 3-4 credits

   C. **Life and Physical Sciences** (3 credits)
      i. Proposed: one 3 credit 3 hour course in Life, Physical, and Computational Sciences and Technology, to be chosen from the current scientific analysis and technology, converted to 3 credit 3 hour courses except where the STEM exception allows CSI to list a 4 credit course.
      ii. Current equivalent: Science and Technology 8 credits

II. **Flexible Core (18 credits)**

Six three-credit liberal arts and sciences courses, with at least one course from each of the following five areas and no more than two courses in any discipline or interdisciplinary field.

A. **World Cultures and Global Issues** (3-6 credits)
   i. Proposed: Foreign Language: All students seeking a baccalaureate degree must demonstrate minimum proficiency at the second university-level in one foreign language.

   Courses will be chosen from the current list of foreign language courses, converted to 3 credit 3 hour courses.

   Students who have had two years of high school foreign language and who wish to continue that language must enter the sequence at the second level. Such students should take the second level language course in this area of the flexible core. Such students will complete 3 credits in this area.

   Students may also demonstrate proficiency and possibly exempt one or more courses by (a) submitting an appropriate score on an approved national test, such as a CLEP exam, or (b) by challenging the appropriate course(s) beyond the first level when an approved national test is not available.

   Students who place at the first university level of a foreign language and/or those who wish to begin a new language that they did not study in high school must take two foreign language courses in one language to fulfill this requirement. Such students will complete 6 credits in this area.
b.  Additional current equivalents to World Cultures/ Global Issues: Contemporary World 200 level and higher courses 4 credits; Pluralism and Diversity 200 level or higher requirement 0-4 credits.

ii. Proposed:  Students who take only one foreign language course at the second university level to complete World Cultures and Global Issues must take one additional 3 credit 3 hour course not already taken and chosen from the list of courses in the flexible core that fulfill the current Pluralism and Diversity Requirement or the current Contemporary World Requirement, with the courses converted to 3 credit 3 hour courses.
   a. Current equivalents: Contemporary World 200 level and higher courses 4 credits; Pluralism and Diversity 200 level or higher requirement 4 credits.

B.  U.S. Experience in its Diversity  (3 credits)
   i. Proposed: One 3 credit 3 hour course chosen from a list that includes COR 100 converted to 3 credits and all other current courses that fulfill the current Pluralism and Diversity Requirement related to US experience in its diversity, also converted to 3 credit 3 hour courses.
   ii. Current equivalents: COR 100 4 credits; Pluralism and Diversity Requirement 0-4 credits

C.  Creative Expression  (3 credits)
   i. Proposed: One 3 credit 3 hour course from the literature list in the current TALA Requirement, with courses converted to 3 credit 3 hour courses.
   ii. Current equivalent: TALA Requirement 3-8 credits.

D.  Individual and Society  (3 credits)
   i. Proposed: One 3 credit 3 hour course chosen from the current social scientific analysis list, converted to 3 credit 3 hour courses.
   ii. Current equivalent: Social Scientific Analysis 3-8 credits depending on the major

E.  Scientific World  (3 credits)
   i. Proposed: One 3 credit 3 hour course in life, physical, and computational sciences, to be chosen from the current scientific analysis and technology, converted to 3 credit 3 hour courses except where the STEM exception allows CSI to list a 4 credit course.
   ii. Current equivalent: Science and Technology 8 credits

**College Option 12 credits**

Note:  Students who transfer in to CSI with 30 or fewer credits must complete 12 College Option credits and all the requirements below.

Students who transfer in with more than 30 credits but without an Associate Degree must complete a maximum of 9 College Option credits.
i. Transfer students who have not completed two science courses with laboratories and have not demonstrated foreign language proficiency to the second university level will complete requirements A (Scientific World), B (Issues in College Life), and C (Contemporary World) of the College Option for a total of 9 credits.

ii. Transfer students who have completed two science laboratory courses prior to transferring to CSI Areas B (Issues in College Life), C (Contemporary World), D (Creative Expression and Communication), and E (Literary Analysis, Critical Thinking, and Communication Skills) in the College Option.

Students who transfer with a completed Associate Degree must complete a maximum of 6 College Option credits.

i. Transfer students who have not completed two science courses with laboratories will complete Areas A, (Scientific World), B (Issues in College Life), and D (Creative Expression) of the College Option.

ii. Transfer students who have completed two science courses with laboratories should complete Area C (Contemporary World) and E (Literary Analysis, Critical Thinking, and Communication Skills) of the College Option.

A. Scientific World (2 credits)
   i. Proposed: Two one-credit two-hour laboratory courses attached to the courses elected to fulfill the Required Core (Life and Physical sciences) and Flexible Core (Scientific World). Transfer students should elect any two one-credit two-hour laboratories.
   ii. Current equivalent: Science and Technology 8 credits (2 laboratories included)

B. Issues in College Life Seminar (1 credit; 2 hours)
   i. Proposed: Redesign SPD 101 as a freshman seminar, with a section for transfer students.
   ii. No current equivalent.

C. Contemporary World (3 credits)
   i. Proposed for BA Students: BA students must complete one foreign language course on the third level with the same prefix as the language course elected to fulfill the Flexible Core. If a course on the third university level is required in the major, BA students should complete one course additional course for the College Option that fulfills the Pluralism and Diversity Requirement and for the Contemporary World Requirement in the Flexible Core.
   a. Current equivalent for BA students: Foreign Language 0-12 credits and Contemporary World 200 and higher level courses 4 credits and Pluralism and Diversity 200 level and higher courses 4 credits
   iii. Proposed for BS students: BS students must complete one additional 3 credit 3 hour course from the Flexible Core that fulfills the Pluralism and Diversity Requirement or chose from the list of courses that fulfills the Contemporary World Requirement at the 200 or higher level.
   a. Current equivalent for BS students: Contemporary World 200 and higher level courses 4 credits and Pluralism and Diversity 200 level and higher courses 4 credits

D. Creative Expression (3 credits)
i. Proposed: One 3 credit course in the fine, applied, and/or performing arts, chosen from the current list of TALA courses in the arts, converted to 3 credit courses. This list can include current options that are not designated by the state as liberal arts and sciences courses.

ii. Current equivalent: TALA Requirement 3-8 credits.

**E. Literary Analysis, Critical Thinking, and Communication Skills (3 credits)**

i. Proposed: One 3 credit course. Students who do not complete a literature course in the Flexible Core must complete a literature course on the 200 or higher level in this area. Students who have completed a 200 or higher level literature course in the Flexible Core other requirements are encouraged to select a course from the Critical Thinking or Communication Skills courses.

ii. No current equivalent, except the literature component of the TALA Requirement.

**Summary of Issues Related to the Proposed Model**

I. What is preserved from current requirements on this model

* Two science courses with laboratories, not necessarily sequential
* Foreign Language Requirements through the second level for BS and BA students and third level for all BA students.
* Pluralism and Diversity Requirement.
* Contemporary World Requirement.
* TALA Requirement in both the literature and the arts areas.
* Requirement for 200 level courses in multiple areas of the general education framework.

II. What is enhanced as compared to current requirements on this model

* Foreign Language: Currently not all students are required to take a language to the second level, but on this model they will be. This may present issues for the professional areas, but since the general education hours are being reduced by Pathways, this issue should not pose too many insurmountable problems.

* TALA Requirement: not all students are currently required to take two courses in the TALA area, but on this model they will be.

* More possible explore to literature courses through Creative Expressions and College Option areas of the Flexible Core, as well as through the Pluralism and Diversity Requirement.

* Addition of the Issues in College Life, redesigned as a freshman seminar, as a requirement.

* Addition of Critical Thinking/Communication Skills courses to College Option.
*More possible exposures to courses with a global perspective: Currently it is possible for one course to fulfill both the Pluralism and Diversity and the Contemporary World Requirements, and courses in various areas of general education may also fulfill a Pluralism and Diversity Requirement. In other words, double dipping on the Pluralism and Diversity Requirement is allowed. This model mandates three exposures to courses with global competencies, though two of those may be foreign language courses. Other areas, such as Creative Expression and Individual and Society, may have courses with a global perspective, and some courses in the sciences may also embed the study of big questions/global issues.

III. What is lost on this model as compared to current General Education Requirements

*Four-credit courses in multiple areas of the general education curriculum.

*Social Scientific Analysis exposures may be reduced for some students, but many of these courses could be listed in other areas of the Flexible Core besides the Individual and Society and will appear on the list of courses that fulfill the Pluralism and Diversity and/or Contemporary World Requirements in the Flexible Core and/or College Option.

IV. Open questions:
   a. With regard to the remaining 3 credits in the Flexible core not accounted for by the requirements in Areas A-E of the Flexible core, should we allow students to select courses from any area? Should the courses selected fulfill the Contemporary World Requirement and/or the Pluralism and Diversity Requirement or should a student be allowed to take any course they desire? Should we mandate an additional course in World Cultures/Global Issues for all students and not just those who must take two foreign language courses?
   b. With regard to the College Option, should we require the Issues in College Life Seminar for transfer students?
   c. With regard to the College Option, should we include literature in the last area, assuming that literature courses will account for the Creative Expression area of the Flexible core? Should literature be the only requirement in the College Option final area? Should there be other requirements for this 3 credit area?
   d. With regard to the College Option, should we have a separate area for communication skills or include communication skills courses in the Creative Expression area? One of our general education goals includes Performances with Communication Skills.
   e. How shall we handle the requirements for transfer students with regard to foreign language, science labs, and other issues?