CHAPTER 4: CURRICULUM MAPS

Curriculum mapping is a method to align instruction with desired goals and program outcomes.
It can also be used to explore what is taught and how.
The map or matrix Documents what is taught and when,
Reveals gaps in the curriculum, [and]
Helps design an assessment plan.
(University of Hawai'i, n.d., n.p.)

Topics Presented in Chapter 4

◊ Curriculum maps

Curriculum Maps

Curriculum maps or curriculum matrices are very effective tools for relating learning goals to classes, co-curricular programs, and other educational opportunities. Three curriculum maps are shown below from the University of Hawai'i (n.d.). The first is a simple example for an undergraduate program. The second is a more complex example for an undergraduate program with multiple tracks. The third is for a doctoral program.

Excerpt From a Hypothetical Biology Program Curriculum Matrix

Key
I=Introduced
R=Reinforced and opportunity to practice
M=Mastery at the senior or exit level
A=Assessment evidence collected

Courses	Intended Student Learning Outcomes			
	Apply the scientific method	**Develop laboratory techniques**	**Diagram and explain major cellular processes**	**Awareness of careers and job opportunities in biological sciences**
BIOL 101	I	I		I
BIOL 202	R	R	I	
BIOL 303	R	M, A	R	
BIOL 404	M, A		M, A	R
Other: Exit Interview				A

Example From an Undergraduate Program With Multiple Tracks							
Key **SLO=Student Learning Outcome** **I=Introduced** **R=Reinforced/Practiced** **A=Assessed**							
Track 1	Track 2	Track 3	SLO 1	SLO 2	SLO 3	SLO 4	SLO 5
Core: CRS 255 (3 credits)			I	I	I	I	I
Core: Three theory courses (9 credits)				I	I		
Core: Writing (3 credits)			I			I	I
Core: Design (3 credits)				I		I	
CRS 310, 312, 350				R		R	
CRS 325			R	R			
CRS 355				R	R		
CRS 405						R	R
CRS 410					R		
CRS 450				R	R		
CRS 455			R				R
CRS 495			A	A	A	A	A
	CRS 215, 315				R	R	R
	CRS 316			R		R	
	CRS 318		R		R	R	
	CRS 320, 415			R		R	
	CRS 420				R	R	R
	CRS 495		A	A	A	A	A
		CRS 352	R				R
		CRS 360		R	R		
		CRS 382	R				
		CRS 385				R	R
		CRS 460	R				R
		CRS 480	R	R		R	
		CRS 485	R	R			
		CRS 495	A	A	A	A	A

Example From a Ph.D. Program				
Key **SLO=Student Learning Outcome**				
Ph.D. Requirements	SLO 1	SLO 2	SLO 3	SLO 4
Course Requirements	X			
Qualifying Exam		X	X	
Comprehensive Exam	X	X		X
Dissertation	X	X	X	
Final Exam	X	X	X	
Seminar Requirements		X		X