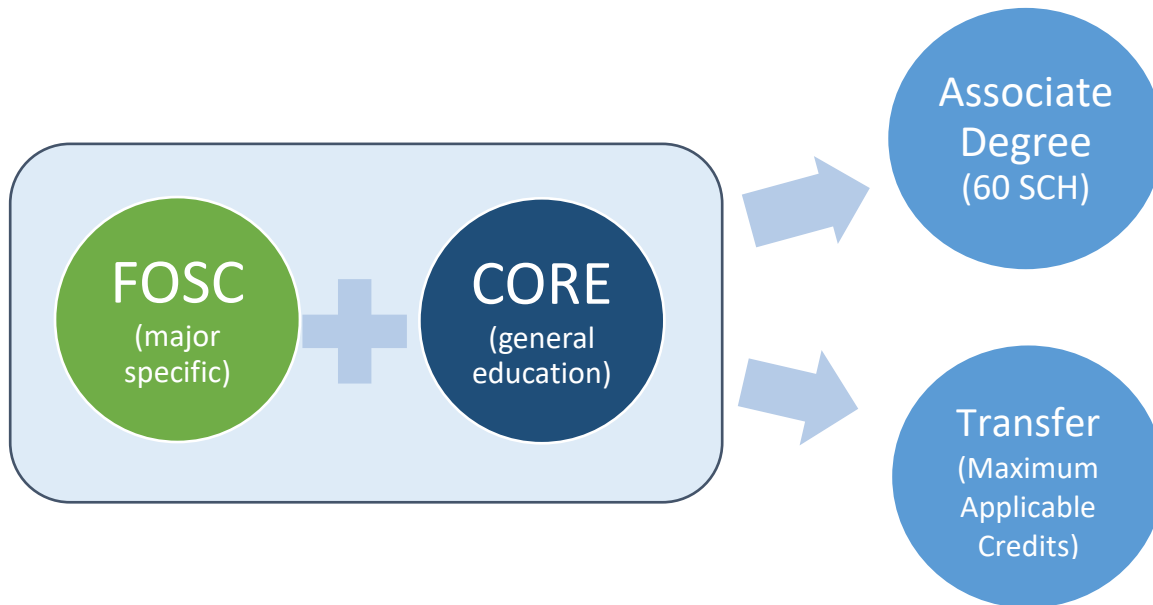


## Fields of Study Curriculum: Improving Transfer and Minimizing Credit Loss in Texas

In Texas, Field of Study Curriculum (FOSC) is one of the most important policies to support efficient upward transfer with minimal loss of credit. FOSC is a set of courses that fulfill lower-division requirements for a specific major or degree plan. Combined with the Core Curriculum, FOSC can help a student reach an associate degree and/or be prepared for efficient transfer to another institution. Courses within FOSC are **guaranteed** to transfer to any public college or university in Texas and are **guaranteed** to apply to the appropriate bachelor's-level degree plan. No exceptions. A student who transfers without completing the entire FOSC shall receive credit for each of the courses the student successfully completed in the FOSC.

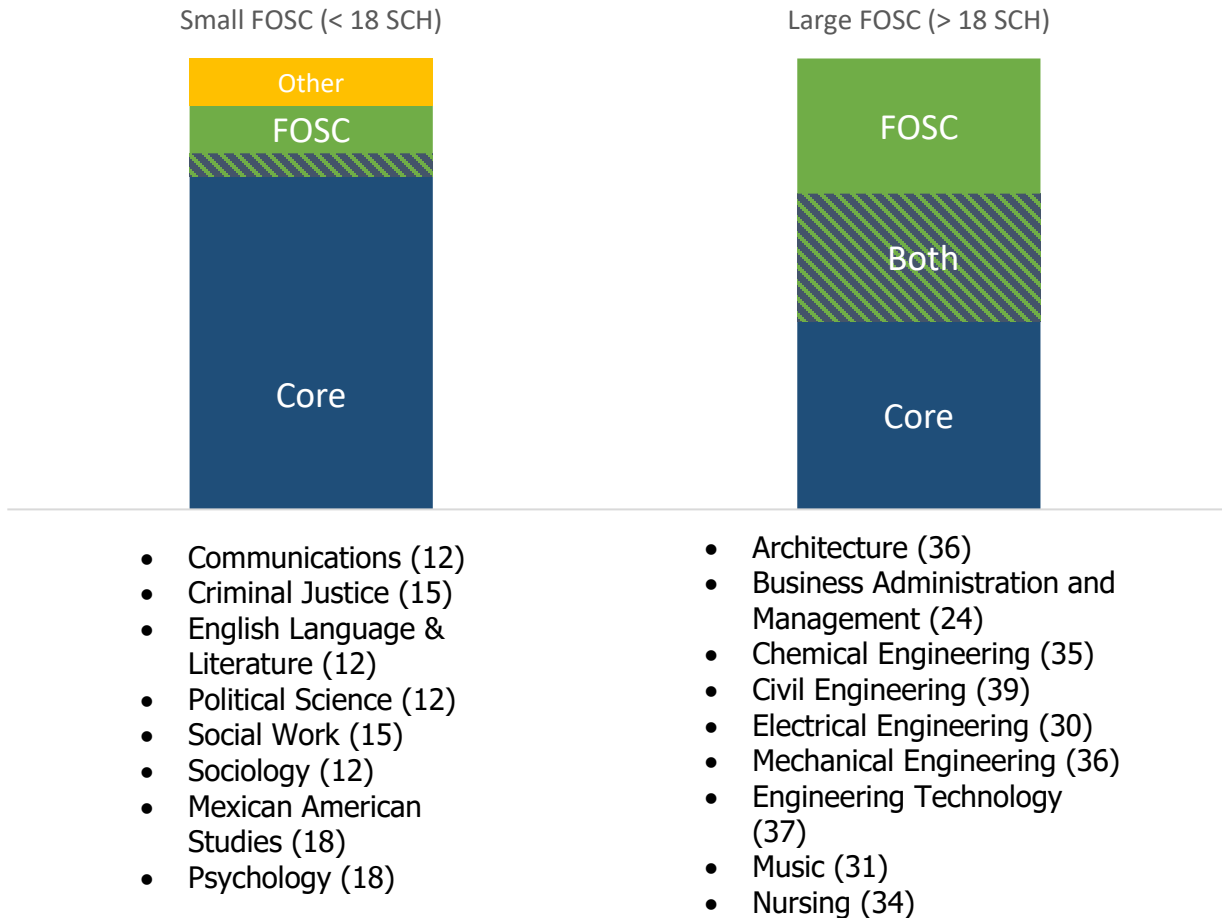


### **In Practice, the Total Number of Credits Earned through the Field of Study Curriculum Varies by Major**

In practice, the total number of credits students will earn through FOSC and the core curriculum will vary based on the number of semester credit hours included in the FOSC. The number and content of courses contained in each FOSC are identified by faculty committees representing two-year and four-year institutions who determine the knowledge and courses necessary to prepare students for upper-division coursework in a particular major.

For more information, please visit the [Field of Study Curricula webpage](#) on the THECB site and refer to the Texas Education Code Section 61.823.

## Field of Study Curricula, by Semester Credit Hour Requirements



The graphic above displays two possible scenarios combining FOSC of different sizes with the core curriculum. The core curriculum contains 42 semester credit hours in each scenario. There is often some degree of overlap between the FOSC and the core.

1. **Small FOSC:** Several FOSC require students to complete 18 SCH or fewer major-specific lower division courses. One example is communications with 12 SCH. Students pursuing these majors must take other non-major degree requirement courses to earn a 60 SCH associate degree or may wish to transfer with their guaranteed FOSC and core hours.
2. **Large FOSC:** Other FOSC contain more than 18 SCH, such as business (24 SCH), electrical engineering (30 SCH), and nursing (34 SCH). In cases where a FOSC contains more than 18 hours, credits earned to satisfy lower division major requirements in the FOSC will also satisfy lower division general education requirements in the core curriculum.