

Utilizing Interdisciplinary Courses in Compliance with Highly Qualified Teacher Policies

The Kentucky Board of Education allows a school district to substitute an applied or interdisciplinary course for a required core academic course if the alternative course provides rigorous content and addresses the same applicable components of the required course. This option provides high schools the opportunity to offer courses which have the same academic rigor as traditional courses, but the content is delivered through a more contextual hands-on approach.

Interdisciplinary career and technical/core academic courses require that a core content teacher certified in the content area and a career technical teacher certified in the respective career and technical area work together in planning, teaching, and evaluating student learning to ensure that all aspects of the Kentucky Academic Standards for the specific academic course is addressed.

The U.S. Department of Education has released a version of the Improving Teacher Quality State Grants Non-Regulatory Guidance. While this guidance does not deviate extensively from January 2004 version, it does introduce new questions and expands on previously determined policy – including team teaching and career technical education teachers. If the teacher of mathematics and science is collaborating with the career and technical education teacher in the design of the lessons, teaching the mathematics or science concepts and grading the assignments and assessments, the course can be offered as a core content credit. .

In order to determine if a teacher is a certified content teacher, please visit the following link:
<https://applications.education.ky.gov/SCCD/Home/Index>