



Test Objective and Subarea Matching Worksheet: Mapping the Test Objectives to the Curriculum

The Test Objective and Subarea Matching Worksheet is a useful tool for matching course content to the objectives of a specific MTTC test.

Because the test objectives and descriptive statements articulate the specific knowledge and skills assessed on each MTTC test, familiarity with the test objectives is central to identifying the content knowledge and skills on which certification candidates are assessed. The objectives can be very helpful to faculty, both in advising candidates who are preparing to test and for academic purposes such as planning programs. A careful reading of the test objectives—noting subarea structures and depth and breadth of coverage of content, as detailed by the objectives and descriptive statements—will provide a good understanding of the content covered on a particular test.

Using the Test Objective and Subarea Matching Worksheet and your knowledge of the test objectives, you can compare your institution's course offerings with the content assessed on the test, as described by the test objectives and descriptive statements. The completed worksheet will specifically match the content assessed by an MTTC test and the particular course or courses at your institution in which that content is addressed. This information can then be used to

- ▶ advise candidates who are preparing to take the test for the first time, noting specific coursework they may wish to take before testing;
- ▶ direct candidates who are retaking a test, noting instructional materials and texts they may wish to review; and
- ▶ assess for academic program planning purposes, the extent to which institutional and departmental courses correspond with the certification standards as defined by the test objectives.

Directions for Completing the Worksheet

Step 1: Determine the number of test objectives. MTTC test fields have different numbers of test objectives. Use the test objectives provided for the specific test field to determine the number of objectives covered by the test. Delete or cross off any unused objective numbers on the worksheet.

Step 2: Group the objectives into subareas. Using the test objectives, indicate on the worksheet the subareas to which the groups of objectives belong. You may do this by merging the cells in the "Subarea No." row above the objective numbers for each subarea or making dark lines between objective numbers that mark the beginning and end of a subarea. You can then add the subarea numbers (e.g., I, II, III, IV) in the appropriate sections of the "Subarea No." row.

Step 3: List the course names. List the courses in the institution's curriculum that candidates are typically advised or required to include in their programs of study leading to certification. List courses within and beyond the department as appropriate. To make completion of the worksheet easier, list the courses in an order corresponding to the organizational pattern of the test objectives (i.e., first identifying and listing the courses that cover the content described by the objectives in the first subarea, then listing the courses that cover the content of the second subarea, and so on).



Step 4: Match the test objectives to the courses. Read each test objective and its associated descriptive statements carefully and review the descriptions of the course offerings.

- ▶ If a listed course or set of courses adequately covers the content of the objective, place a check mark or an X in the column corresponding to that objective number in the row of the worksheet on which the course name is listed.
- ▶ If no specific course or set of courses can be found that adequately covers the content of the objective, leave the column corresponding to the objective number blank and make a separate note about this finding.

Step 5 (optional): Identify additional resources for selected test objectives. Candidates and/or advisors may want to expand the worksheet to include Internet or other instructional resources beyond required coursework that link to particular objectives.

Sample Completed Test Objective and Subarea Matching Worksheet

An example of the first page of a Test Objective and Subarea Matching Worksheet as it might be completed by a faculty member is shown below. It illustrates the use of the worksheet with the English test (field 002). Note that the person completing the form has indicated, by eliminating the extra objective numbers (i.e., 31 to 40) for which the form provides columns, that there are 30 test objectives in this test field. Note too that the 30 objectives have been grouped into the four subareas in the test objectives. Courses that cover content in the first subarea have been listed in the first column and matched to test objectives in subsequent columns.