

# Curriculum, curricula

The singular can refer to the content of a single course or area of study; the plural then implies a more lateral description, a group of these single courses or areas:

“I’ve been reviewing the university’s arts and sciences *curricula*.”

## **Etymology:**

Latin *currere* → French *courir, courant, cours* → English *current, course*

1824, modern coinage from L. *curriculum* "a running, course, career," from *currere* (see [current](#)). Used in English as a Latin word since 1630s at Scottish universities.

## **Oxford English Dictionary:**

A course; *spec.* a regular course of study or training, as at a school or university.

## **Merriam-Webster:**

- 1 : the courses offered by an educational institution
- 2 : a set of courses constituting an area of specialization

## **American Heritage**

1. a course of study in one subject at a school or college
2. a list of all the courses of study offered by a school or college
3. any programme or plan of activities

## **Dictionary.com**

1. the aggregate of courses of study given in a school, college, university, etc.: *The school is adding more science courses to its curriculum.*
2. the regular or a particular course of study in a school, college, etc.