Understanding the Common Core State Standards and their Role in Catholic Education

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Common Core Literature
- Began in 2009; adopted by 43 states
- Goals: unite country in instruction, college and career readiness, common assessment tool
- Professional development
- Concerns about research basis

Catholic Education Literature
- Private schools not dictated by states
- BUT many dioceses have adopted standards
- NCEA issued statement in support
- Creation of Common Core Catholic Identity Initiative
- Opposition: Letter from professors to USCCB

Methodology and Research
- Research Question: What factors lead to the adaptation of the CCSS for Catholic schools, and how do Catholic schools implement their academic?
- Interviews with teachers, principals, and superintendents of two archdioceses (one using CCSS, one using another set of standards)

Results and Discussion
- Similar development of standards in both archdioceses
- Similar implementations of standards (professional development, textbooks, response to opposition)
- Catholic identity most evident in writing of standards

Resources include...