

April 20, 2017

Task Force on General Education Diversity Requirement  
Recommendation to University General Education Committee

Approved with changes, April 24, 2017

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Currently the language about the cultural diversity requirement in the curriculum guide is limited to the following guideline “If the course is being proposed to satisfy cultural diversity indicate how its content emphasizes non-dominant perspectives, cultures, views, and traditions” (bottom of page 51). The university does not have a full statement of the intent of the requirement of its goals.

The Diversity Task Force recommends the following language be used to define the requirement and the goals. This language will be printed in the curriculum guide, and is parallel in structure to the description and goals articulated for the requirements in the Social and Behavioral Sciences, Humanities and Fine Arts, and Natural Sciences.

### **Diversity Requirement**

Demonstrate understanding of theoretical and practical factors of race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, socioeconomic status, disability, sexuality, religion, age, immigration, nation, and other significant markers of social identity. Examine the complexity of diversity through an analysis of differential power, privilege, oppression, and inequities. Make central non-dominant views and perspectives.

Goals for GE courses meeting the diversity requirement::

- Enhance understanding of the diverse efforts and strategies used by groups to transform and/or dismantle structures of oppression.
- Foster reflection and appreciation of non-dominant perspectives, their contribution to society and culture, and models for their inclusion.

- Analyze the intersection of the categories of various dimensions of difference as they affect cultural groups' members lived realities and/or as they are embodied in personal and collective identities.
- Formulate informed views on the mechanisms for maintaining existing power structures and their impact on all sectors of society.

We further recommend the following:

- The application form in WebPortal be modified to include explanation of how the course meet these goals on the request for the diversity designation
- As the General Education curriculum is reviewed, we suggest exploring the option of a second 3-unit requirement with an international focus.