

UVU GLOBAL/INTERCULTURAL REQUIREMENT

PURPOSE:

Global/Intercultural understanding should be considered and explored from a variety of perspectives. The requirement will foster greater understanding of, interaction with, and appreciation for, cultures that reflect the diversity present within the local and campus communities, up to the larger state and global context. Courses satisfying the requirement will articulate and examine the unique perspectives, experiences and concerns of individuals and groups representing cultures other than one's own. Such understanding and appreciation will both enhance the educational experience of students and facilitate their preparation to participate as active, informed, respectful citizens.

By implementing the Global/Intercultural requirement, the University underscores its commitment to valuing global/intercultural opinions, backgrounds, traditions, perspectives, and experiences. Utah Valley University recognizes that fostering an intercultural learning curriculum and an understanding of, and appreciation for, a variety of cultural perspectives and experiences is an essential element of higher education.

OUTCOMES:

While realizing that developing intercultural understanding is a lifelong process, the expected outcomes for students completing the Global/Intercultural requirement include:

Gaining an informed and nuanced understanding of global or intercultural issues.

Replacing stereotypical cultural conceptions with recognition of the complexity and variety of different cultural groups.

Gaining appreciation for the contribution of different cultural groups to educational, social and cultural institutions, and for the value of difference within these contexts.

Gaining confidence in interrelating respectfully with individuals representing cultures and perspectives other than one's own.

Becoming knowledgeable, responsible, reflective and respectful citizens within an increasingly multicultural society and global community.

CRITERIA FOR COURSES SATISFYING THE GLOBAL/INTERCULTURAL REQUIREMENT:

- 1) The Global/Intercultural requirement will be satisfied by a single course of at least three credit hours.
- 2) Global/Intercultural issues must be central to each course, rather than one element among several to be explored.

- 3) Specific courses, and the issues under examination in each course, may take a local intercultural or international perspective.
- 4) Courses should, when possible, include texts and teaching materials that originate within the specific group(s) under examination.
- 5) When possible, courses should help students discover interconnections among different groups and cultural contexts, showing how their own experiences relate to those of other cultures.
- 6) Instructors must agree to provide outcomes assessment as designed by the Global Intercultural Committee on an annual basis.

(1) - December 1999 Report of Utah Regents Task Force on General Education:
<http://utahsbr.edu/Goals1299.htm>