

**ACADEMIC POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
REQUEST FOR MULTICULTURAL/GENDER STUDIES CONSIDERATION**

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Multicultural/Gender Studies graduation requirement is to promote an understanding of the diversities and similarities of individuals and groups, and study the roles of specific cultures and genders in contemporary America.

Guiding Principles for Multicultural/Gender Studies

A course that satisfies the Multicultural/Gender Studies requirement **must meet at least six** of the following goals and criteria. The emphasis in each course should be substantial and thematic rather than incidental or supplemental to a different focus:

1. Study the history or experience of under-represented groups.
2. Identify specific contributions by underrepresented groups to cultures and traditions.
3. Explore ethnic or gender relationships in daily life.
4. Increase students' knowledge and understanding of other cultures.
5. Develop an awareness of racism or sexism.
6. Promote critical thinking about issues relevant to under-represented groups.
7. Identify theories and practices of accommodation, assimilation, integration, and pluralism.
8. Acquaint students with multicultural societies.
9. Recognize artistic achievements and aesthetic values of non-western cultures.
10. Provide opportunities for students to recognize their own attitude toward cultural diversity.
11. Encourage an understanding view of cultural diversity.

Multicultural/Gender Studies Definitions

Under-represented groups: any group for which a percentage of persons from that group have not been equally represented in the economic/political institutions. On national basis ethnic minorities, women, and persons with disabilities are historically under-represented groups.

Ethnic minorities: Ethnic minorities in the United States include Native Americans and minorities of color, including Blacks, Mexican Americans/Latinos/Chicanos, and Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders.

CRITERIA	COURSE OBJECTIVE NUMBER	OTHER EVIDENCE IN THE OUTLINE
Study the history or experience of under-represented groups.		
Identify specific contributions by underrepresented groups to cultures and traditions.		
Explore ethnic or gender relationships in daily life.		
Increase students' knowledge and understanding of other cultures.		
Develop an awareness of racism or sexism.		
Promote critical thinking about issues relevant to under-represented groups.		
Identify theories and practices of accommodation, assimilation, integration, and pluralism.		
Acquaint students with multicultural societies.		
Recognize artistic achievements and aesthetic values of non-western cultures.		
Provide opportunities for students to recognize their own attitude toward cultural diversity.		
Encourage an understanding view of cultural diversity.		