

**General Education Cultural Diversity and Community (D) Course Expedited Review Process
(Revised 11/2/07; Approved by Senate on 11/20/07)**

In April 2007, the Millersville University Faculty approved a new General Education (Gen Ed) curriculum to be implemented for the fall 2008 semester. Within the new Gen Ed curriculum, entering students in fall 2008 and beyond will be required to take at least one Cultural Diversity and Community (D) course prior to graduation. To meet this requirement, existing courses may apply for the “D” Gen Ed label by using the expedited review process described below.

1. For an existing course to acquire the “D” label, the department offering the course must demonstrate how it will meet each of the specific criteria (see below). The department will submit to the chair of UCPRC (electronically) the following documents for each course:
 - a. A brief evaluation form (see attached).
 - b. A course syllabus.
 - c. Any supporting documentation the instructor/department feels is needed to support the self-evaluation.
2. The chair of UCPRC distributes the submitted certification documents to the Diversity Sub-committee of UCPRC for review.
3. The Diversity Sub-committee of UCPRC reviews the certification documents and makes one of three recommendations to UCPRC:
 - a. Approval of the “D” label for the course as presented.
 - b. Approval of the “D” label subject to certain amendments agreed to by the department spokesperson. Such amendments shall appear at each stage as attachments to the original proposal unless they are purely editorial.
 - c. Disapproval. Reasons for disapproval must be clearly stated in writing to the proposal spokesperson. Revised certification documents must undergo the complete expedited review process.
4. The chair of UCPRC communicates final decisions regarding each course to the departmental spokesperson. In addition, the chair of UCPRC advises the Faculty Senate at each full Faculty Senate meeting of courses that have been approved to meet the new “D” requirements.

The above process is used only for existing courses that would like to add the “D” Gen Ed label before fall 2009. Existing courses that wish to add the “D” label after that will need to follow the process for adding a General Education label found at <http://www.millersville.edu/~fsenate/Committees/UCPRC/guidelines.html>.

Newly developed courses (not currently on the books) that seek the “D” label must go through the process for proposing new General Education courses found at <http://www.millersville.edu/~fsenate/Committees/UCPRC/guidelines.html>.

Guidelines for the Cultural Diversity and Community Requirement

To satisfy the Gen Ed Cultural Diversity and Community (D) requirement, all students must successfully complete one approved 3-credit course meeting the D criteria described below. This course may also count for credit in a student's major or minor program or may satisfy another Gen Ed requirement.

Cultural diversity refers to the differences among people in terms of beliefs, customs, values, politics, and experiences. In essence, culture is a worldview; it is both learned and evolved. The following factors are seen as underlying these differences: age, economics, education, gender, geography, language, nationality, occupation, physical ability, race and ethnicity, religious affiliation, and/or sexual orientation among others.

Specifically, a D course:

- a) involves 3 semester hours at the 100-level or above.
- b) is intercultural and/or cross-cultural, with culture being a worldview that reflects beliefs, customs, values, politics, and experiences as shaped by age, economics, education, gender, geography, language, nationality, occupation, physical ability, race and ethnicity, religious affiliation, and/or sexual orientation among other factors.
- c) examines historical and environmental (e.g., social and/or physical) factors that underlie cultural differences.
- d) examines the potential global, regional, or local factors that underlie cultural differences.
- e) helps students to identify, critically analyze, and apply scholarship and experience related to cultural diversity.
- f) provides academic structure in support of students' positive engagement with peoples of diverse histories and communities.
- g) challenges students to evaluate their own personal worldview.
- h) has meaningful written and oral components.
- i) may also count as part of any additional requirement (major, minor, or Gen Ed) of the Baccalaureate degree.

Evaluation Form for Existing Courses to Obtain “D” Label

Subject and Course Number:

Course Title:

Course Status: existing non-GenEd course existing GenEd course W course P Course

List major(s), minor(s), option(s), etc., if any, for which this course is required or will be required:

Proposing Department	Proposal Representative’s Name	Contact Email	Campus Phone Extension

Approval/Submission Record:

	Name	Signature	Date
Proposal Representative			
Department Chair			
Diversity Subcomm. Chair			
UCPRC Chair			

Please attach the course syllabus to this form. Also, feel free to copy and paste information directly from the course syllabus (syllabi) for any of the items below.

- 1) Does the proposed course involve 3 semester hours at 100-level or above?
- 2) Explain how the proposed course is intercultural and/or cross-cultural, with culture being a worldview that reflects beliefs, customs, values, politics, and experiences as shaped by age, economics, education, gender, geography, language, nationality, occupation, physical ability, race and ethnicity, religious affiliation, and/or sexual orientation among other factors.
 Please remember that a D course is more than a mere survey or exposure of the students to different cultures; rather it teaches students to think critically about the basis for intercultural differences.
- 3) Explain how the course will examine historical and environmental (e.g., social and/or physical) factors that underlie cultural differences. Provide one or more examples of how this will be implemented.
- 4) Explain how the course will examine global, regional, or local factors underlying cultural differences.
- 5) Provide examples of how students will be challenged to identify, critically analyze, and apply scholarship and experience related to cultural diversity.
- 6) The intent of this D requirement is to provide the academic structure (through lecture, theory, assignments, debate or experiential learning) to improve students’ capacity for positive engagement with peoples of diverse histories and communities. Explain and provide examples of how your course will accomplish this.
- 7) Explain how course content, expectations, or evaluation mechanisms will challenge students to evaluate their own personal worldview.
- 8) Explain how the course will have meaningful written and oral components.