

Multicultural Requirement Guidelines (September 1994)

In designing courses to meet the 3-unit Multicultural Requirement for Graduation, instructors should keep the following guidelines in mind:

1. It is the policy of the Curriculum Committee of Sacramento City College to encourage the infusion of multicultural course offerings in the curriculum at SCC. The Committee explicitly encourages both multicultural offerings within existing curricula and the development of new courses with multicultural perspectives. It is expected that some of these revised existing courses and new courses will be a welcome addition to the curriculum at SCC but may not meet the particular requirements which follow for satisfaction of the 3-unit Multicultural Graduation Requirement. Those courses, existing or new, which are intended to satisfy that 3-unit Multicultural Graduation Requirement must meet certain critical features in order to qualify that course to satisfy the Multicultural Requirement for Graduation.
2. The 3-unit course may be required by a major or be an elective course.
3. The course should examine significant aspects of the culture, contributions and social experiences of underrepresented ethnic or racial groups in the U.S. or in the history and multicultural traditions of non-western societies.
4. All courses should be comparative among multiple social groups.
5. All courses should include analysis of concepts of ethnicity, ethnocentrism and racism, and how they shape and explain ethnic experience.

As a matter of general practice, the procedures for identifying a course as fulfilling the Multicultural Requirement begins with the development of the course with the curriculum proposal and these guidelines in hand.

A course must meet Criteria #1, 2a or 2b, 3 and 4. The Multicultural Subcommittee of the Curriculum Committee only receives what is submitted to the Curriculum Committee and cannot assume that an area within these guidelines will be covered. Please be as explicit as reasonable in describing how your course meets these requirements. An instructor or dean may be invited to a Multicultural Subcommittee meeting to elaborate or further explain how these course meets the Multicultural Requirement. The Multicultural Subcommittee will give feedback to the division after this meeting.

In developing a course, instructors will find it most helpful to carefully read through these guidelines and the Multicultural Requirement Checklist to develop the course in such a way that the course truly fulfills the intent of the Multicultural Requirement.