American Diversity Courses

UCGE Proposal Criteria Suggestions

The University of Idaho Faculty is invited to submit proposals for American Diversity courses for the academic year 2012-2013.

DUE DATE FOR COMPLETED PROPOSALS: March 26th, 2012

Content Guidelines for the American Diversity Component of the University Core:
Courses fulfilling the core American Diversity requirement seek to engage students in critical inquiry into contemporary and historical issues of social and cultural diversity in the United States.

The focus of this requirement is to foster a greater awareness and understanding of our collective complexity as an American community by exploring the construction of differences in American society and by providing an overview of the social, economic, and political forces that have shaped the experiences of diverse communities throughout U.S. history.

Topics in the category may include issues of power and privilege, systems of inequality, and forms of institutionalized discrimination within American society. These courses provide a conceptual framework for analyses of diversity topics as they raise questions, stimulate thought and reflection, and challenge stereotypes and myths.

Proposals should consist of the following:

1) Instructor: Name and title of instructor. If the instructor is not a full-time faculty member, please briefly describe experience teaching general education or in teaching in professional preparation.

2) Course Outline and Description: In one or two pages, briefly describe the course and its objectives, and provide as detailed a schedule and syllabus as possible. Include likely texts and materials relevant to the diversity issues addressed in the course, and indicate possible speakers or other supplementary activities you would like to incorporate. Describe how the course addresses the objectives of American Diversity core courses listed below.

   a. Increase awareness of contemporary and historical issues surrounding social and cultural diversity in the U.S.
   b. Engage in critical inquiry into issues of diversity in the United States.
   c. Explore conceptual frameworks for analyzing diversity issues in American society.
   d. Emphasize critical thinking about our collective complexity and how social, economic, and/or political forces have shaped American communities.
   e. Stress collaborative work that provides students opportunities to raise questions, stimulate thought and reflection, and challenge diversity stereotypes and myths.

3) Department Support: A signature line indicating department support for the course.

For more information, contact: Beth Price  email: bethp@uidaho.edu  Phone: 208-885-5778
University Learning Outcomes to be considered in the development of the course:

**University Learning Outcomes**

University level learning outcomes broadly describe expected and desired consequences of learning through integrated curricular and co-curricular experiences. The outcomes become an expression of the desired attributes of an educated person and guide coherent, integrated and intentional educational experiences. They provide us with a basis for ongoing assessment to continuously improve teaching and learning.

- **a.** Learn and integrate - Through independent learning and collaborative study, attain, use, and develop knowledge in the arts, humanities, sciences, and social sciences, with disciplinary specialization and the ability to integrate information across disciplines.
- **b.** Think and create - Use multiple thinking strategies to examine real-world issues, explore creative avenues of expression, solve problems, and make consequential decisions.
- **c.** Communicate - Acquire, articulate, create and convey intended meaning using verbal and non-verbal methods of communication that demonstrate respect and understanding in a complex society.
- **d.** Clarify purpose and perspective - Explore one’s life purpose and meaning through transformational experiences that foster an understanding of self, relationships, and diverse global perspectives.
- **e.** Practice citizenship - Apply principles of ethical leadership, collaborative engagement, socially responsible behavior, respect for diversity in an interdependent world, and a service-oriented commitment to advance and sustain local and global communities.