



ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

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Global Studies

Campus-wide forum

November 11 and 12, 2014



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Senate-Approved Process

- “assure multiple means of gathering campus-wide feedback:
 - Administer a campus-wide electronic survey
 - Conduct campus-wide public forums and student focus groups
 - Request that chairs/directors discuss possible or proposed changes to the requirements at a department/school meeting and collect and return feedback as a department/school
 - Identify cohorts of faculty with specific expertise in the area being reconsidered and reach out to those faculty in one-on-one and/or group meetings for specialized advice (e.g. U.S. politics and history faculty for changes to the Constitution requirement; writing program faculty for changes to university-wide writing requirements; global studies and international studies faculty for changes to the global studies requirement; LLC faculty for changes to the foreign language requirement for the B.A.)
 - Analyze the results of relevant available assessment data and/or initiate the design and collection of such data
 - Compare the existing graduation requirement(s) to those at aspirant institutions”

http://ucc.illinoisstate.edu/policies/operating_policies/#changeGradReq



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Context for the Discussion

In “University Studies” (Gen Ed 1980-1998), one class was required in “Nonwestern Cultures and Traditions”:

Study of some aspect of a culture other than one’s own, directed not only toward a better understanding of the cultural complexity of a shrinking and increasingly interdependent world but also toward gaining a new perspective of Western culture. [Courses in this group must be concerned with the cultures and traditions of one or more of the following geographic areas: Africa and neighboring island (not in the Mediterranean Sea); Caribbean Islands with nonwestern cultures; Central America; China, Mongolia, Japan, Korea (East Asia), Taiwan; India Pakistan, and neighboring countries; Mexico; Middle East; Pacific Islands (U.S. Administration; Philippines and islands of Indonesia; Pre-contact cultures of Americas, Australia or New Zealand; South America; Southeastern Asia (Burma, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam, and others)]



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Context for the Discussion

Current Requirement

GLOBAL STUDIES GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

Students must have completed at least one course in Global Studies (that is, cultures and traditions of Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Latin America, or Indigenous Peoples of the World), which must meet the following criteria: (a) the course focuses primarily upon facets of specific cultures from these regions or these cultures in general (a minimum of 75 percent of the course content must deal directly with the culture(s) from these regions); (b) exploration of the culture(s) is developed in a comparative perspective which helps the student understand and appreciate differences between the culture(s) under consideration and cultures and traditions of America; and (c) the course includes exposure to primary writings and artifacts from the culture(s).



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Context for the Discussion

- The General Education Task Force (GETF) spoke frequently about infusing an international perspective across General Education. That remains more of a goal than a reality.
- The current Global Studies requirement was also discussed with proponents for both maintaining the current requirement and those suggesting it might be broadened.
- However, like Writing Across the Curriculum, the Global studies requirement was beyond the scope of the GETF.
- There was agreement that more conversations were needed.



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Context for the Discussion

- In 2013-2014, Global Studies was discussed in both the Council on General Education and at the University Curriculum Committee.
- There was enough interest in exploring additional options beyond the current course requirement that a list of options was developed for further discussion.
- Also developed was a sacrificial draft of learning outcomes for an expanded requirement:

“Meaningful engagement in an increasingly global society demands an appreciation of cultural differences. The international studies requirement is designed to allow students to demonstrate the ability to:

- navigate and reflect upon a global city, workplace, or community;
- make informed cultural comparisons;
- analyze the forces that affect cultural change.”



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Draft of a broader requirement:

- “The international studies requirement may be satisfied by the completion of:
 - a course examining the cultures and traditions of Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Latin America or Indigenous Peoples of the World (AMALI) at Illinois State University;
 - an Illinois Articulation Initiative course examining “non-Western” culture designated by an “N” in the IAI numbering system;
 - a foreign language course at the fourth-semester level or above or equivalent proficiency;
 - an approved credit-bearing study abroad experience at the college level;
 - an approved international internship or service experience abroad sponsored by Illinois State University or other college or university;
 - international student status or significant experience abroad as demonstrated by transcript or other evidence.”



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Next Steps

“The University Curriculum Committee will conduct a review of the proposed change(s) and the subcommittee’s recommendations. Following its usual process, proposed change(s) will circulate to the University community for comment. The UCC may refer recommendations back to the subcommittee for further consideration. If any changes are approved, the UCC will then forward its recommendations to the Provost and the Academic Senate.

The Provost will consider the merits of the recommendations and also the feasibility of implementation, including staffing implications and other costs. The Provost may refer recommendations back to the University Curriculum Committee for further consideration.”

(http://ucc.illinoisstate.edu/policies/operating_policies/#changeGradReq)



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Your comments, please...

Comments will be noted in minutes of this forum and provided along with other feedback to the University Curriculum Committee to inform its discussion and eventual recommendations.

To ensure full participation, please limit your comments to three minutes or less.

Please ensure that the discussion remains collegial.

You can also [post comments](#) to the provost's homepage (column on the right).



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