

UGEC Criteria for Cultural Awareness Menu

Courses included in the general education menu of courses must meet these general criteria:

Courses that satisfy ACU's University Requirements (General Education) will normally have lower-level numbering, be free of prerequisite and co-requisites, appeal to more than one or two majors, and "not narrowly focus on those skills, techniques, and procedures specific to a particular occupation or profession" (SACS 2.7.3). Departments may request exceptions to the first three criteria.

Cultural Awareness courses should meet the following criteria.

The word *culture* is used because it implies the integrated patterns of human behavior that include thoughts, communications, actions, customs, beliefs, values, and institutions of racial, ethnic, religious, or social groups. Students will demonstrate the "capacity to identify (their) . . . own cultural patterns, compare and contrast them with others, and adapt . . . to other ways of being" (Rhodes, 2010, Intercultural Knowledge and Competence VALUE Rubric, para. 3). Beyond the capacity to appreciate such diversity, students are expected to develop cultural humility by engaging in ongoing self-assessment through which they are able to identify what they do not know or understand about other cultures.

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Criteria

In achieving this competency, ACU students on graduation will demonstrate the following knowledge and skills: (Adapted from *Assessing Outcomes and Improving Achievement: Tips and Tools for Using Rubrics*, edited by Terrel L. Rhodes. Copyright 2010 by the Association of American Colleges and Universities).

1. [Ability to] reflect on own cultural rules and biases
2. [Ability to] consider experiences and issues from the perspectives of others with differing world views
3. [Ability to] articulate understanding of cultural differences in verbal and nonverbal communication
4. [Ability to] ask complex questions about the beliefs, values, and practices of other cultures and articulate answers to those questions that reflect flexible cultural understanding
5. [Ability to] Initiate and develop interactions with individuals from cultures that differ from that of the student

References

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