UNDERGRADUATE GRADUATION REQUIREMENT: DIVERSE CULTURES

Note: Students graduating under the 2017-2018 catalog will satisfy DCGR by taking 1 Purple and 1 Gold course or 2 Purple courses.

Goals and Outcomes. Minnesota State Mankato has adopted the following policy on the role of diversity in education:

Diversity at Minnesota State Mankato is a commitment to create an understanding and appreciation of diverse peoples and diverse perspectives; a commitment to create an academic, cultural, and workplace environment and community that develops mutual respect for all and celebrates our differences.

In keeping with the spirit of this commitment, all Minnesota State Mankato undergraduate students must satisfy the DCGR for graduation. For purposes of further clarifying the DCGR, diversity is defined in comprehensive terms as the many faceted differences that can include: age, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, mental/physical ability, race/ethnicity.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS:

Diverse Cultures Graduation Requirement – Purple and Gold Courses
1. Students pursuing a baccalaureate degree must take either:
   a. at least one (1) course for a minimum of 3 credits from the list of courses designated as Purple (Content) and at least one (1) course for a minimum of 3 credits from the list of courses designated as Gold (Experiential and Reflective), OR
   b. at least two (2) courses for a minimum of 6 credits from the list of courses designated as Purple (Content).
2. One Purple course for a minimum of 3 credits satisfies the Diverse Cultures requirement for the AA or AS degree issued by Minnesota State Mankato.
3. Transfer students who have taken between 30 and 59 credits will be granted 3 credits toward the Purple course requirement.
4. Transfer students who have taken 60 or more credits or have already received an AA degree will be granted 3 Purple course credits and 3 Gold course credits, thus satisfying their entire Diverse Cultures Graduation Requirement.
5. Students must take courses from at least two different disciplines to satisfy the Diverse Cultures Graduation Requirement.
6. Students are encouraged to complete the Purple course requirement prior to completion of the Gold course requirement.

DIVERSE CULTURES - PURPLE (Content-Based)
To prepare students with course content and the analytical and reflective skills to better understand diversity in the United States and in other societies across the world.

Learning Outcomes
Students will be able to:
1. Master an understanding of diversity as defined by Minnesota State Mankato.
2. Acquire a substantive knowledge base to identify the impact of oppression for individuals from diverse populations.
3. Obtain the analytical skills necessary to make links between historical practices and contemporary U.S. societal issues of diversity.
4. Apply the same method for interpreting diversity issues in the United States and understanding issues of diversity in other societies across the world.
5. Develop an understanding of historical and contemporary social relations in specific societies across the world.

Satisfying Purple Courses
1. Purple courses are primarily aimed at helping students learn content.
2. Purple courses allow students to explore basic concepts such as oppression, prejudice, discrimination, racism and ethnocentrism and responses to each.
3. Purple courses may focus primarily on one diverse group of people, the course content should relate the basic concepts and issues discussed to a variety of groups.
4. Courses must meet Purple learning outcome 1 and at least two of the other Purple learning outcomes.
5. Purple courses may have experiential and reflective components, but the primary focus is on content.

DIVERSE CULTURES - GOLD (Experiential & Reflective)
To give students learning opportunities to experience diversity with reflection supervised by a faculty member; to assist them in recognizing and responding to conditions of marginalized populations. Marginalized populations refer to specific groups of peoples or individuals that are relegated to the outer edges of society or social standing, both in this country and abroad. Such people are often denied access to resources and privileges available to mainstream society.

Learning Outcomes
Students will be able to:
1. Interact with individuals from diverse populations outside the classroom and to have the opportunity to reflect on such interactions.
2. Demonstrate an acquisition of the basic knowledge and understanding of diversity related concepts so that the student’s experience will have meaning and context.
3. Integrate classroom knowledge with experiential learning in analyzing and responding to conditions of marginalized populations.

Satisfying Gold Courses
1. Gold courses require students have experiential encounters with diverse cultures and reflect on those experiences as part of the course requirements.
2. Gold courses must contain sufficient content regarding interactions with diverse populations to establish a context and conceptual base for the student to effectively reflect on the experiences.
3. Gold courses should present content that allows students to explore basic concepts such as oppression, prejudice, discrimination, racism and ethnocentrism and responses to each, civil liberties in the context of economic, political, social, religious and educational issues of race, gender, sexual orientation, age, class and disabilities in a pluralistic society.
Courses must meet all three Gold learning outcomes.

**DIVERSE CULTURES - GOLD COURSES**

- AIS 455
- AIS 460
- AOS 497
- ANTH 280
- CMST 417
- DHYG 336
- DHYG 447
- EEC 222W
- ENG 485
- ETHN 150
- ETHN 401
- ETHN 402W
- FCS 230
- GER 200
- GER 200W
- GWS 225
- GWS 225W
- HLTH 211
- KSP 150
- KSP 200
- KSP 220W
- KSP 260
- MRKT 494
- MSL 498
- MUSC 307
- NURS 382
- PSYC 230
- REHB 110W
- SOC 420
- SPAN 396
- SPED 409

**Curricular Procedures.** The Diverse Cultures Graduation Requirement was made effective beginning with the 2009-2010 academic year. Courses that met the university’s previous Cultural Diversity requirement will not automatically be included in the list of Purple and Gold courses that meet the new requirement.

Departments will need to submit course proposals through the Curriculum Design System (CDS) to include these courses in the new requirement. All course submissions for consideration as either Purple or Gold courses will be reviewed in a manner consistent with all other curricular proposals.

An individual course may be either a Purple course or a Gold course, but not both. Any 100-400 level undergraduate course that meets the relevant goals and outcomes may be included among the Purple and Gold courses. No consideration will be given to proposals that limit participation to specific sections of a course.

Only courses in their entirety, not specific sections of courses, are eligible for designation as Purple or Gold courses.

Courses without specific content (e.g., independent study, individual studies, directed readings, topics, internships, practicums, and field experience courses) will generally not be considered Purple or Gold courses. Exceptions may be made for specific cases if potential for achievement of the Purple or Gold course outcomes can be clearly demonstrated prior to registration for the course in question.

All Purple and Gold courses will undergo systematic assessment as established by the university’s curricular committees. All departments and programs with Purple or Gold courses are expected to fully participate in the DCGR assessment process.