

General Education at EIU

CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Adopted by CAA, October 22, 1999

Definition approved by CAA, December 6, 2005

Definition revised by CAA, September 3, 2009

Eastern Illinois University seeks to foster cultural understanding to assist its students to become responsible citizens in a diverse world. The general education curriculum furthers this objective by requiring students to complete at least one course carrying the cultural diversity designation.

To receive the cultural diversity designation, courses will:

1. Include one or more of the following as their focus or as a means to explore some other topic:
 - a. the study of diverse peoples (including issues of class, disability, ethnicity, gender, race, and sexual orientation) in the U.S. and abroad;
 - b. the history, language, and/or traditions (anthropological, artistic, literary, philosophical, political, or sociological) of other countries or cultures;
 - c. the role of cultural sensitivity in making informed and ethical decisions.
2. Reinforce the importance of attending to a plurality of voices (including those from traditionally underrepresented groups) to better understand human history, culture, and decision making.
3. Include among their outcomes the goal of enabling students to appreciate, live, and work with people who are different from them.