

## Common Curriculum Proficiency & Experience Course Proposal Human Diversity

To propose a course for a Common Curriculum Proficiency & Experience component, complete this form, attach relevant documents, and submit to the [online proposal system](#).

A **complete syllabus in pdf format** (including detailed descriptions of assigned readings, assignments, and a weekly schedule) should be included in the submission, along with an **assessment assignment** used to assess student learning. Assignment details should include a prompt for essays or essay questions, or a block of questions for objective exams.

Courses requesting a Proficiency & Experience component must be at any level up through the 4000 level. Courses may carry one Breadth requirement as well as up to four Proficiency & Experience requirements.

**Course Prefix and Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Course Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Proposal Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Proposed by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Department Chair Authorization:** *By signing this form, the Chair of the Department offering the course certifies that the course has been approved by the department and the college or school, and that the course is offered regularly.*

**Name of Dept. Chair:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Dept. Chair:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mission of General Education:**

The essence of Southern Methodist University’s educational philosophy is that intellectual and professional excellence rises from the solid foundation of a liberal arts education. Most importantly, general education should provide an intellectual foundation consisting of the broad outlines of human knowledge, providing a context for discipline specific study, and a framework for a future of lifelong learning. In light of these considerations, an ideal general education course is one which builds a broad, context-rich framework in its content area. To the extent possible, it should transcend departmental boundaries, connecting to ideas in related fields, and relevant social and ethical questions.

**Common Curriculum Goals:**

- The Common Curriculum will prepare students to be informed, ethical, and engaged citizens.
- The Common Curriculum will prepare students to think critically across domains.
- The Common Curriculum will prepare students to communicate clearly in writing and speaking.
- The Common Curriculum will provide students with the scientific, mathematical, and technological competence to navigate a changing world.
- The Common Curriculum will prepare students to understand, work, and live with people from different races, nationalities, religions, backgrounds, and experiences.

*Please provide an explanation of how the proposed course supports this mission and these goals.*

**Student Learning Outcome:** Students will an understanding of human diversity and the systems of structural inequality that shape human experiences and behaviors.

*Please describe how the proposed course meets the Student Learning Outcome.*

**Supporting Skill #1:** Students will identify the ways in which race, ethnicity, gender, religion, social class, ability/disability, sexual orientation, nationality, and/or immigration status are socially constructed.

*Please describe how the proposed course showcases the supporting skill above.*

**Supporting Skill #2:** Students will explain how social and cultural systems develop out of adaptation to environmental and historical contexts.

*Please describe how the proposed course showcases the supporting skill above.*

**Supporting Skill #3:** Students will analyze how discriminatory attitudes, practices, and systems can create barriers for some and opportunities for others.

*Please describe how the proposed course showcases the supporting skill above.*

**Course Content Criteria #1:** Courses in this category have a sustained focus on race, ethnicity, gender, religion, social class, ability/disability, sexual orientation, nationality, and/or immigration status within a given context.

*Please provide an explanation of how the proposed course satisfies the course content criteria above.*

**Course Content Criteria #2:** Courses in this category invite students to study texts and resources that were created by these groups or communities, where possible and appropriate.

*Please provide an explanation of how the proposed course satisfies the course content criteria above.*

**Course Content Criteria #3:** Courses in this category explore the power dynamics within societies that produce inequities, inequalities, and injustice in a given context.

*Please provide an explanation of how the proposed course satisfies the course content criteria above.*

**Course Content Criteria #4:** Courses in this category explore the impacts of power dynamics within societies on particular groups or communities.

*Please provide an explanation of how the proposed course satisfies the course content criteria above.*

**Course Content Criteria #5:** Courses in this category explore the ways in which these groups or communities are formed, the ways they interact with other groups or communities, and the ways in which they advocate for sovereignty, resources, or rights.

*Please provide an explanation of how the proposed course satisfies the course content criteria above.*

**Course Content Criteria #6:** Courses in this category include an assessment that requires students to demonstrate each of the skills in the [Human Diversity Assessment Rubric](#). This assessment assignment should be one of the following: an objective exam, an essay question on an exam, an essay, or a research paper.

*Please provide an explanation of how the proposed course satisfies the course content criteria above.*

**I certify that all information provided is accurate and that the proposed course was vetted and approved by all relevant departmental and college/school committees. If my course is approved, I hereby agree to abide by all requirements for the Common Curriculum, including using Canvas to assess the course, and providing an updated syllabus each semester to the SMU syllabus library. I further agree to notify the Office of General Education if any substantive changes are made to the course. I agree to participate in the course portfolio process for this course every three years.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Proposer Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_