General Education Cultural Elective

Courses in the cultural category develop and deepen students’ awareness of how culture produces meaning in our world. Knowledge is gained from the study of the values, beliefs, modes of expression, and social practices of various human cultures.

Criteria
Cultural courses will:

- Enhance student understanding of the symbols, artifacts, and activities that have emerged over time from various interpretations of human experience;
- involve the study of one or more of the disciplines traditionally related to the humanities; the study of the social sciences as they concern themselves with humanistic content and employ the content and academic methods of the humanities, or the application of the humanities and social sciences to areas reflecting our diverse heritage, traditions, history, and current national life, and
- emphasize elements of the cultural context(s) of the content area (e.g. ideas, beliefs, institutions, and experiences) and the values and assumptions that underlie them.

Student learning outcomes
In addition to course-specific learning outcomes students will:

- Examine major developments of a particular culture(s);
- analyze how culture produces meaning through literary, aesthetic, philosophical, and/or religious traditions, and
- describe how major cultural forces have shaped society.

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