

Guidelines for Cultures & Ideas Sequences **Updated May 2010**

Activities and assignments (for example, discussions, presentations, demonstrations, essays, quizzes, and exams) in Cultures and Ideas courses will require students to

- think and write critically about different aspects of cultures and the relationships among global cultures, including the west.
- demonstrate understanding of a theme or themes in human experiences and cultures as they developed over significant periods of time (at least two centuries for the two-course sequence).
- reflect on the relevance of the past to their understanding of the present.
- reflect on the effect their knowledge and beliefs have on their understanding of culture in the past.

Not every unit/section/week of a C&I sequence has to have both Western and Global components, but both Western and non-Western/Global material must be integrated in each of the two courses in significant ways. Faculty reviewing syllabi for approval will look for integration of both Western and non-Western/Global materials in such a way that neither could be removed from the course/syllabus without leaving a significant gap in the course structure. In other words, both the Western and then non-Western/Global parts of the course must be integral to the course as a whole.

Cultures & Ideas 1

- Goals: Global Cultures, Arts and Humanities, Critical Thinking, Perspective
- Objectives: Students will

- 1.1 Recall details relevant to the course theme and historical context of the objects, texts, ideas, issues, and/or events studied. (Global Cultures, Arts and Humanities)
- 1.2 Identify significant elements of the cultures examined. (Global cultures, Arts and Humanities)
- 1.3 Recognize the complexity of the cultures examined. (Global Cultures, Arts and Humanities)
- 1.4 Analyze and/or interpret significant objects, texts, ideas, issues and/or events in their historical contexts, using at least one disciplinary method. (Critical Thinking)
- 1.5 Reflect on and examine both shared and diverse human experiences so that they recognize the similarities and differences across cultures as well as historical periods; comprehend the relevance of the past to their understanding of the present while coming to understand the perspective of their own cultural assumptions and values. (Perspective)

Cultures & Ideas 2

- Goals: Global Cultures, Arts and Humanities, Critical Thinking; Perspective
- Objectives: Students will

- 2.1 Make connections between the cultures and objects, texts, ideas, issues, and/or events examined in C&I 1 and 2. (Global Cultures, Arts and Humanities)
- 2.2 Demonstrate increased understanding of the complexity and/or larger contexts of the cultures examined. (Global Cultures, Arts and Humanities)
- 2.3 Question and/or evaluate the effects cultural understanding has on the interpretation of the objects, texts, ideas, issues, and/or events central to the two courses. (Critical Thinking)
- 2.4 Question and evaluate both shared and diverse human experiences so that they recognize similarities and differences across cultures as well as historical periods; comprehend the relevance of the past to their understanding of the present while coming to understand the perspective of their own cultural assumptions and values. (Perspective)