**Appeal of General Education Decision**

The Nursing Department is appealing the General Education Committee’s decision to deny General Education Global & Cultural Perspectives (GLOCUP) status to NURS 3300 Transcultural Nursing.

Course description for NURS 3300 Transcultural Nursing follows:

**NURS 3300 - Transcultural Nursing**

Prepares professional nursing students to provide culturally sensitive and culturally competent care to individuals, families, and communities, emphasizing the importance of understanding cultural diversity in order to promote appropriate health prevention, disease intervention activities, and teaching strategies. Includes self-evaluation, including biases and prejudices about other cultures and ethnic groups. Prerequisites: Admission to the Dixie State College Bachelor of Science in Nursing program; and NURS 3100 (can be concurrently enrolled). FA

The department's justification for approving this course as GLOCUP, showing how this course fulfills seven (7) of the eight (8) GLOCUP objectives follows:

**Global Perspectives**

1. Examine and critique information and argument related to substantive problems that have a global dimension.
   - Critically analyzes concepts, principles, and research-based knowledge concerning transcultural nursing and the globalization of health care.
2. Learn how to evaluate sources from a variety of perspectives and use those sources to inform their critique of problems in the global community.
   - Emphasizes understanding cultural diversity in order to promote appropriate health prevention, disease intervention activities, and teaching strategies.
3. Demonstrate the ability to develop informed judgments about global issues.
   - Critically evaluates the concepts of health and medical care as a cultural system and caring and nursing within a cultural context.
4. Synthesize and balance information in developing appropriate evidence-based conclusions about global issues.

**Cultural Perspectives**

5. Examine theoretical and methodological approaches to cultural differences specific to a disciplinary tradition.
   - Examines transcultural diversity in healthcare including health practices, health beliefs, biophysical characteristics, and culturally competent nursing care across the lifespan.
6. Demonstrate an ability to analyze differences and similarities within (or) across cultures.
   - Compares and contrasts health practices and beliefs among varied cultures such as American Indian, Asian, European-American, Latino, African, and others. Appraises the concept of diversity and similarities within cultures, diversity and similarities between a culture and the dominant health care model, and the potential for conflict and resolution.
7. Examine the role of social factors, e.g., race, gender, ethnicity, class, sexual orientation, religion, etc., in shaping social interaction, cultural worldviews, and individual identity.
   - Explores the influence of culture on an individual’s belief system and practices especially those surrounding concepts of health, illness, and health care deficits.
8. Demonstrate an understanding of the interconnectedness of society, culture and individual identity.
   - Critically examines an individual’s and others’ cultural biases, gender biases, ethnocentrism, racism, and acceptance of cultural diversity. Examines client’s rights in decision-making based on cultural factors.
The Department of Nursing and the School of Nursing & Allied Health disagrees with the committee's decision to deny GLOCUP status to NURS 3300 based solely on the fact that enrollment in NURS 3300 is limited to students enrolled in the DSC BSN program.

Some of the factors we believe should be taken into consideration in this appeal to the Curriculum Committee:

- NURS 3300 fulfills many GLOCUP objectives, and does so in a manner relevant to the students enrolled.
- The BSN is an online program. We do not offer sufficient GLOCUP courses in an online format to allow the BSN students to fulfill this requirement.
- BSN students will only fulfill one GLOCUP required course with a NURS prefix, so students will take at least one additional GLOCUP course outside the Nursing department.
- The BSN is already a program that requires MANY credits beyond the 120 normally required for a bachelor's degree. As you know this is current issue we need to watch out for. NURS 3300 is a BSN program requirement so no credits are added to the total.
- The GLOCUP category is different from other GE requirements. The courses are listed separately and do not qualify to fulfill the Exploration requirement. The prohibition against allowing specific program’s courses to fulfill this requirement does not benefit students and there is little philosophical justification for it.
- Approved GLOCUP and other GE courses include those with prerequisites, effectively limiting them to members of a specific program.
- Nothing is written in DSC policy or General Education guidelines stating that GE courses must be open to all students.
- DSC's GLOCUP requirement is an amalgam of requirements such as the University of Utah's Diversity and International requirements. Theirs are structured a bit differently because they are baccalaureate requirements rather than GE requirements, but the intent is akin to the purpose of DSC’s GLOCUP requirement:
  - Diversity: 128 courses listed. 25% are limited to a specific group of students either through major declaration or prerequisites that require a specific major.
  - International: 88 courses listed. 30% are limited to a specific group of students either through major declaration or prerequisites that require a specific major.

The Department of Nursing and the School of Nursing and Allied Health support and believe in DSC's General Education program. We are particularly respectful of and grateful for the work the Committee has done to revise DSC’s GE and keep it current and relevant. However, in this instance, we believe that the GE Committee has erred and ask the Curriculum Committee to override that decision and award GLOCUP status to NURS 3300 Transcultural Nursing.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

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cc: NURS 3300 Syllabus, Fall 2010