

Senate Policy 25-16
Discontinuation of Multicultural Graduation Requirement

Motion: To approve the discontinuation of the Multicultural Graduation
Requirement Policy

Passed at the March 23, 2026 meeting of the Academic Senate

Approvals:



Christina Smith (Jun 4, 2026 11:24:03 PDT)

Christina Smith, PhD
Chair, Academic Senate

06/04/2026

Date



Sue Andrzejewski, PhD
Interim President

06/26/2026

Date



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY CHANNEL ISLANDS POLICY MANUAL

Division of Academic Affairs

Policy Number: SP 25-16

Approved By: Academic Senate

Effective Date: AY 2025-26

DATE: March 23, 2026

Total Pages: 2

Approved By: Sue Andrzejewski, Interim President

Discontinuation of the Multicultural Graduation Requirement

This Policy Supersedes SP 17-07, which replaced SP 08-11.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to remove the Multicultural Graduation Requirement, beginning with the 2026-27 Catalog. Academic departments have until 2027 catalog deadline to adjust curriculum and roadmaps for degree programs.

BACKGROUND:

The Multicultural Graduation Requirement comes from the early 2000s when faculty were concerned that students had a course that was a "multicultural experience" (SP.01.046). CI's General Education (GE) pattern had four sub-areas within Area C. These subareas were as follows: C1: Art, C2: Literature, C3a: Language and C3b: Multicultural. SP 16-11 Policy on General Education Course Characteristics, following the new CSU GE Pattern, did not include C3b. According to the previous Language and Multicultural Requirements Policy (SP 08-11), CI students would typically fulfill the Multicultural Requirement by taking courses from GE Area C3b. The removal of C3b necessitated the revision of the previous Language and Multicultural Requirements Policy (SP 08-11). SP 16-11 had incorporated SLOS related to the four university pillars associated with Mission-based Centers – Multicultural, Interdisciplinary, International, and Community Engagement—into the GE program. In revising SP 08-11, SP 17-07 Multicultural Requirements Policy stated “students will meet the Multicultural Requirement when they take a course from the GE Committee-approved list of Multicultural Perspectives (MP) courses.”

Subsequent changes to the CSU GE pattern in have brought in an Ethnic Studies GE category, Area 6 under CSU EO 1100, reflected in CI SP 24-04 and 24-08. Most GE Area 6 courses at CI are also MP courses; there are also GE MP courses that are not in Area 6. SP 24-14 defines the characteristics for GE course alignment with the mission pillars.

With the Ethnic Studies GE requirement largely making the Multicultural Graduation Requirement redundant, the Center for Social Action (formerly Center for Multicultural Engagement) and the General Education Committee recommended to APPC in Spring 2025 the discontinuation of the Multicultural Graduation Requirement. APPC held a Brown Bag for

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campus discussion of the potential discontinuation of the Multicultural Graduation Requirement. Feedback included that the Graduation Requirement is confusing to students because it is the only mission pillar that has a graduation requirement. With the considerable overlap with GE Area 6 courses, students believe they have already met the Graduation Requirement with Area 6 GE course. Transfer students coming into CI end up not transferring in the 3 units needed for this graduation requirement, as it is not part of articulation in the Transfer Model Curriculums (TMCs).

APPLICABILITY:

All CSUCI Undergraduate Students.

POLICY TEXT:

While Multicultural Perspectives courses continue to be embedded in the General Education Program at both the lower division and upper division level, effective for Catalog Year 2026-27, there is no longer a Multicultural Graduation Requirement.