

**Motion presented to Faculty Senate 3/29/11**  
**Global Interdependency (G) requirement**

**Motion**

The Faculty Senate Executive Committee unanimously recommends approval of the change proposed by the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee to the wording of the global interdependency (G) requirement effective Fall 2011.

G - Global Interdependencies Courses

*Previous language:*

- G courses must focus on how one or more of the regions of the world have influenced and interacted with the West and with one another, and how the West has affected and been affected by the distinctive cultures and civilizations of the world, either in the course of world history as a whole or the history, institutions, economy, society, culture, etc., of one or more non-Western civilizations.
- A major portion of the course content must focus on broad, foundational aspects of the long-term development of distinctive features of Western civilization in Europe and North America.
- A major portion of the course must focus on the distinctive features of one or more non-Western civilizations, such as those of Asia, Africa, or the indigenous peoples of the Americas.

*Proposed new language:*

The primary focus of Global Interdependencies (G) courses is to study how two or more distinctive world regions have influenced and interacted with one another and how such interactions have been informed by their respective cultures or civilizations.

**Explanation**

The proposed change drops the Western Civilization requirement for G courses and returns to our original conception of G courses before the incorporation of Western Civilization to accommodate the SUNY General Education Requirements. The primary rationale underlying this decision is that students are exposed to Western Civilization issues in much of their curriculum already, making inclusion of Western Civilization issues in the G requirement unnecessary. Moreover, trying to focus both on Western Civilization and global interdependencies in a single course has made it quite difficult for instructors to design courses that meet our current G requirement. Under the newly proposed language for the G requirement, all current G courses would continue to meet the new definition, but additional courses focusing on global interdependencies will meet the new definition, thereby resulting in increased offerings of G courses available to students.