

## Internationalism Requirement

### *Rationale*

A rich campus life, language acquisition, study away, and interaction with diverse students and faculty all contribute to students' intellectual and experiential grasp of difference and of their own place in relation to the "other" and the world. In this context, the Internationalism and U.S. Multiculturalism graduation requirements are designed to prepare students to contribute as members of a thoughtful and principled citizenry in a global society. These courses provide specific knowledge about the complexity of internationalism and multiculturalism abroad, in the U.S., and in the rich campus and local communities in which Macalester participates. While internationalism and multiculturalism are distinguished as two components of the College mission, in reality they are intertwined. Peoples divided by national boundaries may, for example, be more homogeneous culturally and linguistically than peoples within a nation like the United States. Systems of power and privilege that help create and maintain hierarchical relations among peoples operate within the U.S. and other nations, among nations, and between the U.S. and the rest of the world. All lives are shaped by historical dynamics and contemporary structures that operate on transnational, international, and global levels. Macalester's two-part requirement recognizes not only the conceptual interconnectedness of internationalism and multiculturalism, but also the need for students to engage with complexities of difference within the community where they live and work, as well as within an international and global context. In learning about other peoples, cultures and global systems one dislodges presuppositions about others and, crucially, about one's individual and collective self.

**Motion:** EPAG moves that the Faculty endorse the refined description (statement, course approval criteria) of the Internationalism Requirement as follows:

***Internationalism Requirement:*** *At least one course devoted to the study of (a) non-U.S. peoples, societies, or perspectives; (b) key international/transnational structures, institutions, discourses, practices and relationships that constitute world order; and/or (c) important ethical questions specific to the international domain.*

### **Course Approval Criteria**

The majority of the course (content, pedagogy, activities, assessment) will provide opportunities for students to develop one or more of the following:

- 1) an understanding of societies or cultures beyond the borders of the U.S. and/or a familiarity with non-U.S. perspectives on social, cultural, scientific, or aesthetic matters;
- 2) an understanding of the key structures, institutions, discourses and practices that constitute world order;
- 3) A comparative and/or historical analysis of large-scale phenomena such as diasporas, development, globalization, or distributions of power and resources; and/or
- 4) an understanding of the ethical dimensions of international life.