

GER Moratorium Modification

(Approved at 12/15/09 APCC Meeting)

The APCC adopts the following procedures for courses requesting GER accreditation (including Cultural Diversity) for the period January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010:

1. The GER subcommittee will not routinely review requests for GER/CD accreditation, except in exceptional circumstances as detailed below.
2. Requests for GER/CD accreditation for new classes that are part of newly approved or substantially revised degree or certificate programs will be considered and forwarded to the full APCC for action.
3. Requests for Cultural Diversity accreditation for new courses in any degree or certificate program will be considered and forwarded to the full APCC for action.
4. The full APCC retains the authority to grant a hearing and action for GER/CD requests upon a majority vote of the full committee after petition by the department or certificate program.
5. Departments and programs are reminded to carefully follow current UWM policies and procedures regarding documentation required to receive GER/CD accreditation, and are forewarned that courses approved now are not guaranteed accreditation should UWM adopt a different GER system in the future.

Rationale: Given the number of current GER courses, there is no compelling reason to lift the general moratorium. However, the moratorium makes implementation of newly approved degree and certificate programs impossible for all practical purposes, especially programs with courses focused on Cultural Diversity. It is unfair to approve these programs for curricular implementation without granting GER accreditation where appropriate.

Given the UW System push for Inclusive Excellence, newly proposed Cultural Diversity courses should always be considered. Priority will be given to courses that meet UWS shared learning outcomes.

It is not reasonable for APCC to continue the current moratorium on a “case by case basis” without putting forward guidelines for departments and programs stating the process and criteria for a consideration. Thus the need to provide guidelines such as those above.

The original moratorium discussion referenced anticipated changes to the UWM GER system as a whole. Action at that scale is unlikely in the near future, making it necessary to continue some consideration of imperative cases.