ACE Certification

In its review of requests for ACE certification, the Interim ACE committee (eventually the UCC ACE subcommittee) will use such criteria as:

- Does the course clearly address the Learning Outcome(s) identified?
- Does the course provide students with opportunities to develop the knowledge/skills necessary for successful achievement of the Learning Outcome(s)?
- Does the course provide students with opportunities to demonstrate achievement of the Learning Outcome(s)?
- Does the course reinforce at least one of the following as appropriate for the discipline and as identified by the department offering the course: Writing, Oral Communication, Visual Literacy, Historical Perspectives, Mathematics and Statistics, Critical Thinking, Teamwork, Problem Solving, Ethics, Civics, Social Responsibility, Global Awareness, or Human Diversity?
- Have the hosting department/unit and the instructor(s) agreed to follow through with their responsibilities as outlined in the ACE Course Certification Request Form?

Students select which one outcome they will receive ACE credit for. Faculty should indicate which one or two ACE Learning Outcome(s) are satisfied by the course.

SLO7. Use knowledge, theories, or methods appropriate to the arts to understand their context and significance.

Describe opportunities students should have to learn the outcome. How is the learning objective embedded in the course?

The principal outcome of this class is exposure to a variety of music cultures from around the world. Through textbook readings, lectures, guided listening examples, presentations of non-Western musical instruments, and field trips, students learn not only about the respective music cultures, but also interact with and attempt to understand how music is made in different places. In addition, students will gain an understanding of what it means to be an ethnomusicologist and to employ methodologies appropriate to the field of ethnomusicology. To that end, students complete a musical ethnography in which they apply ideas learned in class towards research on a specific music culture.

Describe student work that will be used to assess student achievement of the outcome and explain how the students demonstrate the knowledge and skills specified by the outcome.

Students are evaluated through periodic quizzes, three exams, class participation, and the semester-culminating musical ethnography, which constitutes both a term paper and presentation to the class.

This course was proposed and certified for two outcomes (7 and 9).
As part of the ACE certification process, the department/unit agrees to collect and assess a reasonable sample of students’ work and provide reflections on students’ achievement of the Learning Outcomes for its respective ACE-certified courses.

Please comment on your plans to develop a process to collect and evaluate student work over time for the purpose of assessing student success for this ACE outcome.

I have not saved student papers in the past, but it will be easy to scan and save a cross-section of course assignments and evaluations before they are returned to the students. This will produce an aggregate of graded work that will be available, along with documentation such as syllabi and a sampling of listening examples, with which to assess student success over time.

SLO9: Exhibit global awareness or knowledge of human diversity through analysis of an issue.

Describe opportunities students should have to learn the outcome. How is the learning objective embedded in the course?

While learning about the music of other non-western cultures, students also examine the social and ritual contexts for producing music. In addition to traditional musics, more contemporary hybridizations with American popular styles are also treated as a common example of globalization in contemporary society. Music in the United States is also considered, but in a more vernacular and always through an ethnomusicological lens.

Describe student work that will be used to assess student achievement of the outcome and explain how the students demonstrate the knowledge and skills specified by the outcome.

In addition to the above evaluation tools, mini-projects such as simple composition and group performance of transcriptions flesh out the daily readings as well as provide a useful measurement of student progress.

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The musical ethnography is the primary writing assignment (8-10 pages). In addition, each exam contains a written essay portion.

These areas are those OTHER THAN the one or two outcomes for which you seek ACE certification. Students will not receive ACE credit for the reinforced skills, and the reinforced skills do not need to be assessed for ACE purposes.

- **Writing**

  Describe briefly how this skill will be reinforced.

  The musical ethnography is the primary writing assignment (8-10 pages). In addition, each exam contains a written essay portion.

- **Historical Perspectives**

  Describe briefly how this skill will be reinforced.

  As the students learn to think like ethnomusicologists, they examine music cultures not only in terms of what they hear in a performance, but also how that sound has developed over many generations. To that end, students examine oral traditions and other methods of cultural transmission. Also, historical events and trends as well as parallels in the development of western music are introduced when appropriate.

- **Critical Thinking**

  Describe briefly how this skill will be reinforced.

  Students will learn a variety of unfamiliar terms that, through practice, will become part of their academic lexicon. In addition, by tackling the larger issues (for instance music and theories of delayed evolution, or the decline of indigenous music as a result of globalization and pop hybridization) the lectures, listening examples, and presentations can be seen in a new light.

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**Supportive Material**

**Syllabus (Required)**

MUNM 280 Syl for ACE.pdf

Attach a copy of the sample syllabus that clearly identifies:

- The Learning Outcome(s) that are satisfied by the course.
- A brief description of the opportunities this course provides students to acquire the knowledge or skills necessary to achieve the Learning Outcome(s).
- A brief description of the graded assignments that the instructor(s) uses to assess the students' achievement of the Outcome(s).

**Cross-list Memo (Required if applicable)**

If the course proposed for ACE certification is cross-listed, include a letter of support from the chair/head of each cross-listed unit.

**Additional Documentation (Optional)**