

Diversity Proficiencies

The Northwest PEU recognizes the importance of defining the idea of diversity. We strive to instill our students with an understanding of diversity and how it interconnects within education practice. We have developed the following proficiencies to be acquired by our education students.

Northwest PEU Diversity Proficiencies:

In order to create an intercultural competent educator, candidates will connect with their own cultural identities and how those identities influence their interactions with diverse learners by:

- Exploring one's own socio-historical background and its role in identity formation;
- Analyzing one's own biases and assumptions;
- Examining how their identity impacts their interactions with others;
- Synthesizing the above competencies to understand a larger system of inequities.

Diversity Hour Experience (30 Undergraduate & 12 Graduate)

Description: Degree seeking undergraduate/graduate students and post baccalaureate students seeking educator certification are required to complete hours in a diverse settings. Undergraduate students must complete 30 diversity hours. Fifteen will be completed in (62-371) Introduction to Special Education. Ten hours will be completed in experiences specific to racial, ethnic and linguistic diversity in (51-569) Multiculturalism in Education. Five other hours will be completed from a designated list of activities approved by the COTE Diversity Team.

All education graduate programs will require that each candidate complete 12 clinical hours in a diverse setting. Six of these hours will be completed during (61-649) Issues in Education or (61-695) Philosophy of Education course. The remaining six hours will be completed during an embedded course experience tailored to the graduate content area and must occur with populations that are racially, ethnically and linguistically diverse. These will culminate in a meaningful internship experience through which the candidate will interact with diverse populations, evaluate assumptions about teaching/administrating/counseling in diverse settings and reflect on how the experience may alter those assumptions and impact professional practice. The overall goal is to enable the student to observe/interact within and reflect on effective educational practice in diverse settings. Approved types of diversity experiences can be found online under approved diversity events on the TESS website. A list of approved diversity events will be determined each semester by the COTE Diversity Team.

Procedure:

Upon completion of the diversity experience, students will submit the [Diversity Form](#) to the Teacher Education Student Services Office (Administration Building 348). For undergraduate students the diversity hours must be completed and logged into TK20 prior to student teaching.

Diversity Event Proposal Form:

The [Diversity Event Proposal Form](#) should be completed and submitted to the TESS Office by the end of the first week of the term in order to secure approval for the trimester. The COTE Diversity Team will review all proposals and decide whether an event will be accepted for diversity credit. The team will also determine how many hours of diversity credit the event will be worth. Event coordinators will be notified about their event acceptance by the end of the first month of the term.