DIVERSITY EXPECTATIONS AT WESTMONT

Program Standard

Students have the understanding and skills to engage people unlike themselves -- both individuals and groups -- in ways that affirm others as persons created in God’s image. Students are able to approach others respectfully -- avoiding the natural tendency to deal with differences by vilifying, romanticizing, or victimizing.

Student Learning Outcomes

Self-reflection. Students demonstrate increased self-reflection on how their beliefs, values, ideas, and practices—while not solely a function of one’s context—are influenced by social class, gender, ethnicity, culture, and historical moment.

Discussion and Analysis of Issues. Students demonstrate the ability to bring the dimensions of social class, gender, ethnicity, and culture to the discussion and analysis of issues within their disciplines, as well as to discussions of broader social, cultural and political issues.

Formulation of Knowledge. Students are able to recognize that, while knowledge is not solely a function of social construction, any formulation of knowledge may be affected in important ways by gender, social class, ethnicity, and culture.

Cross-cultural Communication Skills. Students have gained increased cross-cultural communication and adaptation skills, empathy, self-awareness, flexibility, understanding of the influence of context, social roles, and culture on behavior, and the ability to locate and evaluate information about other cultures.

Process of Making Choices. Students understand the process of making ethical, Christian choices within multiple cultural contexts, avoiding premature judgments.

Essential Christianity v. Cultural Peculiarities. Students have an understanding of the Christian church cross-culturally, distinguishing between what is essential to Christianity and what is peculiar to a particular culture.

Foreign Language. Students will have an appreciation of the advantages and insights to be gained from the study of foreign languages and literature.