Global Learning for Global Citizenship
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Global Learning for Global Citizenship is the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) for Florida International University (FIU). The purpose of the plan is to provide every FIU undergraduate with curricular and co-curricular opportunities to achieve the knowledge, skills and attitudes of global citizenship through global learning.

Beginning in fall 2010, FIU phased in a requirement that all undergraduate students take a minimum of two global learning courses and participate in integrated global learning co-curricular activities prior to graduation. Students take a global learning foundations course as part of their core curriculum sequence and a second global learning course in the upper division. Students may meet the requirement by taking approved upper-division global learning courses as electives or, where available, in their major.

Global learning is the process by which students are prepared to fulfill their civic responsibilities in a diverse and interconnected world. FIU will foster the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of global citizenship through interdisciplinary exploration of real-world problems in the curriculum and co-curriculum. Through global learning, all FIU undergraduates will acquire knowledge of interrelated world conditions, the ability to analyze issues from multiple perspectives, and the willingness to engage in local, global, international, and intercultural problem solving. FIU will use multiple methods to assess these global learning student learning outcomes (SLOs) and use assessment data for continuous improvement of student learning and quality control.

The QEP’s success rests on the achievement of four program goals: (1) FIU will provide a sufficient number of global learning courses to enable students to meet the global learning graduation requirement outlined in the Global Learning for Global Citizenship Curriculum Framework; (2) FIU’s faculty and Student Affairs professionals will integrate an increasing number of global learning co-curricular activities into the baccalaureate curriculum; (3) FIU’s Office of Global Learning Initiatives will provide high-quality faculty and staff development workshops designed to advance interdisciplinary, problem-centered global learning; and (4) FIU students will gain proficiency in the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of global citizenship over the course of their FIU education. FIU has developed assessments for each of the program goals. Program goal assessment data will be used to identify areas of improvement for the QEP and make adjustments as necessary to enhance student learning.

FIU has committed the financial, human, and physical resources necessary to effectively develop, implement, and sustain its QEP. FIU has allocated a budget of $4.11 million to implement the global learning curriculum and co-curriculum, maintain the Office of Global Learning Initiatives, provide for significant professional and faculty development, execute a comprehensive communications and public relations campaign, dedicate classroom space and technology to accommodate global learning courses, and support co-curricular programs.

Since fall 2006 FIU has engaged in a broad-based process of identifying the topic of its QEP and developing and designing its components. This process has helped the FIU community to realize that there is a gap between the founding purposes of the university and the educational opportunities provided for global learning. The implementation of FIU’s QEP will bridge this gap. Global Learning for Global Citizenship is a university-wide initiative that has been embraced by FIU’s students, faculty, administration, Board of Trustees, and greater community as integral to achieving the founding purposes of the institution: education of students, service to the community, and greater international understanding.