Alliant International University's Pilot Intercultural Competencies Russ Newman, Louise Kelly, Saba Ozyurt, Sheila Henderson drsheilaj@gmail.com * rnewman@alliant.edu * Copyright 2013

General Multicultural/International/Global Knowledge, Research & Scholarship **Competencies**

- Overarching Competency: Acquire multicultural/international knowledge, research & scholarship, and develop cognitive flexibility & critical thinking skills that would allow the student to (cognitively) move from separate 'contested territories' to shared 'negotiated spaces1' where meaningful and ethical encounter and purposeful deliberation between cultures can take place.
- Specific Competencies (necessary to achieve the overarching competency): Students should demonstrate through an embrace of at least two cultures understanding of, respect for, curiosity about, and advocacy toward:
 - o Cultures and their interconnectedness
 - o One's own culture within a global and comparative context
 - o The ever-changing nature of globalization and the ways in which economic, political, cultural and technological changes affect local, national and transnational cultures and communities (common problems, collective efforts and movements/global solutions)
 - o Cultural differences and similarities (examined in a comparative historical and political context)
 - o Social and political construction of identities (gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, class, ability, etc.) and issues associated with multiple identities
 - o The relationship between power, knowledge, language (discourse) and privilege in a global context

Practical/ Professional Competencies (Skills and Attributes)

- Overarching Competency: With an intercultural skill set, partner with diverse populations to conceptualize and deliver culturally competent professional services to diverse populations in the 'negotiated space*'
- **Specific Competencies**: Students should demonstrate ability to:
 - o Connect, integrate, and apply general multicultural and international knowledge and research and scholarship competencies in new modes of professional practice and problem solving
 - o Transfer insights from one's own group/region/nation-state/culture to another to create new knowledge and understanding in areas of professional practice
 - o Communicate with people/clients of diverse backgrounds
 - Work in diverse/international teams
 - o Mediate/resolve intercultural conflict in diverse work environments

Note:

* Mila-Schaaf, K. and Hudson, M. (2009). See references.

