Creativity & Culture Thread

Description
This requirement area explores how human beings find and create meaning in our world, particularly through creative inquiry in the arts. You will engage with knowledge that encourages deeper understanding and appreciation of the role of the arts across a diversity of human cultures. Using that knowledge, you will consider critical issues such as using the arts to engage questions of human meaning and purpose, how the arts can suggest and create new possibilities for communities and cultures, and questions of responsibility (individual and collective) for maintaining and preserving cultural heritage from around the world.

Learning Goals and Outcomes
Courses in this thread will be guided by the following learning goals and outcomes. Each course will meet at least five of the following ten learning outcomes:

GOAL ONE: To inspire intellectual curiosity about the world as it is and a deeper understanding of the global condition.
Outcome:
4) Students imagine and critically explore likely and alternative global futures.

GOAL TWO: To assist students in cultivating intercultural knowledge and competencies.
Outcomes:
1) Students gain enhanced understanding of the diversity of ideas, beliefs and practices across cultures and throughout historical eras.
2) Students gain enhanced understanding of the cultural diversity that shapes local communities.
3) Students recognize the interactive and dynamic relationship of global and local communities.

GOAL THREE: To promote active and critical reflection on the human self in its full range of contexts.
Outcomes:
1) Students study the self and the ways in which it is situated in human, natural, and physical worlds.
2) Students analyze and reflect on their own sources of identity and values.
3) Students explore enduring and contemporary questions about human meaning and purpose.
4) Students recognize and engage with that which is other or unfamiliar to them.

GOAL FIVE: To encourage purposeful public engagement and social responsibility.
Outcomes:
1) Students demonstrate the intellectual and practical skills necessary for meaningful work and active participation in the local community and the larger world.
4) Students come to see themselves as responsible, engaged and informed persons, capable and willing to act in ways that will improve or reshape the world.

Staffing
Primary staffing responsibility for this thread will be delivered by the Departments of Art, Music, and Theatre as well as select humanities courses.