Identity Projects Thread

Description
This requirement area invites you to explore the self in dynamic and critical terms. You will consider the interplay of individual and social identities, and study the self as a catalyst of voice, action, and purpose. In the process, you will engage with questions that are central to personhood: How does the self relate to others? How does the self change across time, culture, and circumstance? How does the self find its place in the world and know its impact? Courses in the thread will emphasize critical inquiry and foundational expository writing skills.

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:
2) Students explore and analyze the dynamic relationship of global and local issues or problems.

GOAL TWO: To assist students in cultivating intercultural knowledge and competencies.
Outcome:
1) Students gain enhanced understanding of the diversity of ideas, beliefs and practices across cultures and throughout historical eras.

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 FOUR: To challenge students to critically examine their ethical responsibilities and choices in both local and global contexts.
Outcomes:
1) Students affirm the value of an enlarged ethical responsibility to other persons, the natural world, and future generations.
2) Students explore and engage their relationship to the global public good as well as the larger goals of human and ecological flourishing.

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:
The English Department has responsibility for staffing this thread.