Curriculum Internationalization Grants Program
Office of Global Programs
University of Massachusetts Boston

APPLICATION

1. Name of applicant(s)

2. Department(s) and College(s)

3. Rank or Title

4. Course Title and Number/Program Name

5. Proposed specific activities and/or knowledge for internationalization of the content of a course (existing or new) OR for an academic program (existing or new)

6. Strategy for recruiting students to the course or program, along with target enrollment numbers for the course/module (including an estimate of how many students are enrolled or are anticipated to be enrolled). Student enrollment over the past three offerings of the course/program or expected enrollment, if it is a new course/program.

7. Purpose for which requested funding will be used. A clear description must be provided of learning outcomes that will be achieved, and of the global knowledge as well as global competencies that will be strengthened through student participation in this course or academic program.

8. Impact of this initiative (course or program) on internationalization of undergraduate and graduate instruction at UMass Boston.

9. Funding level requested with itemization of proposed expenditures - $1,500 limit for an individual course and $3,500 for a program.

10. Dates for the start and completion of project.
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Rationale

To sustain and expand UMass Boston’s efforts to internationalize our programs at UMass Boston, we are launching a new initiative that focuses on internationalization of curricula across all academic programs offered in all colleges of the university. Although internationalization curricular activities can vary widely, from study abroad programs, foreign language courses, area programs, or programs/courses with an international, intercultural, or comparative focus, this initiative will primarily refer to internationalization of the course content and on launching of new academic programs or modifying existing academic programs, within an academic department or across academic departments, that will incorporate intercultural and international perspectives. Therefore, the emphasis is not only on the subject matter of the curriculum, but also on pedagogical implications of teaching and learning approaches that will promote and foster transformative internationalization of the curriculum.

Why is it important to internationalize the curriculum in higher education?

Internationalization of the curriculum serves to expand the scope of the learning environment to all students, as well as serves as a ‘powerful and practical way of bridging the gap between rhetoric and practice to including and valuing the contribution of international students’ (Leask 2001).

Studies have demonstrated that internationalization of the curriculum and of teaching and learning approaches are critical elements of the overall internationalization strategy of an institution. Furthermore, an internationalized curriculum further supports a student-centered learning experience for all students and is critical in preparing students to become successful in today's increasingly interdependent global society.

As we continue to internationalize the UMass Boston experience for all students, our faculty and teaching staff are key to building global competencies, bringing international perspectives into the classroom, and in helping students to take advantage of educational opportunities and experiences that exist abroad. The purpose of the Curriculum Internationalization Grants Program is to encourage teaching faculty and staff in all academic departments across all colleges of UMass Boston to integrate international content and education abroad experiences into new and/or existing courses/curricula. Furthermore, this grants program also offers academic departments with a unique opportunity to internationalize their academic curricula, either individually or collaboratively with others departments or colleges.
The proposal narrative (2-page maximum) MUST include the following headings:

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7. Purpose for which requested funding will be used. A clear description must be provided of learning outcomes that will be achieved, and of the global knowledge as well as global competencies that will be strengthened through student participation in this course or academic program.
8. Impact of this initiative (course or program) on internationalization of undergraduate and graduate instruction at UMass Boston.
9. Funding level requested with itemization of proposed expenditures - $1,500 limit for an individual course and $3,500 for a program.
10. Dates for the start and completion of project.

A brief letter (via email) of support from the faculty/teaching staff member’s department chair (for a course) or dean (for a program) should also be submitted. This letter should spell out the department’s or college’s support for this proposal and the intent to sustain this course, course module, or program over the coming years. If a proposal is for a course or a program involving more than one department or college, then separate letters from each participating department or college must be included. The letter should include information about how often the department plans to offer the course or program (e.g., annually, once every 2 years), and how it will be sustained over time (i.e., how the program will be financed beyond the 1-year term of this grant).

Award recipients will be required to file a report on the impact of the course or educational program, and provide a summary of the program for promotion purposes. Funds will be transferred after the final report is received. Funded proposals and final reports will be made available for review by faculty members in the College. The grant proposal has a two year time limit for use of funds.

Please submit a single PDF (consisting of: Proposal narrative; List of cited references; and a Letter of support) to Ela Kijowska, Senior Director - May 7, 2015 - by 5:00 pm. Awards will be announced within one week (May 15). The number of proposals funded will depend on quality of the proposals and level of funds available.
Awards to support internationalization of a single course will be up to $1,500, while awards to support internationalization of an academic program (within an academic department or collaboratively with other academic departments) will be up to $3,500.

One of the overarching goals of the university is to internationalize the UMass Boston Learning Environment. This particular grants program contributes to that goal by supporting teaching of global skills and global knowledge either by developing new courses or course modules with international components or by enhancing existing courses or course modules by incorporating international content or dimensions. Courses may be taught on campus, abroad, online, or in collaboration with an international institution using teleconferencing or other means of instructional technology, or a combination thereof. Both full-semester and 8-week courses are eligible for support as are shorter study tours conducted over winter, spring, or summer breaks provided they are linked to a specific course or curriculum. Initiating new international minors or majors, or launching dual-degree programs, within an academic department or collaboratively with other academic departments, are highly encouraged and will be eligible for support.

**Guidelines**

Grants are awarded for activities related to teaching undergraduate and graduate courses, or to activities focused on internationalizing undergraduate and graduate instruction. Programs should have an impact on as many students as possible, rather than affecting only one or two students involved in a special problems or independent study course. Proposed programs/activities abroad should predominantly serve UMass Boston students.

Developing internationally oriented courses designed to engage freshmen, meet requirements of a major, or that are approved to meet UMass Boston General Education requirements will receive high priority for funding.

The award is to be used to cover the costs of curricular enhancements, and may include modest support for hourly wages, creation of online modules, and/or faculty/teaching staff travel. It may not be used for equipment or software unless it can be clearly demonstrated that the equipment/software is necessary for the implementation of this international educational experience and that these are not currently available via the university's IT services.

The following information should be provided and included in the proposal:

a) A 2-page proposal narrative addressing items 1 to 10 listed below – single-spaced, 11-font size or larger, and including tables and figures, if necessary or desired
b) A one-page list of cited references
c) A brief letter of endorsement from Department Chair (for a course) OR Dean (for a program)