Teams is a community service learning project. STEP students are encouraged to register for this experience in tutoring culturally and linguistically diverse students and participating in weekly seminars on their tutoring experience and issues of equity in education. Since tutoring in Teams is based on application to Teams and being accepted by Teams, alternatives to Teams, the Social Issues seminars, are offered to STEP students (See STEP Handbook).

There are two bases on which students may apply for a waiver for this component of the program: A. they have had an equivalent course or B. they have had a relevant experience in the public schools of at least one semester in length.

A. Basis for Waiver Application: Equivalent Course

Students may apply for waiver of this course if they have had an equivalent course in another college or university covering the following critical elements:

1. issues of cultural and linguistic diversity;
2. issues of racism, sexism, and classism;
3. the relationship of the schools, teaching and learning to these issues.

Documentation: must include transcript indicating that the equivalent courses has been successfully passed with a B or better and a copy of the course syllabus or other documentation indicating the relevancy of the course to the critical elements listed above.

B. Basis for Waiver Application: Relevant Experience in Schools

Students who have had at least one semester of full time, paid work in a middle or high school setting may also apply for a waiver if they can document that employment and provide evidence that that employment has contributed to an introductory level of competence in the following standards: Communication; Instructional Practice; Evaluation; Problem Solving; Equity; and Professionalism with an emphasis in each of these standard area of working with a diverse range of students.

Documentation must include verification of teaching experience and and letter assessing range and quality of experience.

Limitation: The experience used for applying to waive TEAMS may not be used to waive any other component of the program.

Waiving a course meets the requirement of the course but does not render credit for the course. Students in the Master's program will need to substitute an elective for any of the course they have waived if waiving the course will bring them below the number of course credits required for the master's degree.

If Applying to waive TEAMS or the social issues courses, submit two copies of application for waiver, documentation, and self-addressed, stamped envelope to Dr. Robert Maloy, 110 Furcolo.

Updated: December 24, 2003