



At **Meredith College** in Raleigh, NC, we include a Gen Ed non-credit requirement for each student to attend at least eight

'Academic / Cultural Events' during their college years in order to complete their bachelor's degree. At first some may say, *Are you kidding?! That's so minimal as to be trivial.* Some may declare stronger parallel feelings when they understand that we require only an honor-code-bound student signature on one form for each event--submitted to the Registrar--to affirm completion of the requirement. Oh, but students and many departments and programs LOVE this requirement.

You may think *Oh, sure, because it's easy to complete and no one's really checking.*

Nope. The reason is that student organizations and departments promoting events that highlight scholarship, current issues, invited speakers, inter-cultural awareness, and so on, can all promote their event as one that 'qualifies' to help fulfill the requirement. The identification of the event becomes an incentive, drawing more students to the lecture, film screening, performance, panel, and so on. Especially with student groups—at least on our campus—this 'meagre' requirement has become a welcome catalyst for students' academic initiatives and for sharing of intellectual seeking, exploration of social issues, and cross-cultural comparison and understanding.

At **Meredith College**, our dynamic general education program gives every student a firm foundation in the liberal arts and sciences, world citizenship and scholarly research. Students will develop skills and knowledge, serve their community through civic engagement and become independent and lifelong learners.

## Goals of General Education

Through a broad general education curriculum and courses in their majors, students work toward the following goals

- An understanding of self, others and the world
- The ability to analyze, evaluate and discover solutions
- Skills in effective communication
- A recognition of ethical and responsible behavior in society, the global community and the natural world
- An understanding of the complex nature of knowledge



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