

Additionally, Pflug referenced the content of many exit interviews that each senior completes in the GCL program. He stated that overall, there is an interest in economics and development courses across various cultures. With the new sustainability major being offered at CSS, he noted, "there may be a place with this major to improve cultural awareness." He noted that many GCL courses are cross-listed with peace and justice studies, leaving room for expansion should these programs find a way to work together.

Pflug also said that students want to break down the barriers and get to "the grass roots level of culture and language" in their studies. Pflug explained there is no comma between "cultural" and "language" in the GCL title, stating there is a definite link between these two areas of the program, unable to have one without the other.

Niemi said in her interview that there has been a big interest to have diversity and equity courses offered to students. This course would be able to go beyond a focus in one culture and show the relationships between many cultures and how to keep a balance between cultural community and the global community.

Both Pflug and Niemi expressed their desire to expand this program with their own expertises. With Pflug's Latin American culture and literature specialty, he would like to look into creating a Minnesota cultural migration course. In this course, he would be diving into the large populations of Latinx, Somalian and Hmong people that have migrated and expanded the diversity of Minnesota. Pflug also noted that although there are a number of courses about the Spanish speaking world, there is an undeniable barrier due to many of them being offered entirely in Spanish. This can shut down many students who are not fluent in the language from attempting to take cultural courses, feeling excluded by their language limitations.

Niemi, who specializes in Native studies, said Scholastica is "starving for [expanded courses], but doesn't know where to start."

She suggested offering courses like the indigenous people of North America or Native American women and environmental ethics.

"As a liberal arts institution," Niemi said, "we should strive for diversity and offer new levels to education, going beyond basic diversity courses." This comment ties into the inquiries Pflug received about getting to the heart of a culture rather than just skimming the surface of each one. Pflug notes there should be "a way to incorporate some further understanding" to cover the four p's of cultural courses: "place, people, power and practice."

In efforts to expand the GCL program itself, Pflug mentions the need to get the word out and fit GCL into student schedules. Besides fulfilling a language requirement for students, they should be interested in seeing the ties between cultural courses and the Veritas courses at CSS. While some majors are rigid and already have a lot of requirements for their studies, hopefully with each major there will be a way to incorporate a better understanding of culture to benefit their lives outside their education. Niemi also said that within each major, they "should integrate social justice to each program."

As for now, while there is a lack of funding and ability to expand the program, both Niemi and Pflug agree that there are some things the College could do now. Currently at CSS, there is an expertise with the indigenous and Native studies. As long as interest remains, it is a plausible option to offer a course to students now with the current abilities and resources.

Niemi also commented on the fact that although "no one likes to be uncomfortable, that is how you learn." Without offering cultural courses to students at CSS, they will have a harder time being able to expand their perspectives into their real-world applications.

For additional inquiries or requests, feel free to reach out to either Pflug (mpflug@css.edu) or Niemi (jniemi@css.edu) to express interest in an expansion of the GCL program. Without the support and interest of students, there is no way to grow the cultural options at CSS.

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## FREE COVID-19 SALIVA TESTING IS NOW AVAILABLE IN DULUTH

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Duluth is now home to the first COVID-19 saliva testing site in Minnesota. Testing takes place at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center (DECC) and is available to any Minnesotan who believes they should be tested.

Testing is also completely free. Those who get tested can provide insurance information if they have it. If insurance does not cover the entire cost of testing, the remaining amount will be paid by the state. The state will also pay for those who are not insured to be tested.

This Duluth site is a pilot. It is the first of ten potential testing sites throughout the state of Minnesota. This site should be able to predict expected demand for the other sites.

Before testing, it is important that people do not eat, drink, chew gum, or smoke 30 minutes beforehand. Upon arriving at the site, it is important to wear a mask and maintain social distancing. The site is located at DECC Entrance F. There is a small parking lot available outside this door where parking is free for 30 minutes.

The process of getting tested is relatively simple and includes very little contact with other people. Walking in, a QR code is provided that walks you through the entire process. Provided with a test kit, people then proceed to one of the 20 testing stations. From there, the test is self-administered, minimizing contact with other people.

Sophomores Katelyn Adamich and Hannah Loewen were both tested at this site at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday Sept. 30.

"It was really easy. It gave you the directions on your phone, and they were very easy to understand. We were done in 10-15 minutes," Loewen said. They received their results relatively quickly too. "I received my test results in an email two days after the spit test," Adamich said.

Hours of operation run from noon to 7 p.m. Wednesday through Friday as well as from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Although it is recommended to register in advance, walk-in appointments are also welcome.

Appointments can be made at: <https://mncovidtestingappt.as.me/schedule.php>.