



July 21, 2026

W. Randy Smith, Vice Provost
Council on Academic Affairs
University Square South
CAMPUS

Dear Randy,

The Navigating Social Identities, Power, and Difference Certificate (previously, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Certificate) was approved as a Type 1b and Type 2 by CAA on May 2, 2019. The Essential Russian Language and Culture Skills (previously, the Essential Skills for Travel and Business in Russia Certificate) was approved as a Type 1a and Type 1b by CAA on November 6, 2019. However, at the time, due to systems limitations, the Office of the University Registrar was only able to encode certificates as one type at a time. This resulted in the Navigating Social Identities, Power, and Difference Certificate (previously, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Certificate) only being encoded as a Type 2 certificate in the systems and the Essential Russian Language and Culture Skills (previously, the Essential Skills for Travel and Business in Russia Certificate) only being encoded as a Type 1a certificate in the systems.

The College of Arts and Sciences has recently learned that the Office of the University Registrar is now able to encode certificates as more than one type. We are, therefore, affirming our intention to offer the two certificates as they were originally approved, namely:

- the Navigating Social Identities, Power, and Difference Certificate will officially be a Type 1b and Type 2;
- and the Essential Russian Language and Culture Skills Certificate will officially be a Type 1a and Type 1b.

We are requesting that this update be shared as an informational item with the Council on Academic Affairs. We wish to thank Lisa Duffy, Assistant Registrar, for her help in the process.

Please let me know if you need further information.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Bernadette Vankeerbergen

Bernadette Vankeerbergen, PhD
Assistant Dean, Curriculum
College of Arts and Sciences