



DEFINITION of DIVERSITY

The Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation at Southeastern Oklahoma State University believes the concept of diversity includes both acceptance and respect. It means recognizing that each student and each faculty member is unique; then, embracing this uniqueness. These defining features may include race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, age, physical abilities, religious beliefs, and political beliefs. Our concept of diversity encourages the exploration of these differences in an environment that is positive, nurturing, and safe. It is about gaining an understanding of each other that moves beyond tolerance to accepting and appreciating the variety of characteristics within each student and each faculty member.

In our Department, the management of diversity and engagement includes providing opportunities for students and faculty members to reach their potential and to add to their self-development. We recognize that new ideas and perceptions, generated by individuals who are unique, can improve learning and enhance interaction in both the classroom and the community.