

## Anthropology Program

Students Departmental mission (as posted on the Department of Sociology and Anthropology website)

Our programs are oriented around the following objectives:

- To provide a well-rounded liberal arts education heavily invested in the social sciences.
- To provide students an opportunity to study social worlds in-depth, including social arrangements, social interaction, social structure and culture.
- To foster critical reading and thinking, intellectual curiosity and ethical reasoning in all of our students
- To enable students to develop and pursue their own intellectual questions through independent research
- To nurture and train students to be progressively more independent learners
- To prepare students for the workforce – in government, business, education, nonprofits – by developing skills in research, synthesis, analysis, and written and oral communication
- To prepare interested students for graduate study in academic and applied fields

Purpose of Assessment: The Anthropology Program uses assessment to obtain a meaningful overview of our success in the fulfillment of our mission and as an opportunity to enhance the methods used to promote student learning. Our yearly assessments involve meeting with each graduating student and analyzing that student's work as an entire faculty based on a lower level paper and a senior level paper. Our academic program assessment allows us to look at individual courses and ascertain how student learning outcomes in each course contribute to our overall learning goals for students enrolled in that course. We strive to improve teaching and learning through

- 1) A substantive discussion about how our curriculum and course design will work to maximize learning outcomes and the overall education of our students.
- 2) A thorough analysis of each student's work as that student has progressed through our curriculum.
- 3) Reflection on and analysis of assessment results in a manner that will lead to positive changes in learning outcomes for anthropology students.

### Learning outcomes:

Students will be able to understand and articulate key anthropological concepts and theories

Students will learn to read, understand, and critique anthropological books, articles, visual media, and reports

Students will acquire research skills that include the acquisition of research materials, the analysis of those materials, and the ability to synthesize findings in a report format, as appropriate to the course

Students will develop the ability to write in a organized and logically consistent manner

Students shall learn to analyze multi-cultural and global issues.

Students shall engage in field or laboratory research and learn to carry out preliminary analyses of materials from primary materials and/or collections

Students shall learn to analyze and interpret contemporary, historic, and prehistoric data from a variety of societies or eras of past human experience.

Students shall learn to formulate and present materials in a clear and understandable oral format

Indicators of student achievement:

Scale:

Unacceptable	1	(for graded assignments = D, D-, or F)
Minimally acceptable	2	(for graded assignments = D+/C-)
Acceptable	3	(for graded assignments = C/C+)
Exceeds expectation	4	(for graded assignments = B's or A-)
Exceptional	5	(for graded assignments = A/A+)

Work must be judged minimally acceptable to meet the expectations for that course.

In each year, those whose courses are being monitored for learning outcomes will read a sampling of the other person's students' work or attend a sampling of oral presentations for that course (i.e., in 2011-12 the instructor for ANTY 425 will read a sampling of work from students in ANTY 343, and vice versa). The professor of the course and his/her colleague shall read the selected papers (or judge presentations) based on the designated learning outcome under review. This shall help provide a way of norming the assessment outcomes for any particular course. Each sampled paper or presentation shall be scored in accord with the designated learning outcome. Therefore, grades for this outcome may vary from a student's overall grade on the assignment.

Learning Outcomes	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Target Courses for Assessment
understand & articulate anthropological concepts & theories	ANTY 428				Exams & Project
learn to read, understand, & critique anthropological works		ANTY 327			Course Exams
acquire research skills that include the acquisition, analysis, and synthesis of research materials in a report format	ANTY 315				Research project
develop the ability to write in a organized and logically consistent manner			ANTY 351		Term paper
Students shall learn to analyze multi-cultural and global issues			ANTY 337		Final project
engage in field or laboratory research & carry out preliminary analyses of materials from primary materials and/or collections		ANTY 454			Lab Project
learn to analyze, compare & interpret contemporary, historic, and prehistoric data from several societies or eras of past human experience				ANTY 428	1st Exam and Final Exam
learn to formulate and present materials in an oral format				ANTY 450	Final Presentation

Scale:

Unacceptable	1	(for graded assignments = D, D-, or F)
Minimally acceptable	2	(for graded assignments = D+/C-)
Acceptable	3	(for graded assignments = C/C+)
Exceeds expectation	4	(for graded assignments = B's or A-)
Exceptional	5	(for graded assignments = A/A+)

Work must be judged minimally acceptable to meet the expectations for that course.

In each year, those whose courses are being monitored for learning outcomes will read a sampling of the other person's students' work or attend a sampling of oral presentations for that course (i.e., in 2015-16 the instructor for ANTY 428 will read a sampling of work from students in ANTY 315, and vice versa). This shall help provide a way of norming the assessment outcomes for any particular course.