Department: Anthropology (Undergraduate Program)

Assessment Coordinator: Daniel Boxberger

Departmental Mission: In support of the mission of Western Washington University and the College of Humanities and Social Sciences the Department of Anthropology provides a high quality educational experience for undergraduate and graduate students and contributes to the overall mission of the University through research, scholarship, and community service. The Department provides a solid grounding in the four fields of Anthropology: cultural, physical, archaeological and linguistic. The Department trains students in the fundamental concepts of anthropology which enables them to think critically about their role in a multi-cultural world. Given this mission the Department is committed to achieving four specific goals that promote a deep understanding of the diversity of humankind and engage in the practical application of anthropology in the community.

Department Student Learning Outcomes: Upon graduation, anthropology majors will be able to:

1. demonstrate a deep understanding of humankind, both past and present.
2. acquire knowledge of principles and primary data in each of the four subfields and appreciate their interconnections (cultural anthropology; linguistic anthropology; archaeology; and biological anthropology) and understand professional ethics.
3. analyze and organize the knowledge gained in order to demonstrate an appreciation of the diversity of humankind.
4. know how to engage in the practical application of anthropology in the community.
5. view their education in anthropology as relevant to their lives post-graduation.

GUR (liberal arts & sciences) Learning Outcomes

6. __________
7. __________
Anthropology (cont.)

**Student Learning Outcomes (Departmental and GUR) Assessed This Year:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Measures</th>
<th>SLO’s Assessed</th>
<th>Results</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final exams, papers, presentations and projects in 400-level senior seminar and capstone courses.</td>
<td>1,3,4</td>
<td>The capstone courses were discussed at our annual year-end assessment meeting. Faculty offering Anth 490 (Senior Seminar) and other capstone courses completed an evaluation assessing student performance relative to SLOs 1, 3 and 4. The role of capstone course products was discussed in relation to the Anthropology Scholars Week Student Conference. Papers produced in the capstone courses constitute 80% of the papers nominated by faculty for the annual excellence in undergraduate research award and 65% of the papers accepted for inclusion in the annual Scholars Week Conference.</td>
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**Program Changes Based on Assessment**

Faculty members are pleased with the products students produce in the capstone courses. Student evaluations for these courses indicate satisfaction (mean for #18 Course Overall is 4.25). Contributions of capstone course work confirm this as a departmental strength that should be coordinated more closely with Scholars Week activities. The Anthropology Student Conference faculty coordinator will implement this coordination effort in 2013.
**Department: Anthropology (Graduate Program)**

**Assessment Coordinator: Daniel Boxberger**

**Departmental Mission:** In support of the mission of Western Washington University and the College of Humanities and Social Sciences the Department of Anthropology provides a high quality educational experience for undergraduate and graduate students and contributes to the overall mission of the University through research, scholarship, and community service. The Department provides a solid grounding in the four fields of Anthropology: cultural, physical, archaeological and linguistic. The Department trains students in the fundamental concepts of anthropology which enables them to think critically about their role in a multi-cultural world. Given this mission the Department is committed to achieving four specific goals that promote a deep understanding of the diversity of humankind and engage in the practical application of anthropology in the community.

**Department Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon graduation, anthropology majors will be able to:

1. demonstrate advanced knowledge of the principles and sources of primary data in one or more subfields of anthropology and clearly understand the historical connections between the major ideas that drive research in the field.
2. demonstrate abilities and skills that include intelligent evaluation of available information, creative problem-solving, effective application of logic in research design, quantitative skills, and refined levels of verbal and written communication.
3. demonstrate awareness of the political and social roles of science and scholarship, especially the ability to deal with the ethical challenges of an increasingly complex society.
4. demonstrate preparation for a variety of professional careers utilizing anthropology or for PhD programs or other advanced degrees.
5. view their graduate education in anthropology as relevant to their lives upon completion of the MA degree.

**Student Learning Outcomes Assessed This Year:**

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<td>Papers and presentations in core theory and methods courses. (Anth 501, 502 and 503).</td>
<td>1, 2, 3</td>
<td>Assessment of this SLO will be implemented in 2013. In 2011-2012 the graduate faculty convened a committee to evaluate the core courses (Anth 501, 502, 503). This committee will continue its work in 2012-2013 to propose changes to the core courses and formalize the assessment plan.</td>
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**Program Changes Based on Assessment**

Program changes deferred to 2012/2013 when graduate curriculum committee will complete its assessment of the core courses.