Program  Anthropology - Minor
Department  Anthropology
Number of students enrolled in the program in Fall, 2011 24
Faculty member completing template  Raghu Trichur  (Date 1/31/12)

Period of reference in the template: 2006-07 to present

1. Please describe your program’s learning-outcomes trajectory since 2006-07: Has there been a transformation of organizational culture regarding the establishment of learning outcomes and the capacity to assess progress toward their achievement? If so, during which academic year would you say the transformation became noticeable? What lies ahead; what is the next likely step in developing a learning-outcomes organizational culture within the program?

The Department of Anthropology hasn’t developed a formal Assessment Plan for the Minor Program in Anthropology. We have not been collecting any data related to this program.

The Minor Program in Anthropology requires students to complete 18 units of Anthropology courses, 6 units of which can be lower division Anthropology courses. The objective is to help students develop an anthropological sensibility and bring them to bear on issues of their concern. Students are free to choose any Anthropology course as long as they have satisfied the pre-requisites for those courses if any. This flexibility built into the curriculum has been critical to attracting students to the Anthropology – Minor program.

During the upcoming academic year 2012-13, the Department will be initiating a comprehensive discipline wide program review. We do plan on taking advantage of this opportunity to develop a more nuanced understanding of our Minor program. We hope to develop formal strategies for generating data related to learning outcomes and engaging with our alumni to understand how Minoring in Anthropology and the choice of anthropology courses have complemented his/her Major and career path.
2. Please list in prioritized order (or indicate no prioritization regarding) up to four desired learning outcomes (“takeaways” concerning such elements of curriculum as perspectives, specific content knowledge, skill sets, confidence levels) for students completing the program. For each stated outcome, please provide the reason that it was designated as desired by the faculty associated with the program.

Considering the overall mission of the program, it is safe to assume that the following three takeaways (presented in no particular order), though not formally stated, inform the Anthropology - Minor Program

1. **Use Anthropological Perspective (AP)**
   
   REASON: Students should be able to use an anthropological perspective to understand the human condition.

2. **Written Communication (WC)**
   
   REASON: Students should be able to articulate their knowledge and understanding of the discipline clearly and effectively.

3. **Critical Analysis (CA)**
   
   REASON: Students should be able to evaluate merits of arguments and explanations.
3. For undergraduate programs only, in what ways are the set of desired learning outcomes described above aligned with the University’s Baccalaureate Learning Goals? Please be as specific as possible.

As mentioned earlier, currently we don’t have an assessment plan in place for the Anthropology -Minor Program. Broadly speaking the three takeaways that inform the Anthropology – Minor Program map on to the University’s Baccalaureate Learning Goals as follows:

**AP=** Anthropological Perspective  
**WC =** Written Communication  
**CA=** Critical Analysis

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<tr>
<th>Department of Anthropology Desired Learning Outcomes:</th>
<th>Sacramento State Baccalaureate Learning Goals</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Students are able to use anthropological concepts and theories to analyze, explain and address the diversity in human experience in the past and present. <em>(AP, CA)</em></td>
<td><strong>Intellectual and Practical Skills</strong></td>
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<td>• Students can develop effective comparisons and contrasts between various anthropological ideas, concepts and theories. <em>(CA)</em></td>
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<td>• Students can think in complex ways and contribute to on-going debates and discussions in the field through the development of strong analytical skills and arguments. <em>(CA)</em></td>
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<td>• Students can write sophisticated research papers that are clear, organized, and free of grammatical errors. <em>(WC)</em></td>
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<td>• Articulate knowledge and understanding of anthropological scholarship through effective written communication. <em>(WC)</em></td>
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<td>• Explain key theoretical concepts and debates within anthropology clearly and effectively. <em>(CA, WC)</em></td>
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<td>• Students are successful in using anthropological knowledge to explain historic legacies, scientific discoveries and contemporary issues that impact human societies. <em>(CA)</em></td>
<td><strong>Personal and Social Responsibility</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Students can effectively use anthropological concepts, frameworks and/or theories to develop intercultural competence and address the diversity in human experience. <em>(AP)</em></td>
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4. For each desired outcome indicated in item 2 above, please:
   a) Describe the method(s) by which its ongoing pursuit is monitored and measured.
   b) Include a description of the sample of students (e.g., random sample of transfer students declaring the major; graduating seniors) from whom data were/will be collected and the frequency and schedule with which the data in question were/will be collected.
   c) Describe and append a sample (or samples) of the “instrument” (e.g., survey or test), “artifact” (e.g., writing sample and evaluative protocol, performance review sheet), or other device used to assess the status of the learning outcomes desired by the program.
   d) Explain how the program faculty analyzed and evaluated (will analyze and evaluate) the data to reach conclusions about each desired student learning outcome.

Currently, we don’t have an assessment plan in place for the Anthropology -Minor Program. This being the case, it is not possible to answer this question.

5. Regarding each outcome and method discussed in items 2 and 4 above, please provide examples of how findings from the learning outcomes process have been utilized to address decisions to revise or maintain elements of the curriculum (including decisions to alter the program’s desired outcomes). If such decision-making has not yet occurred, please describe the plan by which it will occur.

Currently, we don’t have an assessment plan in place for the Minor in Anthropology. During the upcoming academic year 2012-13, the Department will be initiating a comprehensive discipline wide program review. We do plan on taking advantage of this opportunity to develop Learning Outcomes and complementary assessment strategies and then graduate to evidence based decision making processes.

6. Has the program systematically sought data from alumni to measure the longer-term effects of accomplishment of the program’s learning outcomes? If so, please describe the approach to this information-gathering and the ways in which the information will be applied to the program’s curriculum. If such activity has not yet occurred, please describe the plan by which it will occur.

No, the Department has not yet sought data from alumni to measure the longer-term effects of accomplishment of the program’s learning outcomes. During the upcoming academic year 2012-13, the Department will be initiating a comprehensive discipline wide program review. We do plan on taking advantage of this opportunity to develop formal strategies for generating data from our alumni.

7. Does the program pursue learning outcomes identified by an accrediting or other professional discipline-related organization as important? Does the set of outcomes pursued by your program exceed those identified as important by your accrediting or other professional discipline-related organization?
   Not Applicable.
8. Finally, what additional information would you like to share with the Senate Committee on Instructional Program Priorities regarding the program’s desired learning outcomes and assessment of their accomplishment?

Anthropology is a holistic discipline, the four sub-disciplines of which are archaeology, Biological Anthropology, Cultural Anthropology and Linguistic Anthropology. All sub-disciplines in their unique ways guided by our diverse Learning Outcomes develop in-depth knowledge of Human Cultures and the Natural World. The objective of the Minor in Anthropology is to complement students Major and his/her academic aspirations. The flexibility in choice of courses enables students to think about the kind of knowledge they need to complement their Major and be successful in the career path of their choice while at the same time not introduce undue requirements that delay students’ graduation.