

**Department of Anthropology**  
**Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan**

**Date:** January 2018

**Certificate or Degree Program:** Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology

**Mission:** The UAF Department of Anthropology is committed to scholarship and research in anthropology with a general geographic focus on the circumpolar regions of the north, as well as research and instruction covering a variety of other world areas and topical subjects. The teaching and research activities in the department cover the four subfields of the discipline: archaeology, biological anthropology, linguistic and social/cultural anthropology. The Bachelor of Arts program aims to give students a solid introduction to the discipline, with the opportunity to concentrate study in any subfield, and to gain research experience and training in field methods.

**Goal:** To assure that graduates are prepared either to compete successfully in the job market in their chosen field or related areas, or to compete successfully for admission to institutions of higher learning to pursue advanced degrees. The B.A. degree differs from the B.S. by stressing exposure to the social science and humanistic aspects of anthropological research.

Intended Objectives/Outcomes	Assessment Criteria	Implementation Procedures
1. Students learn enough about the discipline in the ANTH 100X /101X core courses to be interested in taking up anthropology as their primary field of study. Students gain through what they learn in introductory courses and others a desire to learn more about the diversity of peoples and cultures and the human condition.	New majors in anthropology declared in the B.A. program each semester.	Lists of Anthropology majors declared each semester obtained from Registrar's Office. Undergraduate coordinator monitors number of majors in the program and prepares annual report. Undergraduate coordinator directs new majors to appropriate faculty advisors and keeps notes on what has interested students. Department evaluates curriculum in terms of students' stated interests, based on what they have learned.
2. Students completing the B.A. in Anthropology will have: (1) a basic understanding of the history of the discipline, including subdisciplinary perspectives and approaches to the study of culture, society, and human development, (2) an understanding of methods in anthropological research, and (3) and understanding of cultural and linguistic diversity and the implications of cultural difference for understanding the human condition	Criterion (1): The B.A. requires successful completion of ANTH 384 (History of Anthropology). Students are expected to know about particular national traditions of anthropological research, about major research paradigms and about the importance of the introduction of particular methods. Criterion (2): demonstration of knowledge of methods of fieldwork, comparative and social and cultural analytical methods and of their limitations and ethical dimensions. Criterion (3): understanding of the nature and importance of human diversity will be assessed by demonstrated knowledge of a range of social and cultural configurations and critical perspectives on folk concepts such as "race."	Student performance in the required B.A. courses is evaluated by the faculty instructors, and monitored by the Undergraduate Coordinator.  To gauge overall achievement, the instructor of the Senior Seminar will conduct a standardized, summative exercise designed to demonstrate facility in the objectives/outcomes. These will be evaluated by a committee consisting of: the Undergraduate Coordinator, the course instructor, and the Department Chair or designee.  Following committee review, the year's outcomes assessment will be forwarded for review and a critique by the full anthropology faculty in an annual assessment plan meeting.
3. The Communications Learning Outcomes (CLO) state that UAF undergraduates will demonstrate	Given that all majors are required to complete the capstone course, ANTH 411: Senior Seminar, we believe that this course serves as the ideal venue	For CLO parts 1), 2) and 4): At least two anthropology faculty who primarily teach B.A. courses will read the research papers submitted for

<p>effective communication when they are able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Explain disciplinary content using a variety of modes of communication, including oral and written communication.</li> <li>2) Communicate to audiences in the discipline using appropriate disciplinary conventions.</li> <li>3) Translate disciplinary content to audience outside the discipline as appropriate, making disciplinary knowledge relevant to broader communities.</li> <li>4) Integrate feedback from others to enhance or revise communication.</li> </ol>	<p>for assessing whether students have fulfilled CLO 1) and 2). Students in this course are required to complete both oral presentations and written assignments, including a semester-long research project/paper, which must be revised in response to peer- and instructor feedback (per CLO part 4).</p> <p>All BA majors in Anthropology are required to take ANTH 384: History of Anthropology. The assignment structure for that course has been revised to incorporate two assignments that ensure students meet CLO part 3. First, they must critically evaluate a documentary film meant to spread awareness about the broader impact of the work of key anthropologists since the early days of the discipline. For the assignment, they must address how effectively the documentary translates cross-cultural ethnographic material and theoretical developments for a public audience, and discuss how the filmmaker(s) could have done this better/more effectively. Second, students will participate in class debates on major controversies in the field; they will be required to pitch their debate to a public audience, requiring them to make scientific data accessible to the public.</p>	<p>ANTH 411 and evaluate the degree to which the student has effectively communicated disciplinary content; the students will be required to submit both their first draft and the final paper so that their success at integrating feedback can be judged. For CLO part 3): At least one B.S. faculty member will observe the debates in ANTH 384 and evaluate the degree to which the students successfully presented disciplinary content to an outside audience. While our BS faculty are, of course, within the discipline, the subfields in anthropology are distinct enough that we feel they will be able to appropriately judge the degree to which students have succeeded in fulfilling this objective.</p> <p>The B.A. coordinator will compile the results of these assessments and report back to the full faculty during the first faculty meeting the following fall.</p>
<p><b>4.</b> Students seeking employment will be satisfied that their education has provided useful skills, and/or will seek to continue their academic career in K-12 teacher education, medical/dental, law school, graduate school, museum studies, or other.</p>	<p>Students obtain satisfying work or are satisfied with the education that they have chosen OR students find that the education they have received through the program has benefitted their further studies. An Outcomes assessment exit survey (with emphasis on student's overall assessment of quality of education received in anthropology) is administered annually to students enrolled in ANTH 411.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Data gathered as available on employment for graduates who have sought such relevant employment, or acceptance into graduate educational programs. Publications, grants and other scholarly achievements and contributions will also be tabulated as a direct measure and entered into a departmental student database.</li> <li>2) At least two faculty will review/evaluate the results of the exit survey given to B.A. students in ANTH 411 and make recommendations re: potential changes to the degree program to the full faculty the following Fall semester.</li> </ol>