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PROGRAM/DEGREE REQUIREMENT CHANGE (MAJOR)

SUBMITTED BY:

Department	Anthropology	College/School	CLA
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See <http://www.uaf.edu/uafgov/faculty-senate/curriculum/course-degree-procedures/> for a complete description of the rules governing curriculum & course changes.

PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION:

DEGREE PROGRAM	Anthropology
Degree Level: (i.e., Certificate, A.A., A.A.S., B.A., B.S., M.A., M.S., Ph.D.)	BA

A. CHANGE IN DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: (Brief statement of program/degree changes and objectives)

The BA degree in anthropology currently requires 6 anthropology electives with degree classification designators “s” or “h” (4 of which must be at the F400-level). We would like to remove the requirement that these electives have an “s” or “h” designator, such that any anthropology courses will count.

On the broadest level, this will make the degree more flexible and provide students with a wider breadth of options. More specifically, it will allow students to receive credit for courses that we consider to be a vital part of anthropological training but do not have (or may not be eligible for) ‘s’ or ‘h’ designators, particularly research skills/methods courses. At present, students must file petition forms in order for these classes to count towards the degree, and, as such, this change will streamline the program and reduce a paperwork burden.

B. CURRENT REQUIREMENTS AS IT APPEARS IN THE CATALOG:

Major -- BA Degree

Complete the [general university requirements](#). (As part of the core curriculum requirements complete ANTH F100X*.)

Complete the [BA degree requirements](#).

Complete the following program (major) requirements:*

Complete the following:

ANTH F211--Fundamentals of Archaeology (3)

 or ANTH F221--Fundamentals of Biological Anthropology (3)--3 credits

ANTH F215--Fundamentals of Social/Cultural Anthropology--3 credits

ANTH/LING F223: Sociolinguistics: Language and Inequality--3 credits

ANTH F384--History of Anthropology--3 credits

ANTH F4110--Senior Seminar--3 credits

Complete 6 anthropology electives, with degree classification designator 's' or 'h,' at least 4 (12 credits) of which are at the F400-level--18 credits

Minimum credits required--120 credits

C. PROPOSED REQUIREMENTS AS IT WILL APPEAR IN THE CATALOG WITH THESE CHANGES:
(Underline new wording ~~strike-through old wording~~ and use complete catalog format)

Major -- BA Degree

Complete the general university requirements. (As part of the core curriculum requirements complete ANTH F100X*.)

Complete the BA degree requirements.

Complete the following program (major) requirements:*

Complete the following:

ANTH F211--Fundamentals of Archaeology (3)

 or ANTH F221--Fundamentals of Biological Anthropology (3)--3 credits

ANTH F215--Fundamentals of Social/Cultural Anthropology--3 credits

ANTH/LING F223: Sociolinguistics: Language and Inequality--3 credits

ANTH F384--History of Anthropology--3 credits

ANTH F4110--Senior Seminar--3 credits

Complete 6 anthropology electives, ~~with degree classification designator 's' or 'h,'~~
at least 4 (12 credits) of which are at the F400-level--18 credits

Minimum credits required--120 credits

D. ESTIMATED IMPACT

WHAT IMPACT, IF ANY, WILL THIS HAVE ON BUDGET, FACILITIES/SPACE, FACULTY, ETC.

None.

E. IMPACTS ON PROGRAMS/DEPTS:

*What programs/departments will be affected by this proposed action?
Include information on the Programs/Departments contacted (e.g., email, memo)*

Only affects the Anthropology Department

F. IF MAJOR CHANGE - ASSESSMENT OF THE PROGRAM:

Description of the student learning outcomes assessment process.)

The department is in the process of revising/updating its learning outcomes/assessment, but this change primarily relates to learning outcome #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 (4) exhibit effective skills in written and oral communication.

The proposed change will actually facilitate achievement of these goals, as we have a number of courses that contribute to these objectives but are lacking an 's' or 'h' designator; for example, ANTH 317: Human Growth and Development and ANTH 428: Ecological Anthropology directly relate to #1, while ANTH 412: Human-Environment Research Methods and ANTH 426: Bioarchaeology both speak directly to #2. Our 492 special topics classes relate to one of the topic areas outlined in #1-3 while also promoting written and/or oral communication skills. By removing the 's' or 'h' designator requirement for Anthropology electives, students will be able to receive credit for these courses without having to go through the petition process.

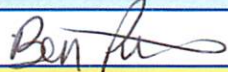
Achievement of these goals is gauged through a standardized, summative exercise in the capstone course (ANTH 411: Senior Seminar) that are evaluated by a panel of anthropology faculty.


JUSTIFICATION FOR ACTION REQUESTED

The purpose of the department and campus-wide curriculum committees is to scrutinize program/degree change applications to make sure that the quality of UAF education is not lowered as a result of the proposed change. Please address this in your response. This section needs to be self-explanatory. If you drop a course, is it because the material is covered elsewhere? Use as much space as needed to fully justify the proposed change and explain what has been done to ensure that the quality of the program is not compromised as a result.

The requirement that anthropology electives have 's' or 'h' designators reflects the fact that the department used to be more theoretically oriented in its undergraduate training. While we still incorporate theoretical training, following broader trends within the field, the department has increasingly stressed the importance of applied skills. These skills are critical to success in today's job market and in graduate programs in anthropology. As it stands, the classification criteria for 's' or 'h' courses specifically excludes "courses whose primary focus is on research skills or techniques, practicum experience, or professional or vocational skill development." Providing training in the research skills/techniques utilized by anthropologists is part of our mission for the BA program, and yet, as it stands, students in these courses must fill out petition forms in order to receive credit towards the major. Removing the requirement that anthropology electives have 's' or 'h' designators will not lower the quality of education-- on the contrary, it will strengthen the program because it will allow students to take a broader range of anthropology courses that will contribute to their future success in the field. It will also serve to streamline the program by relieving the burden caused by the need to fill out petition forms for classes without these designators to count towards the major. (Note that we have no plans to remove the 's' or 'h' designators from classes that currently have them; these will remain in the catalog for students seeking to fulfill 's' or 'h' requirements as part of the broader BA curriculum.)

APPROVALS:

	Date	9-10-14
Signature, Chair, Program/Department of:		

	Date	10/3/14
Signature, Chair, College/School Curriculum Council for: <u>CLA</u>		

	Date	
Signature, Dean, College/School of:		

ALL SIGNATURES MUST BE OBTAINED PRIOR TO SUBMISSION TO THE GOVERNANCE OFFICE

	Date	
Signature, Chair, UAF Faculty Senate Curriculum Review Committee		