

Major/Program: Anthropology

Annual ASSESSMENT of the Major/Program

Fall 2018-Spring 2019

What are the student learning outcomes in the **major/program?**

Students majoring in anthropology gain valuable competencies.

Upon graduation, students majoring in anthropology will be able to:

- Describe how evolutionary and historical processes have shaped primates and human ancestors and lead to the biological, behavioral, and cultural diversity seen in the present.
- Describe how cultural systems construct reality differently for various human groups.
- Describe how varying types of data are collected, analyzed, synthesized and interpreted to achieve these first two goals.
- Communicate anthropological knowledge effectively through written, oral and data presentation in varying formats for diverse audiences.
- Discuss human diversity and how knowledge about human diversity should lead to a better understanding of and therefore respect for people whose culture differs from ours.

Which outcome(s) did you assess this academic year?

- Communicate anthropological knowledge effectively through written, oral and data presentation in varying formats for diverse audiences.

How did you assess the learning outcomes this academic year?

We developed a new, four-part assessment to pilot in one section of Anthropology A-104. Each part of the assessment asks students to communicate anthropological information to an educated audience unfamiliar with the discipline. The first three assignments are cumulative in the fourth and final assignment. These assessments were due at the end of each major learning unit in the course. Assessments were graded according to a standard rubric. Assignments are as follows:

1. Create a communication (letter; video; etc.) to a friend; fellow student; coworker; or family member to explain the basic terminology; concepts; and methodologies of cultural anthropology. Express how these can be applied to your personal or professional life. How can you use them to better understand the social world around you?
2. For this assignment you are being asked to develop a list of the Top 5 interesting things you have learned about anthropology/culture so far in the course. List the insight (provide citation where the insight can be found). Give an example of the insight from the module or an outside source (cite the example). Explain how this insight has allowed you to better understand or challenged you to think differently about an issue/topic in your personal or professional life.
3. For this assignment you will be exploring how anthropologists are working in various professional fields. Following the instructions in the video access the journal Human Organization. Spend some time looking through the Table of Contents of a number of issues.

Locate two (2) articles that are closely related to your major and/or professional interests. Read the articles thinking about how the anthropologists in the article approached the issue – paying particular attention to what was uniquely anthropological in their approach.

4. For this final assignment course you will combine the materials have learned; applied; and articulated throughout the course and use them to design/create a communication (brochure; mass media page; video; etc) that explains the value of anthropology to fellow students within your major; coworkers; friend/partner; etc. Take some time to review all of your responses to the discussion prompts; your unit assignments; module materials (readings, videos, etc.). Spend some time thinking about what really “Matters” about anthropology. Imagine how you would reply if someone asked you what you learned in the course; how it changed the way you think about the world and the people in it; how anthropology can be applied in your personal/professional world; etc. Create some form of “Communication” (PowerPoint; Brochure; Video; Media Page; Artwork; Documents...) that expresses those ideas. Make sure your submission contains ideas and content taken directly from materials from the course. Cite sources where necessary. BE CREATIVE!

Please **summarize the data** you have collected this academic year.

Each assignment was graded according to a standard rubric. The follow are the course average scores for each assignment.

1. “What are you learning “ = 86%
2. “List top insights” = 80%
3. “Applying to professional life” = 81%
4. “How Anthropology matters in non-academic careers” = 79%

Please **describe any programmatic changes you have made or are planning to make based on the data you have collected (action steps).**

We consider this pilot assessment strategy a success. We plan to incorporate it into our other sections of Anthropology A-104. We will then develop a more comprehensive assessment that takes a similar approach for use in our second-year applied anthropology course (ANTH A201).

Please report on the progress of your **action steps** reported in 2017-2018. See <http://www.iun.edu/campus-assessment/assessment-results/index.htm> for your previous unit reports.

N/A

****Note:** Please use this template to provide the responses to the prompts above.**