

Program Assessment Plan
 American University
 Academic Program: CAS: Anthropology - BA

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Unit's Primary Department: Anthropology

Learning Outcome: Theory

Demonstrate familiarity with the major arguments shaping the classic and contemporary debates in anthropological theory.

Outcome Year: 2008-2009
 2009-2010
 2010-2011
 2011-2012

Start Date: 04/01/2009

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
<p>Evaluation of each student's "Reflection Paper Portfolio" in spring semester ANTH-450 Anthropology of Power (Senior Capstone Seminar). The portfolio consists of weekly reflection papers, developed each week, in which students address an issue of theory (Outcome 1), use theory to interrogate a research problem (Outcome 2), and/or to apply research findings to an issue in the public domain (Outcome 4). All papers require students to construct summary statements and demonstrate other written language skills (Outcome 3). Each student will assemble the weekly reflection papers in a portfolio and submit them at the end of spring term. The group of papers will be reviewed for assessment purposes by the course instructor and one other member of the ANTH department faculty at the close of the spring semester. Each reader will assign the portfolio a 1-5 score (1-minimal evidence that outcome has been met; 5-ample evidence that outcome has been met) for each learning outcome.</p> <p>Measure Type: Written Assignment</p>	<p>These aggregate values will allow us to set criteria defining effective levels of performance on learning outcomes, e.g.:</p> <p>How many students satisfied the expectations of each learning outcome with an aggregate score of 3.0 or better?</p> <p>Was the mean aggregate score for the student cohort higher or lower than the idealized (3.0) mean?</p> <p>Since this is the first year we have carried out the assessment, we need to see the overall profile of the student scores for each learning outcome, before making further statements about the outcomes being met.</p>	<p>Cycle is every spring. Reader scores will be averaged to obtain an aggregate scoring for each outcome. These values allow us to propose improvements in undergraduate anthropology instruction. If, for example, the aggregate scores for one of the learning outcomes is far lower than the aggregate score for the other learning outcomes, we may infer that students are not as familiar with the academic content associated with the learning outcome. (There may be other reasons for the lower scores, of course, and those causes also need to be explored.) We need to review the courses in the undergraduate curriculum in which the outcome-related academic content is addressed and, as appropriate/lesson plans, to ensure that students are receiving appropriate instruction. The reviewers will report to the undergraduate studies committee and to the department council.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Meeting between undergraduates and undergraduate committee to discuss the extent to which learning outcomes have been met.</p> <p>Measure Type: Other</p>	<p>No target identified.</p>	<p>Every year in the fall.</p>	<p>Yes</p>

Related Courses

- ANTH - 450 - Anthropology of Power

Learning Outcome: Inquiry

Use key ideas from those debates classic and contemporary debates in anthropological theory to develop problem statements, plans for data-gathering and data-analysis, and statements of conclusion/ implications while ethnographic/archeological research.

Outcome Year: 2008-2009
 2009-2010
 2010-2011
 2011-2012

Start Date: 04/01/2009

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
<p>Evaluation of each student's "Reflection Paper Portfolio" in spring semester ANTH-450 Anthropology of Power (Senior Capstone Seminar). The portfolio consists of weekly reflection papers, developed each week, in which students address an issue of theory (Outcome 1), use theory to interrogate a research problem (Outcome 2), and/or to apply research findings to an issue in the public domain (Outcome 4). All papers require students to construct summary statements and demonstrate other written language skills (Outcome 3). Each student will assemble the weekly reflection papers in a portfolio and submit them at the end of spring term. The group of papers will be reviewed for assessment purposes by the course instructor and one other member of the ANTH department faculty at the close of the spring semester. Each reader will assign the portfolio a 1-5 score (1-minimal evidence that outcome has been met; 5-ample evidence that outcome has been met) for each learning outcome.</p> <p>Measure Type: Written Assignment</p>	<p>These aggregate values will allow us to set criteria defining effective levels of performance on learning outcomes, e.g.: How many students satisfied the expectations of each learning outcome with an aggregate score of 3.0 or better? Was the mean aggregate score for the student cohort higher or lower than the idealized (3.0) mean? Since this is the first year we have carried out the assessment, we need to see the overall profile of the student scores for each learning outcome, before making further statements about the outcomes being met.</p>	<p>Cycle is every spring. Reader scores will be averaged to obtain an aggregate scoring for each outcome. These values allow us to propose improvements in undergraduate anthropology instruction. If, for example, the aggregate scores for one of the learning outcomes is far lower than the aggregate score for the other learning outcomes, we may infer that students are not as familiar with the academic content associated with the learning outcome. (There may be other reasons for the lower scores, of course, and those causes also need to be explored.) We need to review the courses in the undergraduate curriculum in which the outcome-related academic content is addressed and, as appropriate/lesson plans, to ensure that students are receiving appropriate instruction. The reviewers will report to the undergraduate studies committee and to the department council.</p>	Yes
<p>Meeting between undergraduates and undergraduate committee to discuss the extent to which learning outcomes have been met.</p> <p>Measure Type: Other</p>	No target identified.	Every year in the fall.	Yes

Related Courses

- ANTH - 450 - Anthropology of Power

Learning Outcome: Communication

Summarize findings from research projects in written, oral, visual media or other format.

Outcome Year: 2008-2009
 2009-2010
 2010-2011
 2011-2012

Start Date: 04/01/2009

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
<p>Evaluation of each student's "Reflection Paper Portfolio" in spring semester ANTH-450 Anthropology of Power (Senior Capstone Seminar). The portfolio consists of weekly reflection papers, developed each week, in which students address an issue of theory (Outcome 1), use theory to interrogate a research problem (Outcome 2), and/or to apply research findings to an issue in the public domain (Outcome 4). All papers require students to construct summary statements and demonstrate other written language skills (Outcome 3). Each student will assemble the weekly reflection papers in a portfolio and submit them at the end of spring term. The group of papers will be reviewed for assessment purposes by the course instructor and one other member of the ANTH department faculty at the close of the spring semester. Each reader will assign the portfolio a 1-5 score (1-minimal evidence that outcome has been met; 5-ample evidence that outcome has been met) for each learning outcome.</p> <p>Measure Type: Written Assignment</p>	<p>These aggregate values will allow us to set criteria defining effective levels of performance on learning outcomes, e.g.: How many students satisfied the expectations of each learning outcome with an aggregate score of 3.0 or better? Was the mean aggregate score for the student cohort higher or lower than the idealized (3.0) mean? Since this is the first year we have carried out the assessment, we need to see the overall profile of the student scores for each learning outcome, before making further statements about the outcomes being met.</p>	<p>Cycle is every spring. Reader scores will be averaged to obtain an aggregate scoring for each outcome. These values allow us to propose improvements in undergraduate anthropology instruction. If, for example, the aggregate scores for one of the learning outcomes is far lower than the aggregate score for the other learning outcomes, we may infer that students are not as familiar with the academic content associated with the learning outcome. (There may be other reasons for the lower scores, of course, and those causes also need to be explored.) We need to review the courses in the undergraduate curriculum in which the outcome-related academic content is addressed and, as appropriate/lesson plans, to ensure that students are receiving appropriate instruction. The reviewers will report to the undergraduate studies committee and to the department council.</p>	Yes
<p>Meeting between undergraduates and undergraduate committee to discuss the extent to which learning outcomes have been met.</p> <p>Measure Type: Other</p>	No target identified.	Every year in the fall.	Yes

Related Courses

- ANTH - 450 - Anthropology of Power

Learning Outcome: Praxis

Apply findings, as summarized, to critical issues in contemporary society.

Outcome Year: 2008-2009

2009-2010

2010-2011

2011-2012

Start Date: 04/01/2009

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
<p>Evaluation of each student's "Reflection Paper Portfolio" in spring semester ANTH-450 Anthropology of Power (Senior Capstone Seminar). The portfolio consists of weekly reflection papers, developed each week, in which students address an issue of theory (Outcome 1), use theory to interrogate a research problem (Outcome 2), and/or to apply research findings to an issue in the public domain (Outcome 4). All papers require students to</p>	<p>These aggregate values will allow us to set criteria defining effective levels of performance on learning outcomes, e.g.: How many students satisfied the expectations of each learning outcome with an aggregate score of 3.0 or better?</p>	<p>Cycle is every spring. Reader scores will be averaged to obtain an aggregate scoring for each outcome. These values allow us to propose improvements in undergraduate anthropology instruction. If, for example, the aggregate scores</p>	Yes

Assessment Plan

Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
<p>construct summary statements and demonstrate other written language skills (Outcome 3). Each student will assemble the weekly reflection papers in a portfolio and submit them at the end of spring term. The group of papers will be reviewed for assessment purposes by the course instructor and one other member of the ANTH department faculty at the close of the spring semester. Each reader will assign the portfolio a 1-5 score (1-minimal evidence that outcome has been met; 5-ample evidence that outcome has been met) for each learning outcome.</p> <p>Measure Type: Written Assignment</p>	<p>Was the mean aggregate score for the student cohort higher or lower than the idealized (3.0) mean? Since this is the first year we have carried out the assessment, we need to see the overall profile of the student scores for each learning outcome, before making further statements about the outcomes being met.</p>	<p>for one of the learning outcomes is far lower than the aggregate score for the other learning outcomes, we may infer that students are not as familiar with the academic content associated with the learning outcome. (There may be other reasons for the lower scores, of course, and those causes also need to be explored.) We need to review the courses in the undergraduate curriculum in which the outcome-related academic content is addressed and, as appropriate/lesson plans, to ensure that students are receiving appropriate instruction. The reviewers will report to the undergraduate studies committee and to the department council.</p>	
<p>Meeting between undergraduates and undergraduate committee to discuss the extent to which learning outcomes have been met.</p> <p>Measure Type: Other</p>	<p>No target identified.</p>	<p>Every year in the fall.</p>	<p>Yes</p>

Related Courses

- ANTH - 450 - Anthropology of Power