

College/School: Arts & Sciences

Date (Month/Year): June 2023

Assessment Contact: Dr. Bruce O'Neill

In what year was the data upon which this report is based collected? 2022

In what year was the program's assessment plan most recently reviewed/updated? 2021

Is this program accredited by an external program/disciplinary/specialized accrediting organization or subject to state/licensure requirements? No

If yes, please share how this affects the program's assessment process (e.g., number of learning outcomes assessed, mandated exams or other assessment methods, schedule or timing of assessment, etc.):

### 1. Student Learning Outcomes

Which of the program's student learning outcomes were assessed in this annual assessment cycle? (Please provide the complete list of the program's learning outcome statements and **bold** the SLOs assessed in this cycle.)

We assessed learning outcome #3:

Anthropology majors will demonstrate a broad knowledge base in the subfield of cultural anthropology.

Learning outcomes:

- a) Demonstrate familiarity with the anthropological concept of culture;
- b) Apply comparative, holistic, and culturally relativist perspectives to the study of human societies;
- c) Discuss similarities and differences across and within human cultures/societies, including across time.

### 2.

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We analyzed a randomly selected sample of 5 final research projects from the course, ANTH 2200 Cultural Anthropology. The course occurred in Autumn 2022. These projects were primarily literature reviews that required students to: 1) collect data through a search of the internet, on-line anthropological journals, or edited volumes in the library dealing with a specific indigenous or immigrant American people; 2.) provide an ethnographic and historical overview; 3) and then hone in on a more focused topic to reach your own interpretive understanding of the group's history and identity.

Madrid artifacts were not included. (That campus does not have an Anthropology major at this time; we will share our findings with them and invite dialogue, however.)

We also undertook qualitative interviews that asked our graduating seniors about their understanding and comfort with key terms in cultural anthropology.



## 5. Findings: Interpretations & Conclusions

What have you learned from these results? What does the data tell you? Address both a) learning gaps and possible curricular or pedagogical remedies, and b) strengths of curriculum and pedagogy.

Both the quantitative and qualitative data suggest that the Anthropology program is doing a good job of meeting its learning objectives for cultural anthropology. Our findings in this assessment suggest that Anthropology students are both competent and comfortable with their ability to speak and to write with nuance about cultural context and difference.

The assessment does flag a need for general instruction in good citational practices. This includes identifying the value and appropriateness of sources (peer-reviewed versus non-peer reviewed; discipline-specific sources versus non-discipline specific sources; how to cite a fact claim, etc).

## 6. Closing the Loop: Dissemination and Use of Current Assessment Findings

A. When and how did your program faculty share and discuss the results and findings from this cycle of assessment?

The full-time faculty for the Anthropology program convened in-person on August 18, 2023, to discuss the results of this assessment. Evaluators discussed the broader context of their evaluations and Dr. O'Neill further contextualized his synthesis. A productive discussion ensued as detailed below.

B. How specifically have you decided to use these findings to improve teaching and learning in your program? For example, perhaps you've initiated one or more of the following:

Changes to the Curriculum or Pedagogies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Course content	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Course sequence
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Teaching techniques	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improvements in technology	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prerequisites	

**data?**

N/A This is our first year assessing this learning objective.

**B.** How has the change/have these changes identified in 7A been assessed?

**C.** What were the findings of the assessment?