

Department of Anthropology
Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan

Date: July 2026

Degree Program: Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) 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 to succeed in achieving advanced degrees from institutions of higher learning and/or working professionally across numerous fields involving diverse human experience and bio-cultural adaptation. The B.A. in Anthropology stresses exposure to the social scientific and humanistic aspects of anthropological research.

Intended Objectives/Outcomes	Assessment Criteria	Implementation Procedures
1. 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, (3) an understanding of cultural and linguistic diversity and the implications of cultural difference for understanding the human condition.	The B.A. requires successful completion of ANTH 384 (History of Anthropology). Students are expected to demonstrate an understanding of anthropological traditions, of major research paradigms, and of particular methods by answering tailored questions as part of the mid-term exam (five questions) and final exam (five questions) for this course. Answers to these questions are expected to be short and concise (150-300 words).	All majors are required to complete History of Anthropology (ANTH 384). To gauge achievement of SLO 1), 2), and 3), students' answers to the tailored questions will be evaluated by the faculty instructor and the Undergraduate Program Coordinator (or an anthropology faculty from a different subfield). A formal rubric will be used for evaluation and the results will be compiled by the Undergraduate Program Coordinator and distributed to the full faculty for discussion during an annual SLOA meeting.

2. Students will gain an understanding of the four subfields of anthropology as well as the manner in which each subdiscipline approaches the study of humanity.	Students should understand the intra-disciplinary ties that connect the four subfields of anthropology as well as the manner in which each subdiscipline approaches the study of humanity. This knowledge will be assessed in ANTH 411 as students complete a minimum of four short video presentations in which they respond to a piece of academic literature and summarize the contributions of anthropologists in each sub-discipline.	All majors are required to complete the capstone course ANTH 411 Senior Seminar. To gauge achievement of SLO 2, students' short video presentations will be evaluated by the instructor of the Senior Seminar and the undergraduate program coordinator (or an anthropology faculty from a different subfield). A formal rubric will be used for evaluation and the results will be compiled by the Undergraduate Program Coordinator and distributed to the full faculty for discussion during an annual SLOA meeting.
3. The Communications Learning Outcomes (CLO) state that UAF undergraduates will demonstrate effective communication when they are able to: (1) Explain disciplinary content using a variety of modes of communication, including oral and written communication. (2) Communicate to audiences in the discipline using appropriate disciplinary conventions following current ethical standards. (3) Translate disciplinary content to audiences outside the discipline as appropriate, making disciplinary knowledge relevant to broader communities. (4) Integrate feedback from others to enhance or revise communication.	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 assessing whether students have fulfilled CLO 1), CLO 2), and CLO 4). 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). All BA majors in Anthropology are required to take ANTH 384: History of Anthropology. This course incorporates one assignment that ensures students meet CLO 3): 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	For the written component at least two anthropology faculty from different subfields will read the research papers submitted for 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 the oral component of CLO part 1) and 2): Having two faculty members from two different subfields review the presentations in ANTH 411 will help us appropriately judge the degree to which students have succeeded in fulfilling this objective. For CLO part 3): The course instructor and at least one anthropology faculty from a different subfield will read the

	discipline. For the assignment, which takes the form of an essay paper and an oral commentary (submitted as part of a final take-home exam), students must address in writing (short essay) and orally (short commentary) 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.	essay papers and watch the video commentaries submitted for ANTH 384 and will evaluate the degree to which the students successfully presented disciplinary content to an outside audience. Special attention will be paid to the level of integration between written arguments (essay) and oral communication (commentary). Formal rubrics will be used for evaluation of the research papers and oral presentations (ANTH 411), and the essay papers and oral commentaries (ANTH 384). The results will be compiled by the Undergraduate Program Coordinator and distributed to the full faculty for discussion during an annual SLOA meeting.
--	---	---