

ASSESSMENT REPORT 2020-2021

Southwest Studies: Anthropology

(Instructional Degree Program)

M.A.

(Degree Level)

Program Mission:

The mission of the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice is to: a) contribute, meeting the educational and research needs in sociology, anthropology and criminal justice and b): contribute to meeting the career needs in social services and social sciences, as well as contribute to training for careers in education, engineering, physical and biological sciences, medicine, and other science fields.

Student Learning Outcome 1:

Declarative Knowledge: Students are expected to demonstrate facts, definitions, and vocabulary in anthropology. In addition, students should demonstrate knowledge in the interdisciplinary contributions to the Greater Southwest and northern New Mexico, including knowledge of the pre-Columbian and contemporary cultures and peoples; knowledge in one or more of the anthropological sub-disciplines; and, knowledge in one or more research areas within the Greater Southwest and northern New Mexico.

NMHU Traits

- 1) Mastery of content knowledge and skills
- 2) Effective communication skills
- 3) Critical and reflective thinking skills
- 4) Effective use of technology

NMHU Traits Specifically Linked to Student Learning Outcome 1

- 1) Mastery of content knowledge and skills
- 2) Critical and reflective thinking skills

First Means of Assessment for Outcome 1:

The successful completion of the Southwest Studies common core, requirements in the concentration, and elective courses with a cumulative Grade Point Average of at least 3.0. This will ensure that students have an academic and practical understanding and appreciation of the unique social and cultural heritage of the Greater Southwest, and its composite past and present. Classes evaluated include Hispanic Southwest ANTH 5770; Archaeology of the Southwest ANTH 5130; Indians of the Southwest ANTH 5760; Communication and Culture ANTH 5610; Method and Theory in Archaeology ANTH 5100; Radical Past and Present ANTH 5350; and Beliefs and Practices Among Southwestern Native Americans ANTH 5180.

Number of Students Meeting Criterion	27	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion	1
Total Number of Students Assessed	28	Percentage Total Number of Students Meeting Criterion	96%

Interpretations Based on Results of Outcome 1:

All students displayed mastery of content, including critical and reflective awareness of the unique social and cultural heritage of the Greater Southwest. A total of 96% of the students met the criterion of Outcome 1.

NMHU Traits Specially Linked to Student Learning Outcome 2

- 1) Mastery of content knowledge and skills
- 2) Critical and reflective thinking skills

Student Learning Outcome 2:

Intellectual Skills: Students are expected demonstrate knowledge on concepts, theories, rules and procedures needed for problem solving in anthropology. These skills include the ability to understand and critique development in anthropological theory and methodology and the ability to conceive of, design, and conduct research on anthropological subjects.

First Means of Assessment for Outcome 2:

Scholarly activity judged from an annual listing of students who publish in professional journals, books, edited collections and/or present papers at professional conferences.

Number of Students Meeting Criterion	1	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion	0
Total Number of Students Assessed	1	Percentage Total Number of Students Meeting Criterion	100%

Interpretations Based on Results of Outcome 2:

Before the onset of the pandemic, one student presented her work at a professional conference (archaeological) and made up 100% of the total number of students meeting the criterion. We will encourage more student participation in professional conferences either through NMHU scholarly events or other professional venues.

NMHU Traits Specially Linked to Student Learning Outcome 3

- 1) Mastery of content knowledge and skills
- 2) Effective communication skills
- 3) Critical and reflective thinking skills
- 4) Effective use of technology

Student Learning Outcome 3:

Attitudes: Students are expected to learn and promote cross-cultural awareness, understanding, and appreciation of diverse lifestyles. Additionally, students are expected to subscribe to and practice according to the ethical codes of anthropology.

First Means of Assessment for Outcome 3:

Class participation and faculty evaluation of in-class discussions of cross-cultural appreciation and awareness will assess the extent to which cross-cultural awareness, understanding, appreciation of diverse lifestyles, and ethical codes of anthropology were increased.

Number of Students Meeting Criterion	27	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion	1
Total Number of Students Assessed	28	Percentage Total Number of Students Meeting Criterion	96%

Interpretations Based on Results of Outcome 3:

A total of 96% of the students met the criterion of cross-cultural appreciation and awareness and the understanding of diverse lifestyles and ethical codes of anthropology.

Changes to Program Based on Results:

While 96% is not low, we strive to bring our student success up to 100%. Much of the drop in success rate can be blamed on the pandemic and the challenges and stresses that our students have had in the past year. That said, we can look at several ways to improve our student success rate. Paramount to success is support and we have implemented a thesis group where students can share information and support each other in writing their thesis or professional paper. We can also encourage students to present again at conferences, now that the vaccine seems to be curbing the rise of covid-19. Academically, we can acknowledge the challenges of online classes and apply techniques that will help our students be able to complete their work.