

Behavioral & Social Sciences Department
Undergraduate Anthropology & Sociology Curriculum Revisions
Effective Summer 2009

The B&SS department is proposing changes to the curriculum of the anthropology and sociology majors as part of its three year process of curricular reexamination, based on assessment of student outcomes and changes in the disciplines.

Specific changes:

1. we propose adding Introduction to research methods (ANSO 2825) to the anthropology major (while recommending Introduction to statistics 2750), and adding both research methods (2825) and intro to statistics (2750) to the sociology major. The two disciplines have different needs in these areas, and it is time to distinguish them in order to better prepare students for possible graduate work.
2. We propose deleting the 2000 level courses from the “choose two” categories in each major, making all courses in this category 3000 or above.
3. We propose creating several new courses: two in archaeology (1073 and 2073), one in topics in sex and gender (2475), and one in sociology of institutions (2700). These courses have been taught for years as a 2000 Issues, but given their centrality in the two disciplines (archaeology for anthropology, sex and gender for both, and Institutions for sociology), we believe it is time to give the courses their own designations and reduce the number of courses under 2000 Issues.
4. We also propose, as we do for psychology, to make a new prerequisite (ANSO 2825 - Research Methods) for several upper level courses (3600, 4825, 4900) due to students avoiding research methods until late in their academic career and the need to have good preparation for doing research before taking these upper level courses.
5. We propose deleting one course (2710), which had been a service course for the Education department (they have now begun teaching it for themselves as a result of accreditation requirements). In the future, this topic can be taught under the 2700 Institutions course if it is needed.
6. We are also removing the cross-listing for 3575 - Organizational Behavior, since psychology is taking the course in a new direction unique to psychology. Hence, we remove the prerequisite of Psyc 1100, leaving either ANSO 1010 or 1070.

**Proposal for a New/Revised
Major, Minor, Emphasis, Certificate**

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Prepare your proposal according to the following outline. (Hand written forms will not be accepted.)
 - Attach the new/current catalog copy with all affected changes clearly noted. List all courses and requirements, indicate new courses, deleted courses and/or course changes.
Note: *A form must be submitted for each change.*
 - Submit the signed proposal to the Office of Academic Affairs. All forms must be completed in full with appropriate signatures to be added to the agenda. You will be contacted by the Curriculum Committee Coordinator with a date and time to present the proposal.
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I. Identification of Department(s)/Program(s): Behavioral & Social Sciences, Anthropology BA

II. Is this a New or Revised Proposal? New Revised

Type of proposal: Major Minor Emphasis Certificate

Title of Proposal: *Revised Anthropology Major*

III. Rationale for the proposal:

a. What research/evidence supports the need for the proposal?

As part of the HLC visit, B&SS conducted a thorough review of our programs. The faculty members in ANSO reviewed the program, student evaluations, and disciplinary changes.

b. How will it support departmental philosophy/mission and existing curriculum? How will it support the philosophy/mission and existing curriculum of your School/College and the University?

The changes support developments in the discipline, reflect the specialties of the faculty, and better meet the needs of students.

c. List the learning objectives/outcomes:

1. Students should understand the interrelationship of the subfields of anthropology (cultural, biological, linguistic and archaeological) as well as an understanding of the ways applied anthropology functions in each.
2. Students should be able to evaluate the assumptions, purposes and methods of anthropological fieldwork and research.
3. Students should grasp the centrality of culture in the human experience and be able to apply this understanding to a range of social problems such as class and stratification, ethnicity and nationalism and the unequal access to social resources that emerge from these systems.
4. Students should be able to distinguish individual, social and cultural frames of analysis through the use of social and anthropological theory.
5. Students should develop a multicultural and cross-cultural perspective of our world, including an awareness of the factors contributing to diversity and inequality within and among nations.

d. How will these outcomes be assessed?

Methods of Assessment

- a. Direct: each student will contribute papers to a portfolio, at least one from each level (1000, 2000, 3000, and 4000) of courses, with the expectation that the final research paper from Qualitative or Research methods and/or the Senior Seminar will be included. These portfolios will be examined selectively by an assessment committee biannually.
- b. Indirect: we will survey our graduating seniors annually to determine their sense of how well the department achieved our stated goals, of which aspects of their education helped with their learning and why, and what the department can do in the future to assist them in learning more effectively.
- c. In the alternate years from the portfolio review, the assessment committee will examine the annual surveys and the previous portfolio review to determine whether changes in the program design or curriculum are warranted. At least two action items should be identified from this review.
- e. Why is this being proposed?
- f. Will this proposal have an impact on other Webster departments, schools/colleges or campuses (including overseas)? Yes No. If yes, please provide a brief explanation.
- g. What Campus(es) will offer this?
Webster main campus
- h. Does this proposal require a new course? Yes No. If yes, what course(s)? **1073, 2073, 2475, 2700.**
- i. Does this proposal require a new prefix? Yes No. If yes, what prefix?

Note: A New Course Proposal Form and/or Course Change Form must be submitted with this proposal for any course(s) affected by this change (including those that are converting to the new prefix.)

IV. Staffing Information:

- a. What additions or changes in staffing are necessary for this proposal?
none
- b. How will this be coordinated?
Usual departmental procedures
- c. Who will coordinate this program? (name, title and department)
Don Conway-Long, Chair, B&SS

V. Feasibility information:

- a. What are the resources necessary for this proposal? (space, equipment, etc)
none
- b. What are the projections for enrollment and growth for this upon implementation?
We expect to reduce low enrollment upper level courses, and better prepare students for research projects through this proposal

VI. Endorsements & Approvals:

Please have the Chair of the Department/Committee, Dean of each School/College and other programs that may be affected by this proposal, review prior to submission to the Office of Academic Affairs.

Don Gray-Luz
Petitioner

24 Nov 08
Date

Don Gray-Luz
Chair of the Department/Committee

24 Nov 08
Date

Janice Cox
Dean of the School/College

11/25/08
Date

[Signature]
Chair of the Curriculum Committee

2 Dec 2008
Date

Distribution:

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Chair, Department

Chair, Committee
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Anthropology

Degree Requirements

42 Required credit hours

27 General Education credit hours

59 Elective hours

Courses in anthropology and sociology (ANSO) are designed to help students develop a multicultural understanding of the human experience and the analytical skills necessary for critically evaluating the diversity of human belief systems.

A minimum of 42 credit hours must be selected from within anthropology/sociology. At least 15 credit hours must be in 3000-4000 level courses.

Learning Goals for the Anthropology program:

1. Students should understand the interrelationship of the subfields of anthropology (cultural, biological, linguistic and archaeological) as well as an understanding of the ways applied anthropology functions in each.
2. Students should be able to evaluate the assumptions, purposes and methods of anthropological fieldwork and research.
3. Students should grasp the centrality of culture in the human experience and be able to apply this understanding to a range of social problems such as class and stratification, ethnicity and nationalism and the unequal access to social resources that emerge from these systems.
4. Students should be able to distinguish individual, social and cultural frames of analysis through the use of social and anthropological theory.
5. Students should develop a multicultural and cross-cultural perspective of our world, including an awareness of the factors contributing to diversity and inequality within and among nations.

Students are required to complete the following courses:

ANSO 1070 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	3 hours
ANSO 1080 Human Evolution	3 hours
ANSO 2825 Introduction to Research Methods	3 hours
ANSO 3550 Theories of Social Sciences	3 hours
ANSO 4900 Senior Seminar	3 hours

The following course is recommended: 3 hours

ANSO 2750 Introduction to Measurement and Statistics

Two courses from the following: 6 hours

ANSO 3300 Applied Anthropology
ANSO 3900 Family and Kinship
ANSO 4275 Gender and Sex Roles

21-24 hours

Electives in Anthropology/Sociology 18-21 hours

Students must complete a minimum of 15 credit hours in 3000 and 4000 courses.

Special Requirements

No more than 6 credit hours obtained in practica, independent learning experiences, reading courses, and assessment of prior learning may be applied toward the 42 credit hours required for a major.

Transfer students are urged to petition for admission to the department at the time of acceptance to the University. Transfer students must complete a minimum of 24 approved credit hours of academic work at Webster within the major.

Courses completed with a grade below a C- do not count toward fulfilling the specific course requirements of the major.