

## Cover Sheet for Assessment Plans

Directions: Please complete a separate cover sheet for each degree program (e.g., Associates – Doctorate). Feel free to make copies of this sheet if needed. Those graduate programs with an integrated master's and doctoral program may submit one cover sheet. The department head and respective dean are to sign before the plans are submitted to the Provost.

Department / Unit: SASW

Title and Level of Academic Program (e.g., Chemistry, Ph.D.): Anthropology Minor

When submitting an Assessment Plan, please check and indicate when the faculty endorsed the plan.



Faculty have met, reviewed, and endorsed the Assessment Plans being submitted for this degree program.

Date of Endorsement:

August 28<sup>th</sup> 2009

[Signature]  
Department Head's Signature

August 31, 2009  
Date

[Signature]  
College Dean's Signature  
(Required for Undergraduate Programs)

10-5-09  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dean of the Graduate School's Signature  
(Required for Graduate Degree Programs)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



**Template  
Degree Program  
Assessment of Student Learning Plan  
Kansas State University**

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**A. College, Department, and Date**

College: *Arts and Sciences*  
Department: *Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work*  
Date: *August 27<sup>th</sup> 2009*

**B. Contact Person(s) for the Assessment Plans**

*Michael Wesch, Assistant Professor*

**1. Degree Program**

*Anthropology Minor*

**2. Assessment of Student Learning Three-Year Plan**

**1. Student Learning Outcome(s)**

Anthropology consists of four different but interrelated fields: Cultural Anthropology, Linguistics, Archaeology, and Physical Anthropology. While our majors are expected to become conversant in all four fields, our minors are allowed to narrow their focus and may take upper-level courses from only 2 of the 4 fields. Because the knowledge gained from specializing in Archeology and Physical Anthropology is very different from the knowledge gained in Cultural Anthropology and Linguistics (for example), we have created a flexible assessment plan as follows.

Students will be able to demonstrate achievement of 2 of the 5 following SLO's (specific to each field of anthropology):

Cultural Diversity (cultural anthropology): Students should be able to:

- Identify ways in which different aspects of culture – economic, social, political, and religious practices and institutions – relate to one another in a cultural system (holism),
- Draw comparisons between different cultures, past and present, recognizing that such comparisons require a holistic understanding of each of the cultures involved in the comparison, and
- Describe the processes of globalization and the ways they shape and are *shaped by* different aspects of culture in human communities throughout the world.

Dynamic Nature of Culture (archaeology): Students should be able to:

- understand culture as a dynamic system of adaptation
- demonstrate knowledge of major cultural developments through time and across the globe.

Linguistic Knowledge (linguistics): Students should be able to:

- apply their knowledge of linguistics to the understanding of foreign languages
- demonstrate an understanding of the role of language in shaping culture and world view

Humans as Biocultural Beings (physical anthropology): Students should be able to:

- demonstrate knowledge of the integration of human biology and culture

Research Methods: Students will be able to:

- demonstrate familiarity with the methods of data collection and analysis in at least one of the four fields of anthropology.

Relationship to K-State Student Learning Outcomes (insert the program SLOs and check all that apply):

Program SLOs	University-wide SLOs (Undergraduate Programs)					Program SLO is conceptually different from university SLOs
	Knowledge	Critical Thinking	Communication	Diversity	Academic / Professional Integrity	
1. Cultural Diversity	X		X	X		
2. Dynamic Nature of Culture	X	X		X		
3. Linguistic Knowledge	X		X	X		
4. Biocultural Beings	X			X		
5. Research Methods	X	X		X	X	

Program SLOs	University-wide SLOs (Graduate Programs)			Program SLO is conceptually different from university SLOs
	Knowledge	Skills	Attitudes and Professional Conduct	
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				

**2. How will the learning outcomes be assessed? What groups will be included in the assessment?**

Students accomplish specific aspects of each learning outcome within specific courses. For this reason, assessments are designed by the instructor teaching each particular course. The following table outlines the courses in which each SLO is covered and assessed:

Cultural Diversity	ANTH 200, 204, 505, 508, 510, 514, 515, 517, 524, 526, 536, 550, 618, 630,634
Dynamic Nature of Culture	ANTH 260, 533, 570, 676
Linguistic Knowledge	ANTH 220, 514, 792
Biocultural Beings	ANTH 280, 680, 688, 694, 695
Research Methods	ANTH 519, 626, 641, 677, 678, 679, 680, 694, 695, 697, 730, 792

**3. When will these outcomes be assessed? When and in what format will the results of the assessment be discussed?**

Since these SLOs are highly specific, they are assessed in each relevant course. We typically only have one expert in each of the 4 fields, so the specifics of assessment are left up to the individual professor. When a problem is identified (see below), the professor is simply asked to demonstrate their assessment methodology and their results.

**4. What is the unit's process for using assessment results to improve student learning?**

We meet several times each year to discuss assessment of our majors program. Right now we are implementing the use of a special essay question on their final exam in our capstone course for majors. While minors are not required to take this course, the essays do allow faculty from all four fields to see the types of learning being produced in other classes. If a problem arises, we will discuss the specific assessment methods and outcomes for the problem area and consider how the learning can be improved.