

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY
University Senate

Resolution on Anthropology Program Course Changes

13-15/16-ICC – December 1, 2015

Resolved: That the University Senate of Humboldt State University recommends to the Provost that Anthropology program course changes in curriculum forms 14-236, 14-239, 14-300, 14-301, 14-302, and 14-304 be approved.

Rationale: *These proposals were removed from the Consent calendar because of concerns about the removal of STAT 108 from the curriculum.*

Presently STAT 108 is one of three courses that students may choose that provide training in Anthropological Methods. (The other two courses are ANTH 318: Ethnography and ANTH 350: Method & Theory in Archeology.) This curriculum change removes STAT 108 from the list of Methods Training courses, and replaces it with a new course, ANTH 330: Methods and Theory in Bioanthropology.

Anthropology is an holistic discipline with tremendously diverse possibilities for research and Anthropology majors rely on both Quantitative and Qualitative Methods to support their core anthropological studies and their sub-disciplinary focus (in Cultural, Bio-anthropology or Archaeology). Many of our students pursue advanced degrees or employment in Applied Anthropology fields and faculty advisers routinely recommend courses in other disciplines which align with or directly support a student's intellectual and career interests. These range from Chemistry to CRGS and regularly include courses in GIS, Biology, Native American Studies, Art, Politics and WLC.

Given the scope of the discipline anthropologists use a wide variety of methods for collecting, analyzing, representing and making distinctions about data. In relation to Statistics specifically - each of the following is considered in at least one of our Methods courses: p-values, Correlation, Linear regression models, T-tests, ANOVA, Distributions, Descriptive Statistics (mean, median, mode, variance ,standard deviation), Percentiles, Significant figures, scientific notation, unit conversions and graphical representation of results.

This curriculum change removes STAT 108 from the list of Methods Training courses, and replaces it with a new course, ANTH 330: Methods and Theory in Bioanthropology.

STAT 108 has not been a requirement for an Anthropology degree. It has been an option; thus none of the Anthropology courses require STAT 108 knowledge, and many students successfully complete the degree without taking STAT 108. Completion of LD Area B is in place to ensure that students demonstrate the overall competency required for the BA.

In evaluating their students' performance, the Anthropology faculty have determined that students would be more successful in upper division Anthropology courses if they all had TWO methods courses that were specifically-focused on Anthropological Methods. Thus, they wish to remove the STAT 108

option and require all students to take two Anthropological Methods courses, which provide students with more exposure to concepts needed for success in research and applied work.

The summaries of the curriculum change forms are as follows:

14-236

Anthropology Program Change form

The department proposes to remove STAT 108 as a core option as the LDGE Area B provides sufficient preparation for majors. They want to add a new core option ANTH 330: Method and Theory in Bioanth (14-239). As ANTH 330 covers the material, the department also wants to remove ANTH 338 Biological Anthropology Lab (1 unit) as a major requirement. In addition the department is proposing a number of new Archeology courses which have previously been offered as special topics (14-300 to 304). The catalog copy contains slightly revised outcomes as well.

ANTH 374 previously changed to ANTH 354 - will be effective 8/1/16.

14-239

ANTH 330 Method & Theory in Bioanth New Course Proposal

Anthropology proposes this new C-2 4 unit course which will be part of their Anthropology Methods choices. It has recommended preparation but no required preparation. The course will replace ANTH 111 and 338 and was previously offered as a special topics. The department intends to offer it annually in the spring. It is designed to facilitate advanced topical coverage and introduce topics students can explore further with science electives. The department says resources are either already available or being added/upgraded through MSF funds. The department notes that it also requires fewer WTUs than the replaced 338 which was offered more frequently thereby saving the college money.

14-300

ANTH 351 Archaeological Material Analysis NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

The department proposes this new C-2 4 unit course to serve as a hands-on introduction to interpreting artifacts and will be offered once every two years.

14-301

ANTH 352 Experimental Archaeology NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

Anthropology proposes this new C-2 4 unit course designed to introduce student to experimental archaeology. The course will be offered once every two years.

14-302

ANTH 353 Archaeology of Warfare

The department proposes this C-2 4 unit course which will explore the origins, causes, and consequences of warfare. The course will be offered once every two years.

14-304

ANTH 394 Archaeology of North America

The department wants to change the name to Regional Survey of North American Archaeology (appropriate 30 character abbreviation provided) and update the course description to indicate that the course will now be offered as a changing topics course by regional area because covering the whole of North America at once is too much.