SPECIAL REPORT

OF THE

ACADEMIC MATTERS COUNCIL

concerning

CREATION OF A CONCENTRATION
IN THE ANTHROPOLOGY MAJOR:
EVOLUTIONARY ANTHROPOLOGY
(#5149)

Presented at the
778th Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate
April 26, 2018

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

ACADEMIC MATTERS COUNCIL

Neal Abraham, Wesley Autio, Martha Baker, Carol Barr, Brian Beck, William Brown, Allison Butler, D. Anthony Butterfield, Marcy Clark, Catherine Dimmitt, Sharon Domier, Wei Fan, Diane Flaherty, Laura Francis, Mark Guerber, Jennifer Heuer, Maeve Howett, Patrick Kelly, Kathryn Lachman, Nancy Lamb, Meredith Lind, Linda Lowry, Pamela Marsh-Williams, Roberta Marvin, Ernest May, David Morin, Ruthann Paradise, Jennifer Randall, MJ Peterson, Linda Shea, Chair, Kelly Smiaroski, Kregg Strehorn, Patrick Sullivan, Nancy Symmes, Jack Wileden, Rebecca Woodland, Kate Woodmansee, Clare McGladrigan, and Colleen Coakley

ACADEMIC MATTERS COUNCIL

The Academic Matters Council recommends approval of this proposal.

Please describe your proposal

The major does not currently have formal concentrations that are tracked as degree requirements. The proposal consolidates and formalizes existing informal areas of concentration. Currently, our major offers six informal concentrations that serve as advising tools and offer students some limited conceptual structure for how coursework might be organized. As noted, there are no requirements for these concentrations. The proposal focuses the concentrations (reducing the number from six to four), provides formal criteria and requirements for each concentration, and builds more structure into the major. The Evolutionary Anthropology formalizes an existing concentration.
Provide a brief overview of the process for developing the proposal.

The proposal is the culmination of nearly three years of curriculum planning efforts in the Department of Anthropology. The proposal emerges from the Curriculum Committee, as well as from conversations between the Department Chair, Undergraduate Program Director, and Chief Undergraduate Advisor; from targeted conversations with undergraduate students; and in consultation with the SBS Associate Dean of Education & Student Development.

Purpose and Goals

Describe the proposal's purpose and the particular knowledge and skills to be acquired.

The proposal intends to align departmental resources, faculty research agendas, student needs, and career opportunities. These concentrations will enable students to better envision their pathways through the major, plan their 4-year coursework and co-curricular opportunities, and set achievable goals. And, the concentrations will enable faculty to continue to develop strong relationships with students through research and engaged opportunities.

Formalizing the Evolutionary Anthropology concentration creates both specialized knowledge and credentials for students to pursue their academic and career goals. For example, the Evolutionary Anthropology concentration teaches primatology, human evolution, and biological variation. Students learn quantitative methods and rigorous analysis in the classroom and through a range of opportunities in the lab. These methodological skills and knowledge prepare students for careers in the STEM fields as well as in education and further graduate training. Students graduating with a degree in Anthropology with a concentration in Evolutionary Anthropology will have the knowledge base and credentials for success.

Resources

If this proposal requires no additional resources, say so and briefly explain why. If this proposal requires additional resources, explain how they will be paid for. For proposals involving instruction, indicate how many new enrollments are expected and whether the courses have room to accommodate them.

The proposal requires no new resources. Our concentrations are built from existing coursework. Courses will be scheduled to create efficiencies and predictability. Concentrations will also drive future course development; new course proposals will be developed to fit clearly into our concentrations.

We expect that the legibility of course requirements and predictability of course offerings will make our pathways through the major more attractive and easier to navigate. We anticipate a continuing increase in major enrollment and are aiming for a 20% increase over three years.

Curriculum

Provide a curriculum outline showing degree program requirements, requirements of any existing concentrations, requirements of proposed concentration, and how they relate. You may include this outline and any additional documents as attachments below.
Evolutionary Anthropology Concentration Requirements Outline

Overall minimum of 42 credit hours in anthropology including:

- Two Foundation courses
  
  Anthropology 100 Human Nature
  Anthropology 102 Archaeology and Prehistory
  Anthropology 104 Culture, Society, and People OR Anthropology 106 Culture Through Film (may not take both)
  Anthropology 105 Language, Culture, and Communication
  Anthropology 150 Ancient Civilization
  Anthropology 205 Inequality and Oppression
  Anthropology 208 Human Ecology
  Anthropology 271 Human Evolution

- Four Core Concentration courses in designated concentration (at least two at the 300 level or above)

- Research Methods Sequence
  
  Anthropology 281

  AND either

  An Advanced Research Methods Course
  360 Language, Society, and Culture
  394RI Ethnography in Action
  320 Research Techniques in Physical Anthropology
  367 Archaeological Survey Methods & Practice
  380 Grassroots Community Organizing
  397SE Building Solidarity Economies
  497CR Comics, Cartoons & Communicating Anthropology

  OR

  An Anthropology Field School

- Anthropology 364 Problems in Anthropology

- An Integrative Experience course; this course may also count as one of the requirements above

- International/Global Education Requirement (minimum of 9 credits):

  Option #1 Intercultural/Global Option: complete 9 credits of Anthropology or other courses tagged by the Anthropology Department as having Intercultural/Global content

  Option #2 Certificate/Minor Option: complete a Department-approved Certificate or Minor

  Option #3 Language Option: complete 9 credits in a foreign language
• Option #4 Departmentally Approved Study Abroad Option: complete 9 credits through an IPO-approved semester-long study abroad program

*Notes: Mixing & Matching between language option and intercultural & global option allowed; sequence of language course need not be cumulative.*

At least one course taken to fulfill the International/Global Education Requirement must have an international focus (if a topical course), be a foreign language, or be taken during a departmentally approved study abroad.

7. Remaining credits may be filled by any anthropology courses at the 200 level or above.

Provisional List of CORE COURSES for Evolutionary Anthropology Concentration

Evolutionary Anthropology
290&297 Anatomy of the Human Body/Lab
297 Culture, Health & Science
297M Disease, Famine & Warfare
297NF Neanderthals: Fact and Fiction
313 Nutritional Anthropology
317 Primate Behavior
320 Research Techniques in Physical Anthropology
372 Human Variation
394EI Evolutionary Medicine
397 Primate Conservation
397AP Approaching Death: Culture, Medicine, Experience
397 Neanderthals: Fact or Fiction
397GB Global Health: Biosocial Perspectives
397U Anthropology of Growth & Development
416 Primate Evolution
496C Advances in Bioarchaeology
494RI Religion, Evolution and Human Biology
597 Reproductive Ecology

MOTION: That the Faculty Senate approve the Creation of a Concentration in the 29-18 Anthropology Major: Evolutionary Anthropology, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 18-069.