

General Education Course CGEIP Annual Report

Title of Course Reviewed

Exploring Our Human Ancestry (ANT125)

Name of Faculty Member Preparing this Report

Elizabeth Sobel

Time and Date of Course Review Meeting

8/17/2016 11:00:00 AM

List of Participants in Course Review Meeting/Discussion

Dr. Elizabeth Sobel, Dr. Scott Worman, Jennifer Rideout

Data Discussed (student work, scores, a common question, etc.); Conclusions Reached by the Previously Mentioned Participants Regarding the Next Steps for the Course

We discussed the results of our analysis of pre-course and post-course assessment test scores. This involved discussing student scores on test as a whole, and scores on individual test questions. In a previous meeting, in August 2015, we identified a question on which students performed poorly both before and after the course. In that case, we concluded that the question was poorly worded, and we revised it (as explained in more detail in the attached document). In August 2016, we observed that for 8 questions, post-course test scores were relatively low, compared to post-course scores on other test questions. We consequently revised those test questions to improve clarity, as we agreed that question design issues accounted in part for the less than stellar student performance on those questions in the post-course test. We also thought about (but have not yet acted on) the possibility that student performance on those 8 questions reflects less than stellar course design in regard to the relevant content. We therefore discussed, but have not yet acted on, the possibility that some course content needs to be modified to more effectively achieve certain ANT 125 general learning objectives. The ANT125 faculty also discussed our assessment survey, noting that the survey results do not seem to provide us with very useful data. We have therefore considered dropping the survey. However, since survey administration is quick and easy, we decided to continue using it, for now. In regard to next steps for improving course effectiveness in achieving general learning goals and objectives, we have concluded that we need to address the issues listed in below, in response to the next question.

Items Chosen by the Faculty for Action

1. Develop a set of recommendations for current and future ANT 125 instructors, to facilitate effectiveness in meeting general learning goals.
2. Schedule annual meeting of ANT 125 instructors, to improve communication and information sharing about teaching and evaluation strategies that seem to be relatively effective in achieving course general learning goals.
3. Assess utility of survey, and decide to take one of the following actions: keep using it, as-is; keep using it, but develop a modified version; replace the survey with a different means of measuring student attitudes; or discontinue efforts to measure student attitudes.
4. Consider revising the assessment test so that specific questions, or groups of questions, are linked with each of the five general learning goals of ANT 125. Such a revision would allow us to use the assessment test results to evaluate the effectiveness of the course in achieving each intended learning outcome/.

Follow-up Plans and Action Regarding the Course

1. Develop a set of recommendations for current and future ANT 125 instructors, to facilitate effectiveness in meeting general learning goals: Collaborate on this and have it drafted by May 2017, for use with new instructors in Fall 2017.
2. Schedule annual meeting of ANT 125 instructors, to improve communication and information sharing: Hold meeting before end of Fall 2016.
3. Assess utility of ANT125 Assessment Survey: Complete by May 2017, so that we can implement any revisions by the start of the Fall 2017 semester
4. Discuss and make recommendations concerning a revision of the assessment test so that specific questions, or groups of questions, are linked with each of the five general learning goals. Do this by May 2017. In Fall 2017, start making any recommended changes to the assessment test. Begin administering revised version of test in Spring 2018.

General Education General Goals from the Course

General Goal (8): Students will be able to understand various institutions (e.g., cultural, political, economic, religious, and educational) and their historical backgrounds, as well as principles of human behavior and social interaction.

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Which SLOs were assessed for this annual report?

SLO 8.1, 8.2, and 8.3

Recommendations or Feedback for the Reviewing Committee About Items that Need Action at Higher Levels than the Department or about How the Process Could Be Better Supported

None

Describe Any Way Diversity Content Has Been Included in This Course

Exploring Our Human Ancestry provides an anthropological overview of human biological and sociocultural evolution around the globe over the last several million years. Consequently, human biological and cultural diversity, especially temporal diversity, i