Anthropology

Degree Designation: BA

Mission Statement

Anthropology is the comparative and global study of humanity. Bio-cultural diversity and the universals that link all humans are the principal foci of anthropological research. Anthropology is a holistic discipline comprising the following sub-fields: cultural (ethnology); physical (biological); archaeology; and linguistics. Contemporary anthropology is concerned with the generation of basic knowledge and the application of knowledge to the solution of human problems. The USF Department of Anthropology particularly emphasizes application, while recognizing that basic and applied research are inextricably linked.

Student Learning Outcomes

Content / Discipline Skills

- Master concepts central to the anthropological perspective, (i.e., culture; human evolution; diversity of culture, physical type, and language; gender/sex; cultural relativism; holism; historical and cross-cultural comparison; kinship; globalization).
- Identify major figures in the history of anthropology, the major schools/orientations of anthropological theory, and important trends in contemporary anthropological theory
- Show ability to conduct meaningful anthropological research using appropriate methods, under the supervision of faculty and/or graduate students.

Critical Thinking Skills

- Demonstrate critical thinking and analytical abilities, and construct sound arguments.
- Demonstrate familiarity with the standards of professional ethics espoused by the discipline of anthropology.

Communication Skills

- Create and deliver effective oral presentations
- Develop effective written presentations
- Contribute effectively to group discussions

Assessment Strategies

- Through a variety of mechanisms, including examinations, capstone experiences and assignments, the faculty of the Department of Anthropology will measure students’ achievement of the identified core learning outcomes. The results of the assessments will be used to improve student achievement and program effectiveness.