

Course Outcomes Guide

Directions: Please complete this form to document your progress toward improving student learning. For each item, indicate your progress and your anticipated next steps. Thank you!

Course/Program Title: ANT-201 Cultural Anthropology

Date: Spring 2014

Course/Program Team: Suzannah Moran

Expected Learning Outcomes:

1. Compare diverse cultural solutions to social, economic and environmental issues affecting the US and the broader world today.
2. Critically analyze the impact of culture upon the development of the students' world view.
3. Assess the relationship between culture and individual behavior

Assessment (How do or will students demonstrate achievement of each outcome?)

Students will be assessed via written essays

Validation (What methods have you used or will you use to validate your assessment?)

Rubrics have been developed and implemented to assess the degree to which students are meeting the expected learning outcomes. The primary instructor has collaborated with LuAnn Fisher, Adjunct Professor of Anthropology, to develop these assessments and rubrics. The assessments and rubrics have also been shared with the six member General Education Diversity team. Assessments and rubrics have been revised based upon faculty feedback and outcomes assessment data.

Results (What do your assessment data show? If you have not yet assessed student achievement of your learning outcomes, when is assessment planned?)

85.7% of students scored 80% or higher on the essay rubric, which was tailored to the learning outcomes. (N = 49) This was a significant improvement over the previous semester (72%). Previously, it was felt that some students were not adequately assessing and articulating an understanding of the impact of culture on their own perceptions and behaviors, and at times, their statements were ethnocentric in nature. To address this issue, the instructor emphasized the importance of conveying an understanding of the impact of culture upon perception and behavior to students in class. This was further emphasized by modifications to the assessment rubric.

Follow-up (How have you used or how will you use the data to improve student learning?)

The instructor will continue to put great emphasis on the need to comprehend and accurately articulate the enormous role that culture plays upon one's own perceptions and behaviors. Furthermore, students will be reminded to read and review prompts carefully and to follow instructions. Some students stated facts without analyzing the relationship between culture, world views and behavior. A greater emphasis on the relationship between empirical data and the articulation of one's own perspective will be more thoroughly explained in future semesters to facilitate mastery of the course outcomes.

Budget Justification (What resources are necessary to improve student learning?)

No additional resources are necessary.