

Department of Anthropology Mission, Goals and Objectives 2004-2009

Mission Statement

The Anthropology Program educates students to understand and value the cultural and social diversity of the world both past and present. By studying cultural and physical anthropology and archaeology, our undergraduate students are offered a holistic approach to knowledge and an integrated program in the discipline. Active learning experiences in the laboratory, the field and the community, show our students both the interconnections between theory and research and how their discipline can be applied to today's critical human problems. Faculty research emphasizes appropriate collaborations to promote a community of scholars. Thus, four central dimensions define the Anthropology Program:

- the understanding of cross-cultural realities both past and present;
- the direct experience of research in the primary fields of anthropology, including work through the Archaeology Research Lab;
- the commitment to community-based learning that both integrates applied anthropology into the curriculum and engages students with community issues;
- the cooperation with other programs at the university and in the community to foster intercultural education for Santa Clara students.

By combining teaching excellence, scholarly research, and service to society, we strive for the education of the whole person in the Jesuit tradition, helping our students to become women and men of professional competence, social conscience, and global compassion.

I. Learning Goals and Objectives

Knowledge

A. Anthropology students should know the current central concerns of the anthropological sub-disciplines of physical anthropology, archaeology, and cultural anthropology. They...

1. will demonstrate a proficiency in theory, concepts and methods of the subfields
2. will demonstrate an awareness of the diversity of past and present cultures in which humans have lived.

B. Anthropology students should understand the varied social and cultural forces shaping societies. This understanding includes a recognition of the interconnectedness of these forces from a global perspective. They...

3. will demonstrate an understanding of critical issues such as immigration, multiculturalism, poverty, gender, and globalization.
4. will demonstrate a comprehension of how anthropologists have applied their knowledge and skills to address major human issues.

Skills

C. Anthropology students should practice the basics of field research in the discipline and be aware of the theoretical, methodological and ethical underpinnings of this work. They...

5. will demonstrate a comprehension of research methods.
6. will demonstrate a comprehension of research ethics.
7. will demonstrate an understanding of the application of anthropological theory in research.

D. Anthropology students should apply their knowledge and research to the solution of human problems. They...

8. will learn directly from the community about critical human issues (e.g., poverty, health, immigration, aging) through class research projects and community-based learning (e.g., Arrupe placements).

9. will critically examine and evaluate potential responses and solutions to these human issues.

II. Curriculum Goals and Objectives

A. The Anthropology Program curriculum will expand the experiential learning in introductory archaeology. It...

1. will increase the number of required laboratory activities to the course.

B. The Anthropology Program seeks to improve the linkage between its senior capstone courses of theory, methods and thesis. It...

1. will reorder the sequencing of these courses and work to link required assignments so that students build from theory project to methods proposal to thesis research.

C. The Anthropology Program will develop new ways to link study abroad and immersion experiences with academic course work. It...

1. will develop a new course specifically designed to draw together student experiences abroad in Third World countries and academic study of development in anthropology and other disciplines.

III. Scholarship Goals and Objectives

A. The Anthropology Program faculty will work with the College of Arts and Sciences to improve the laboratory facilities on campus that support the community of scholars in anthropology. They will...

1. incorporate the Archaeology Research Laboratory as a fundamental component of the Anthropology Program.

2. provide adequate equipment, space allocation and storage capacity for all labs.

B. The Anthropology Program faculty will incorporate student researchers where possible in their research. They...

1. use B. Mark Lynch Research Interns and other students as research assistants in their projects.

C. The Anthropology Program faculty promote appropriate collaborative efforts to develop a community of scholars. They...

1. regularly present the results of their research in program colloquia.

2. collaborate in their research with scholars, faculty and community-members.

IV. Service Goals and Objectives

A. The Anthropology Program faculty will contribute to interdisciplinary efforts toward intercultural education at SCU. They...

1. will cooperate with other programs in providing a variety of cross-cultural training for study abroad or immersion experiences.

2. will cooperate with international scholars and agencies in academic and social development projects.