

2021-2022 Assessment Cycle

Assessment Plan

Mission Statement

Consistent with the mission of the University and the College of Arts and Sciences, the Bachelor of Science in Anthropology with a Forensic Concentration offers students the opportunity to broaden their knowledge of humankind and themselves across time and space. We believe that an engaged multidisciplinary approach with a firm grounding in anthropology, the natural sciences, and forensics allows the students to become active members of the professional field, while also making a meaningful difference in their communities.

Measures

New PSLOs (revised AY21-22)

PSLO 1

Outcome: PSLO 1

Contextualize the history and role of forensic anthropology in the four-field discipline of anthropology.

- ▼ **Measure:** Assignment
Program level Direct - Student Artifact

Details/Description:

PSLO1 was revised in spring 2022 through the work of the B.S. in Anthropology (Forensic Concentration) program committee (and CTCL Assessment Grant). We realigned PSLO1 on the curriculum map from AN324 History and Theory of Anthropology to AN428 Case Studies in Forensic Anthropology. This work occurred after AN428 was taught in the fall 2021 semester. Currently, AN428 runs in the fall semester every two years.

Acceptable Target:

70% of majors will score a grade of 70% (C) or above on the associated assignment.

▼ **Measure:** Senior Exit Survey
Program level Indirect - Survey


Details/Description:

The department requests that graduating majors complete an exit survey. The first question of the survey asks majors to reflect on the required anthropology courses completed at Washburn to determine if the courses met the associated PSLOs (on a 5-point scale from "Strongly Agree" to "Strongly Disagree"). The survey also provides a space for majors to leave a qualitative response on how the coursework met or did not meet the PSLOs.

Acceptable Target:

70% of majors will respond "Strongly Agree" or "Agree" on Senior Exit Survey question #1 for PSLO1.

Supporting Attachments:

 B.S. in Anthropology (Forensic Concentration) Senior Exit Survey (Adobe Acrobat Document)

PSLO 2

Outcome: PSLO 2

Apply anthropological ethics, methods, and/or theory to the recovery and analysis of human remains.

▼ **Measure:** AN428 Assignment: Case Training Hours Log
Program level Direct - Student Artifact

Details/Description: Students enrolled in AN428 complete 25 hours working on an active forensic case. The case hours reinforce and evaluate PSLO2.

Acceptable Target: 70% of majors will score a grade of 70% (C) or above on the associated assignment.

Supporting Attachments:

[PSLO2 AN428 Assignment Case Training Hours F21.pdf \(Adobe Acrobat Document\)](#)

▼ **Measure:** AN428 Case Studies in Forensic Anthropology Survey
Program level Indirect - Survey

Details/Description: Majors enrolled in AN428 Case Studies in Forensic Anthropology complete an anonymous course survey at the end of the semester. The survey includes questions to assess the PSLOs: "Based on the casework hours (in class & outside of class time) and your associated casework hours log in AN428, do you think you achieve program SLO #?". Response options included Yes, No, or Somewhat). The survey also provides space for students to leave qualitative responses on why or why not the associated assignments met or did not meet the PSLOs.

Acceptable Target: 50% of majors will respond "Yes" to the class survey question related to PSLO2.

Supporting Attachments:

[AN428 Case Studies in Forensic Anthropology Survey.pdf \(Adobe Acrobat Document\)](#)

▼ **Measure:** Senior Exit Survey
Program level Indirect - Survey


Details/Description:

The department requests that graduating majors complete an exit survey. The first question of the survey asks majors to reflect on the required anthropology courses completed at Washburn to determine if the courses met the associated PSLOs (on a 5-point scale from "Strongly Agree" to "Strongly Disagree". The survey also provides a space for majors to leave a qualitative response on how the coursework met or did not meet the PSLOs.

Acceptable Target:

70% of majors will respond "Strongly Agree" or "Agree" on Senior Exit Survey question #1 for PSLO2.

Supporting Attachments:

 B.S. in Anthropology (Forensic Concentration) Senior Exit Survey (Adobe Acrobat Document)

PSLO 3

Outcome: PSLO 3

Effectively interpret and communicate anthropological data.


▼ **Measure:** AN428 Assignment: Forensic Anthropology Case Report
Program level Direct - Student Artifact

Details/Description:

As the capstone course in the B.S. in Anthropology (Forensic Concentration) program, AN428 Case Studies in Forensic Anthropology asks students to apply the methods, theory, and information students learned throughout the program. One of the assignments in this course challenges students to complete a Forensic Anthropology Case Study report to demonstrate their mastery of the PSLOs.

Acceptable Target: 70% of majors will score a grade of 70% (C) or above on the rubric's associated levels (criteria C, E, and G) for PSLO3.

Supporting Attachments:


 PSLO3 AN428 Assignment Forensic Anthropology Case Report F21.pdf (Adobe Acrobat Document)

▼ **Measure:** AN428 Case Studies in Forensic Anthropology Survey
Program level Indirect - Survey

Details/Description: Majors enrolled in AN428 Case Studies in Forensic Anthropology complete an anonymous course survey at the end of the semester. The survey includes questions to assess the PSLOs: "Based on the casework hours (in class & outside of class time) and your associated casework hours log in AN428, do you think you achieve program SLO #?". Response options included Yes, No, or Somewhat. The survey also provides space for students to leave qualitative responses on why or why not the associated assignments met or did not meet the PSLOs.

Acceptable Target: 50% of majors will respond "Yes" to the class survey question related to PSLO3.

Supporting Attachments:

 AN428 Case Studies in Forensic Anthropology Survey.pdf (Adobe Acrobat Document)

▼ **Measure:** Senior Exit Survey
Program level Indirect - Survey


Details/Description: The department requests that graduating majors

complete an exit survey. The first question of the survey asks majors to reflect on the required anthropology courses completed at Washburn to determine if the courses met the associated PSLOs (on a 5-point scale from "Strongly Agree" to "Strongly Disagree". The survey also provides a space for majors to leave a qualitative response on how the coursework met or did not meet the PSLOs.

Acceptable Target:

70% of majors will respond "Strongly Agree" or "Agree" on Senior Exit Survey question #1 for PSLO3.

Supporting Attachments:

 B.S. in Anthropology (Forensic Concentration) Senior Exit Survey (Adobe Acrobat Document)

Analysis and Reporting Calendar

Data for PSLOs 1-3 are collected through direct measures (student artifacts) in the capstone AN428 course which runs every two years. Indirect measures are also collected in AN428 (class survey) every two years and annually through the senior exit survey.

One PSLO will be analyzed and reported on each year, beginning with PSLO 1 reported AY2021-22, PSLO 2 reported AY2022-23, and PSLO 3 reported AY2023-24.

Stakeholder Involvement

The B.S. in Anthropology (Forensic Concentration) program committee was awarded a CTEL Assessment grant to continue our assessment revisions from last academic year (AY2020-21). Committee members (Drs. Klaes, Maxwell, and Sundal) met via zoom monthly and collaborated asynchronously to accomplish the assessment findings outlined elsewhere (see Assessment Findings). The committee also worked throughout the academic year with the B.A. in Anthropology program committee; thus, all full time anthropology faculty in the department were made aware of and were able to contribute to the B.S. in Anthropology (Forensic Concentration) program assessment changes. During AY2021-22, the department did not have any part time

faculty members teaching for the B.S. in Anthropology program.

B.S. in Anthropology (Forensic Concentration) program committee created 1-page briefs of curriculum and program revisions and assessment plan to update stakeholders and solicit feedback. The 1-page briefs were tailored and distributed to various internal stakeholders (e.g., current majors, current minors, department faculty, and WU forensic programs/units) and external stakeholders (e.g., alumni, Kansas State Historical Society, and forensic agencies) in fall 2021. We also posted curriculum and program revisions and assessment plan to department and WU-FARU (Washburn University Forensic Anthropology Recovery Unit) social media pages and department newsletter that is distributed twice a year and posted on the department website. In addition, we presented the materials to the Sociology and Anthropology (SOAN) Club in fall 2021 and at the university-wide Major Meet-Up events.

All internal and external stakeholders were asked to provide feedback and discuss ways in which the B.S. in Anthropology (Forensic Concentration) program could be improved and/or was meaningful to them or their organization. Finally, we maintained regular dialog with alumni and career-path stakeholders.

Students were also made aware of the assessment revisions, map, and plan during our advising appointments, NSO and TSO days, and direct communication from advisors to determine how many existing students opted to "move up" to the current curriculum (AY2021-22 catalog).

Program Assessment Plan Review Cycle

The Program Assessment Plan will be reviewed every 3 years. In AY2021-22, anthropology faculty reviewed and revised the plan and we will review and potentially revise the plan after data collection on all PSLOs.

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