

**Minnesota State University Moorhead  
2007-2008 Assessment Plan Cover Sheet**

(An electronic version of this form can be accessed at <http://www.mnstate.edu/assess>)

*Note: Complete this form only if you are changing your student learning outcomes and/or methods of assessment.*

**Degree Program: Anthropology**

**Department: Anthropology and Earth Science**

**College: Social and Natural Sciences**

**Date: October 30, 2007**

Is this assessment plan your existing plan, a new assessment plan or a revision of an existing plan?

Existing                       New                       Revision

**1. Name(s) of Department Assessment Coordinator and/or Assessment Committee Members**

Michael Michlovic; Rinita Dalan, Erik Gooding, George Holley, Bruce Roberts

**2. List of All Student Learning Outcomes.** (List and number all outcomes, placing an asterisk (\*) by the outcomes you are assessing this year.)

1. Understand content of anthropology\*
2. Apply concepts in anthropology\*
3. Understand research methods\*
4. Demonstrate ability to use resources to solve anthropological problems

**3. Signatures**

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Department Chair or Program Director

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Dean or Director

Required Attachments:

1. Assessment Planning Forms
2. Records of department meetings when Assessment Plan was discussed and approved.

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**Academic Program:** Anthropology

**1. Identify Student Learning Outcome in the space below and note its number (to correspond with the list on the cover sheet):**

Understand the content of anthropology

**2. Which MSUM mission goals are addressed by this learning outcome? (check all that apply)**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Knowledge/content	<input type="checkbox"/> Information literacy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intellectual development	<input type="checkbox"/> Lifelong learning
<input type="checkbox"/> Talents	<input type="checkbox"/> Service
<input type="checkbox"/> Critical thinking	<input type="checkbox"/> Citizenship
<input type="checkbox"/> Oral communication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Responsibility and ethics
<input type="checkbox"/> Written communication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Global understanding
<input type="checkbox"/> Mathematics/statistics	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multiculturalism/diversity	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:

**3. How is this learning outcome achieved through the program's curriculum? Identify the courses or extra-curricular opportunities that address this outcome.**

Achieved through anthropology introductory sequence and in 200-level required courses in cultural anthropology and archaeology. 300-level courses, although more problem/issues oriented also address disciplinary content.

**4. What methods of assessment will be used for this outcome? (Specify instrument and submit electronically with plan.)**

Use of a survey form completed by the instructor in the Anth445 seminar, and by faculty in annual review of student performance.

**5. Who is assessed? When are they assessed?**

All majors when they take the senior seminar. Also, majors in all classes are reviewed during the annual assessment meeting. During this meeting some individual students are discussed along with the population of all anthropology majors.

**6. Who is responsible in the department for collecting data? How and when will the results be discussed by members of the program?**

Seminar instructor collects data from surveys. Instructors vary. The results are discussed annually in an assessment meeting.

**7. What is satisfactory student performance on this outcome?**

On the survey a score of 5 is acceptable, 6+ is preferred, 4 is unacceptable. 7+ is a goal. In program assessment discussions consensus that students are performing well is desired. We prefer that all students perform well enough that faculty feel comfortable recommending each student for a job in a related field or for graduate school admission.

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**Academic Program:** Anthropology

**1. Identify Student Learning Outcome in the space below and note its number (to correspond with the list on the cover sheet):**

Demonstrate an ability to apply the concepts of anthropology

**2. Which MSUM mission goals are addressed by this learning outcome? (check all that apply)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Knowledge/content	<input type="checkbox"/> Information literacy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intellectual development	<input type="checkbox"/> Lifelong learning
<input type="checkbox"/> Talents	<input type="checkbox"/> Service
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Critical thinking	<input type="checkbox"/> Citizenship
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral communication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Responsibility and ethics
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written communication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Global understanding
<input type="checkbox"/> Mathematics/statistics	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multiculturalism/diversity	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:

**3. How is this learning outcome achieved through the program's curriculum? Identify the courses or extra-curricular opportunities that address this outcome.**

Achieved through 300 level courses and through the seminar (445).  
These courses focus on issues and problems addressed in the field of anthropology.

**4. What methods of assessment will be used for this outcome? (Specify instrument and submit electronically with plan.)**

Use of a survey form completed by the instructor in the Anth445 seminar, and by faculty in annual review of student performance.

**5. Who is assessed? When are they assessed?**

All majors when they take the senior seminar. Also, majors in all classes are reviewed during the annual assessment meeting. During this meeting some individual students are discussed along with the population of all anthropology majors.

**6. Who is responsible in the department for collecting data? How and when will the results be discussed by members of the program?**

Seminar instructor collects data from surveys. Instructors vary. The results are discussed annually in an assessment meeting.

**7. What is satisfactory student performance on this outcome?**

On the survey a score of 5 is acceptable, 6+ is preferred, 4 is unacceptable. 7+ is a goal. In program assessment discussions consensus that students are performing well is desired. We are more concerned when discussing and evaluating this SLO that students show critical abilities in working out the implications of anthropological ideas and discoveries. We look for evidence that students are able to think in analytical terms about human issues. We prefer that all students perform well enough that faculty feel comfortable each student would be able to perform well in an anthropology graduate program, even if the student does not intend to apply to grad school.

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**Academic Program:** Anthropology

**1. Identify Student Learning Outcome in the space below and note its number (to correspond with the list on the cover sheet):**

Understand research methods in anthropology

**2. Which MSUM mission goals are addressed by this learning outcome? (check all that apply)**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Knowledge/content	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information literacy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intellectual development	<input type="checkbox"/> Lifelong learning
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Talents	<input type="checkbox"/> Service
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Critical thinking	<input type="checkbox"/> Citizenship
<input type="checkbox"/> Oral communication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Responsibility and ethics
<input type="checkbox"/> Written communication	<input type="checkbox"/> Global understanding
<input type="checkbox"/> Mathematics/statistics	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
<input type="checkbox"/> Multiculturalism/diversity	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:

**3. How is this learning outcome achieved through the program's curriculum? Identify the courses or extra-curricular opportunities that address this outcome.**

Achieved through 300-400 level methods, lab and field courses

**4. What methods of assessment will be used for this outcome? (Specify instrument and submit electronically with plan.)**

This SLO is assessed during the annual meeting on assessment with input from instructors (all anthropologists) who teach Anth300 (Archaeological methods) 301 (Geophysical prospection), 450 (Field school in archaeology) 451 (Archaeology Lab) 455 (Field methods in geoarchaeology), 460 (Ethnographic Research methods) and 390 (Ethnographic field school)

**5. Who is assessed? When are they assessed?**

All majors who take the relevant courses. Majors in all classes are reviewed during the annual assessment meeting. During this meeting some individual students are discussed along with the population of all anthropology majors.

**6. Who is responsible in the department for collecting data? How and when will the results be discussed by members of the program?**

Instructors vary. The results are discussed annually in an assessment meeting.

**7. What is satisfactory student performance on this outcome?**

This outcome is the most difficult to explain, but probably the easiest for those doing the assessment to accomplish satisfactorily. Working in field and lab settings with students clarifies in ways paper testing cannot how well students are able to work in the field and whether or not they comprehend what they are doing, how to do it, and why it must be done. Oftentimes, students in these courses also participate in faculty research projects where emerging professional talents are easy to recognize. A satisfactory level of performance is one in which the faculty member feels that the student is ready for graduate level work, research toward a graduate thesis, or employment in the field of anthropology or related areas. The student knows how to do anthropology.

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**Academic Program:** Anthropology

**1. Identify Student Learning Outcome in the space below and note its number (to correspond with the list on the cover sheet):**

Ability to use anthropological resources effectively

**2. Which MSUM mission goals are addressed by this learning outcome? (check all that apply)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Knowledge/content	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information literacy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intellectual development	<input type="checkbox"/> Lifelong learning
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Talents	<input type="checkbox"/> Service
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Critical thinking	<input type="checkbox"/> Citizenship
<input type="checkbox"/> Oral communication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Responsibility and ethics
<input type="checkbox"/> Written communication	<input type="checkbox"/> Global understanding
<input type="checkbox"/> Mathematics/statistics	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
<input type="checkbox"/> Multiculturalism/diversity	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:

**3. How is this learning outcome achieved through the program's curriculum? Identify the courses or extra-curricular opportunities that address this outcome.**

This learning outcome is achieved through instruction in various upper level courses

**4. What methods of assessment will be used for this outcome? (Specify instrument and submit electronically with plan.)**

Evaluation by faculty in annual assessment meeting and through student participation in conferences and other extra-curricular activities. Also through the use of the survey instrument in Anth445 (seminar)

**5. Who is assessed? When are they assessed?**

All majors who participate in upper level courses. This is required for both cultural anthropology and archaeology students.

**6. Who is responsible in the department for collecting data? How and when will the results be discussed by members of the program?**

All faculty.

**7. What is satisfactory student performance on this outcome?**

This is measured subjectively through discussions about outcomes:

1. are students capable of practicing anthropology?
2. can students take their knowledge of the field and work with these concepts in recovering information from lab collections and data, or from field settings?
3. do students follow through and transform their classroom, field and lab experiences into actual products (such as posters, presentations, and papers)?



**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**  
**April 30, 2007**

**To:**  
Anthropology faculty

**From:**  
Michael Michlovic, Chair  
Anthropology and Earth Science  
[michlovc@mnstate.edu](mailto:michlovc@mnstate.edu)  
-2035

**Re:** Anthropology assessment meeting

1. Given student participation in the Academic Conference and professional meetings, perhaps public presentation and speaking is no longer a major concern. Students are performing pretty well on this in many class assignments.
2. Use field courses in anthro and archaeology as a method of assessment. Field schools give great feedback which we can't get in class. It involves the direct application of knowledge.
3. In cultural anthropology something must be changed in the traditional cultures class. We need to tell students what they need to know and what they must be able to do before they graduate. This should be a class on the sophomore level.
4. Students need to begin reading and evaluating texts. Summarizing and evaluating readings are assignments that may yield results.
5. Annual reporting to chair of how many students are involved in the Academic Conference and other professional or semi-professional activities.

Anthro & Earth Sci – Faculty Meeting 10/22/07

Members present:

Colson, Dalan, Holley, Leonard, Michlovic, Roberts, Sando

1. Previous meeting minutes approved
2. Acknowledgement that all PDP's should have been taken care of by those needing to fulfill these obligations
3. Announcement that those wanting to qualify as graduate faculty should do so at this time.
4. Announcement that the bulletin board is used to announce all deadlines for the department and individual faculty.
5. Information discussed on accelerated courses.
6. Announced that George Holley is going for tenure and promotion and must have material in to the department by Nov. 15.
7. Announced that Jessica Mavis, Math Department, would be able to help students in math-related problems.
8. Discussed assessment. Anthro and Earth Science are required to establish separate assessment designs. Tim Borchers has noted that Anthro had too many outcomes (n=9) and the members agreed that those outcomes duplicating Dragon Core initiatives (such as multicultural learning, etc) should be jettisoned. The following four criteria were discussed.

- 1) Working with anthropological concepts.
- 2) Work with content and concepts in a scholarly manner.
- 3) Applying concepts and methods in the field and lab.
- 4) Use anthropological resources effectively.

The suggested instruments for measuring assessment will include the traditional seminar as well as field and lab classes.

The Earth Science (Geoscience) team will meet separately to address their assessment issues.

9. Rinita presented information on charities.
10. Mike mentioned that exhibit cases are open for renewal.